

Greetings Cutten-Ridgewood Families,

The Cutten School Board voted to offer a blended learning model as soon as practical. All families will still have the option to continue distance learning at home for the remainder of the school year.

You will be called within the next few days to ask if you are sending your child(ren) back to school for on-campus learning. Depending on the information gathered from families, it may be necessary for students to be assigned to different teachers whether they are in blended or distance learning.

Here are some details regarding the two learning models to help your family make the best decision.

#### Distance Learning

- This model is a continuation of the distance learning we are currently using, with students having a mix of live Zoom meetings and independent paper and online assignments from a classroom teacher.
- One week meal bags will still be available on Tuesdays, and include 5 days of school breakfasts and lunches.
- A family may request to transition from blended to distance learning at any time. However, if a student is in distance learning, they will be given the choice to enter blended learning at the beginning of each trimester, but otherwise must remain in distance learning for the remainder of the current trimester.

#### Blended Learning

- The blended learning model means students attend on-site instruction in two separate cohorts, AM and PM. Each cohort will be on campus for 2 hours, 45 minutes daily.
  - At Ridgewood, the AM cohort will attend school Monday - Friday, 8:15am - 11:00am, and the PM cohort will attend from 12pm - 2:45pm.
  - At Cutten, the AM cohort will attend school Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 11:15am, and the PM cohort will attend from 12:15pm - 3:00pm.
- Students will be assigned additional work to complete at home to satisfy daily required instructional minutes.
- All staff and students (regardless of age) are required to wear facial covering at all times (except when eating or drinking) and are expected to maintain a minimum of six foot physical distancing indoors and out. If wearing a face shield they must be equipped with a drape.
- Each cohort will have one 15 minute outdoor recess/snack time, with only 2-3 classes on the playground at one time, and in separate areas.
- Stable cohorts will be composed of an average of 12 (or fewer) students, and will remain with the same teacher and classroom aide at all times.
- To minimize cohort mixing, music and library service will remain virtual, and there will be no assemblies or in-person classroom volunteers.
- The after school program is not being offered at this time.
- Lunch and breakfast will not be served at school. One week meal bags will still be available on Tuesdays, distributed at Cutten School, and include 5 days of school breakfasts and lunches.
- Bussing will not be available at this time, but may resume for families facing transportation hardship in the future. Field trips will not occur this school year.

Sincerely,

Sue Ivey and August Deshais

[Sample Form](#) for surveyors to complete.

Possible Questions:

- **Will my child have the same teacher?**
  - Possibly. We will not know classroom and teaching assignments until after compiling all survey results.
- **What will my child's schooling look like if we remain with distance learning?**
  - Your child's schedule will likely look very similar to how it does now. They will still have a mix of live interactions with a teacher and peers, and independent assignments totalling the daily required instructional minutes.
- **Do TK-2 grade students need to wear masks?** (The governor's most recent masking order appeared to exempt children under third grade.)
  - Yes. Per the Humboldt County Public Health order, and the board adopted site-specific protection plans (available on the website) all students and staff must wear a facial covering at school, except when eating and drinking, regardless of age or grade.
- **Are there exceptions for students that cannot wear masks?**
  - In some cases, yes. Limited medical exemptions, citing a specific condition, documented by a physician will be considered in consultation with a Public Health nurse.
- **Will children be able to play together at school?**
  - Yes. Cohorts will have a 15 minute recess each day (outdoors when weather allows). Distancing rules will be enforced to the greatest extent possible.
- **How will special education services be provided?**
  - Services provided to special education students are based on their individual education plan, and may occur on site or remotely.
  - Blended learning students who receive services on site may work directly with special education staff in the resource room and/or outdoors when weather and activities permit. In some instances, they may work in a small group with students from other classrooms. In addition to other safeguards, plexiglass shields will be used. Again, services are based on their individual education plan, and may occur on site or remotely.