

August 6, 2021

Dear Combs Community:

I hope this message finds you and your family safe and healthy. As you are likely aware, this week the District has seen a significant increase in [active COVID-19 cases](#) on our campuses, the majority which have been reported by Ellsworth Elementary School. In addition to communicating daily with staff and families to ensure they receive appropriate exposure and close contact notifications, we are in frequent communication with Pinal County Public Health officials regarding our case numbers and next steps.

Due to the details surrounding the current active cases at Ellsworth Elementary, all fifth and sixth grade classes at that school will temporarily move to remote learning through Friday, August 13, 2021. In-person learning for those classes will resume on Monday, August 16, 2021. During this time, students will learn remotely from home via Google Classroom, and should be monitored for any signs of potential illness. In order to avoid additional potential exposure upon return, families are directed to proactively quarantine their children during this time.

For privacy reasons and in observance of guidance from public health officials, we are unable to share additional details about individual cases. At this time, case information does not support a schoolwide closure. **Ellsworth Elementary School remains open and students in grades Pre-K through 4 at Ellsworth Elementary are still able to participate in in-person learning.**

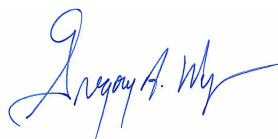
Additional information regarding remote learning has been shared directly with the impacted families. This notification is being shared with you to simply ensure transparent and open communication with our district community regarding our COVID response.

We continue to ask all students, staff, and families for your help in reducing the spread of COVID-19. This includes emphasizing frequent hand washing, staying home when sick, and being transparent about potential COVID testing and exposure. **Although we cannot mandate mask wearing, students and staff are also strongly encouraged to use face coverings at school to help prevent transmission.**

District administrators continue to meet daily to evaluate case information and assess next steps. Additional information will be provided to all families next week, but in the meantime, you can access the details of the District's COVID Mitigation Plan [here](#).

We thank you for your support and understanding as we work together to serve our students and keep our school communities safe.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gregory A. Wyman
Superintendent