

Cutten School District

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Superintendent/Principal Sue Ivey

August 11, 2020

Dear Families,

At last night's board meeting the Cutten School District Board of Trustees voted to begin the 2020-21 school year with distance learning. This means both school campuses will begin the school year closed to on-site instruction and all educational support will be provided remotely via digital and/or paper packets. Class lists, daily schedules, and on-line educational platforms will be finalized in the coming weeks and shared with families as soon as possible. Please see the Cutten School District <u>Distance Learning Plan</u> for information on guidelines and expectations during distance learning. This is a "dynamic" document; in other words, it will be revised and updated as needed to best serve our students.

We understand this decision will undoubtedly present challenges for some families. But after much consideration, the Board arrived at this decision out of an abundance of caution for the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff given the many uncertainties surrounding reopening schools. Although there is no substitute for in-person teaching, the staff of Ridgewood and Cutten Schools are committed to making your child's distance learning experience as engaging and enriching as possible. We may not be able to begin the school year together in person, but that will not stop us from creating strong learning communities for the benefit of all students.

We encourage you to prepare your child for success in the upcoming school year by speaking of the decision to continue distance learning in as much of a positive light as possible. While new school year shopping for clothing and supplies may not happen per usual, creating a comfortable environment to complete schoolwork at home may be just as exciting!

The Board of Trustees will consider the safety of returning to on-site instruction at regular intervals, with the intention of getting students back into classrooms as soon as it is determined safe to do so. If you have any questions please contact the school offices, which are now open Monday through Friday, 7:30am - 4:00pm.

Sue Ivey & August Deshais