



**Cañon School**  
*Home of the Cougars*

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November 20, 2020

**Re: COVID-19 Virus and Possible Future School Closure**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Be prepared for students to begin distance learning on either November 30 or December 7, 2020, depending on the benchmarks for the week of November 22, 2020.** We hope the school will be able to remain open for in-person instruction.

Cañon School will provide you with information and updates as necessary for your child regarding any actions that may be required during the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the United States, including Arizona. At this time, the Yavapai County Health Department is providing recommendations to the district regarding necessary actions toward controlling possible exposure to COVID-19.

Although Cañon School is physically located in Yavapai County, many of our high school students attend Boulder Creek High School in Anthem, Arizona in Maricopa County. These students are transported to and from school on the same bus and by the same bus driver as our elementary students. As these students are siblings to the elementary school students and interact within our community, the Yavapai County Health Department is urging preparedness for a possible school-wide closure in the event that Boulder Creek High School closes or it is deemed necessary by the health department.

At this time, Cañon is continuing to provide in-person instruction. However, based on information from the Yavapai County Health Department and the weekly benchmarks for Yavapai County as well as Maricopa County, it may become necessary to close the school for a period of time (<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-schools>). The weekly benchmarks are updated on Thursdays. At this time, Yavapai County has one week (November 1<sup>st</sup>) that is in the red (substantial transmission of cases per 100,000). Maricopa County has the last three weeks at substantial transmission of cases per 100,000.

We know that having our students in school is the best option for learning. We appreciate how difficult it is for families to work, arrange childcare, and help their child with instruction and completing required work. All options and possibilities will be given careful consideration before a change to distance learning is implemented. Although it is not our intention to require distance learning, unfortunately, it is a possibility.

**Please plan ahead to designate a caregiver for your child should the school need to close.** If a school closure occurs, we will continue to provide updated information to our parents/

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guardians. In addition, further instructions will be provided for picking up instructional packets and food/school lunches that will be provided by the school for students.

If a school closure occurs, students who need a safe place to engage in distance learning away from home may attend school during regular hours of operation (Grades K-4 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Grades 5-8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). The students and staff will follow the mitigation safety measures for Cañon School and transportation **will not** be provided. Students will be supervised by a paraprofessional (this is not regular in-classroom teaching or instruction).

If you have further questions or concerns, please visit the Arizona Department of Health Services website for current information ([www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html) and [azhealth.gov/coronavirus](http://azhealth.gov/coronavirus)).

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,



Trinka Hall  
Principal



Angela E. Jangula  
Superintendent