



Jonathan Nez
President

DEPARTMENT OF DINE EDUCATION
THE NAVAJO NATION

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Myron Lizer
Vice-President

July 9, 2020

To Schools located on the Navajo Nation,

I hope this letter finds you well. I want to say "Thank you" to you and your school's leadership team for working hard to prepare for the upcoming school year, 2020-2021. In regard to your school's preparation, the Department of Dine Education (DoDE), along with other states (Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah), have each developed "Guidelines for School Reopening" for the upcoming school year. You are welcome to use the attached DoDE Guidelines for School Reopening in addition to utilizing other resources as a foundation for developing your school's "Reopening Plan". Schools will need to remember to also follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines as well. All "Guidelines" can be found on their respective websites.

In the event the Navajo Nation Government decides to reinstate closure of the Navajo Nation Government, this will likely include schools. Therefore, schools will need to be prepared accordingly so that schools will continue to ensure students are safe and learning. As a school on the Navajo Nation, you have an autonomy that allows you to be creative and flexible to fit your educational needs, thus, your plan will need to allow for alteration to meet with needs of future executive orders from the Navajo Nation Government.

The DoDE is respectfully requesting each school to submit their "School Reopening Plan" to ensure each Navajo school as a plan in place. The DoDE may also provide feedback if needed. We request you submit them to me as soon as it become available.

If you have any questions, Please feel free to contact me at (928) 871-7475.

Respectfully,

Patricia Gonnie,
Acting Superintendent of Schools
Department of Dine Education (DoDE)
THE NAVAJO NATION
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cc: Priscilla Manuelito, NNBOE, President
DoDE, Program Managers
BIE, Navajo District

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