



LITCHFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Connect, Educate, Empower our LESD Family and Community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News from Litchfield Elementary School District

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Litchfield Elementary School District Supports Students Amid Quarantines

Litchfield Schools, Arizona - COVID-19's Delta variant is impacting students and schools across the nation. With community cases on the rise, a growing number of local students must quarantine after they are exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

Contact tracing shows that our mitigation plan is working and our schools are safer than the community. District data that is updated on Friday afternoons is available on the LESD COVID-19 Dashboard at www.lesd79.org. Face coverings and physical distancing are helping stop the spread. Nevertheless, the rates in the Southwest Valley are very high and we are seeing students test positive for COVID-19 or be exposed to someone, almost always at home or in the community, who has tested positive for COVID-19.

In response to this pandemic, Litchfield Elementary School District is developing creative ways to meet the academic needs of students who must quarantine. This is a substantial challenge because schools are staffed for in-person learning, but dedicated teachers and staff are going above and beyond to support students.

Students in quarantine are being offered a variety of learning modalities to support their at-home learning while in quarantine. This varies by teacher and may include Google Classroom, pre-recorded lessons, reading and written assignments, and online assignments. Many teachers are offering after-school tutoring and online office hours to allow students to get personalized academic support and stay connected emotionally.

Litchfield Elementary School District will guide families later today about how students can end their quarantine period early if they have a negative COVID-19 test.

LESD's new Digital Learning Academy is an online option for students to access quality education with live teacher-led instruction and asynchronous learning from the comfort of their own home.

Superintendent Jodi Gunning said, "We share parents' concern about the impact of COVID-19 on academic learning and social connectedness. Together with our community, we are committed to successfully navigating this pandemic and doing everything we can to help our students excel."