7/3/20

Dear TUSD Staff,

I want to apologize that this message comes the day after notifying families. It was our intent to send it at the same time, but we needed to confirm all critical dates.

On June 29, 2020, Governor Ducey announced via Executive Order 2020-44 that schools were to delay the physical opening of school until August 17th, 2020 for in person classes. The Executive Order allows districts to start prior to that date via distance learning if the district develops and submits a distance learning plan before the first day of instruction. The order does not eliminate the 180 instructional day statutory requirement. Regarding the Executive Order’s impact on the district’s plan for opening the new school year, please note:

1. **The First Day of Instruction** via **Distance Learning for all students** will be **August 10th, 2020**. The first day for teachers will be **August 3rd, 2020**. To minimize any added difficulty to an already difficult time for our teachers, we made the decision to honor the original teacher contract start date of August 3rd. At this time, we do not know if our planned August 10th online instruction start date or the Governor’s August 17th delayed physical start date for schools will affect any scheduled breaks for the 20-21 school year.

2. The first day for teachers will be **August 3rd, 2020** per teacher contract dates for the 2020-2021 school year.

3. Professional Development dates for **NEW TEACHER INDUCTION** are: July 28th-July 31st. (Via Zoom)

4. Work calendar start dates will remain the same for certified employees.

5. Professional Development for All Teachers: **August 3rd through August 7th**
   - Please Note: The Professional Development will be around the new framework for delivering online instruction, which will include student attendance and grading requirements as well as the teachers’ primary roles and responsibilities in an online environment and Covid-19 health and safety requirements and guidelines. (Via Zoom)

As soon as it is deemed safe, the district will offer in-person learning experiences at a limited capacity to families that need this option. The impact of the Executive Order on classified employee (less than twelve month) contract start dates is still being assessed. An update regarding classified employee contract start dates will be provided following the July 4th holiday break.

Thank you again for your patience as we work through this changing environment. Have a wonderful July 4th holiday.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gabriel Trujillo
Tucson Unified, Superintendent