



## Announcement from Dr. Nancy Lynch July 9, 2020

### School Re-opening Update from Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Lynch

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying your summer while maintaining physical distancing guidelines, wearing masks when in public, and handwashing like you have never done before. We must continue to be vigilant in these practices to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep ourselves and others healthy and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

In my last communication with you on June 18, I outlined our goal of having a plan for Board of Trustee approval in the last week of June or the first week of July. Unfortunately, this has not occurred due to the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 spread and the ongoing negotiations with our union partners. We have heard and understand the pressure this puts on our families that are trying to decide on the best educational option for their students. Please know that we are moving thoughtfully and carefully while working to have a safe and practicable in-school option defined as soon as possible.

In addition to our in-school program, we will also have a 100% distance learning option that families may choose if they have family health needs or want to continue distance learning until there is an effective COVID-19 vaccine in place. A number of families expressed this interest in our June survey of parents, and while we have not yet finalized the details of this distance learning option it will be different from the program that was provided to all families the final trimester of last school year.

If you are confident at this time that you would choose to have your child participate in the Distance Learning Option for all of the 2020-2021 school year, please email [Keith Woodard](#) in the Superintendent's Office with "DISTANCE LEARNING" in the subject line and include the names of your children and the grades they will be entering in the body of the email. Your early commitment at this time will allow us to begin to determine resource requirements to support this distance learning program. If you change your mind after the school year begins and would instead like to have your child

attend at their school site, they will be assigned to a class if space is available or be placed on a wait list until a seat becomes available. The deadline for these responses is 5:00 PM on Monday, July 20. Please note that there will be additional opportunities to choose this distance learning option prior to the start of school; for now we need to know how many families have already made the distance learning choice due to their personal situations.

I would like to thank you for your understanding and cooperation in these very dynamic and unsettling times. We are keeping the health and safety of our entire RUSD Family (students, staff and families) at the center of all our decisions and plans. We all know that the school will look very different from last year, but I am confident RUSD will offer a robust and equitable education to your children under the safest possible conditions for all involved. I will provide more information next week on our progress and a target schedule for adoption of our in-person school implementation.

Please continue to be safe and take care of yourselves for your own health and the health of our entire community.

Warm regards,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Reed Union School District

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