



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY
PACIFIC WEST DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
UNIT 15006
APO AP 96271-5006

August 18, 2020

Dear DoDEA Pacific West - Guam Families,

I wanted to take a moment to update you on our plans for the start of the 2020-21 school year.

Local military leadership have requested our schools in Guam reopen remotely. At this time, we are planning for a two-week remote start. We will work closely with our military installations on a weekly basis to evaluate local environmental conditions and determine when in-person instruction will resume.

Families will receive communication from their child's principal by August 19. This communication will detail the sign-out process for those in need of technology resources to support remote learning in the home, as well as teacher assignments/schedules and how to access your child's remote learning classrooms. Please understand that first priority for laptop checkout will be reserved for students enrolled in the Virtual School and students with no access to compatible technology to access remote learning.

Our teachers returned to school this week and are receiving training on COVID-19 medical protocols and mitigation strategies, using blended learning strategies to engage students both in the classroom environment and when instruction is remote, as well as ongoing training for ensuring students meet college and career standards to be prepared for their future. In addition to this training to support learning in our new normal environment, teachers will be collaborating to prepare their remote classrooms. Teachers are also setting up their classrooms for face-to-face instruction in order to ensure a smooth transition to brick and mortar schools when appropriate.

The following schools will offer Grab-and-Go lunches from **1000-1030** beginning Monday, August 24:

- Andersen Elementary Middle School - [PAC AndersenEMS Meals@dodea.edu](mailto:PAC_AndersenEMS_Meals@dodea.edu)
- Guam High School - [PAC GuamHS Meals@dodea.edu](mailto:PAC_GuamHS_Meals@dodea.edu)
- McCool Elementary Middle School - [PAC McCoolES Meals@dodea.edu](mailto:PAC_McCoolES_Meals@dodea.edu)

The Grab-and-Go meal program makes meals available for students who participate in the free and reduced meal program. Families with children may also purchase Grab-and-Go meals. In order to pick up meals, families will be asked to wear appropriate face coverings and adhere to social distancing guidelines. The meals will be picked up at the outside door closest to the cafeteria. The meal orders will need to be made the day prior by 0900 by sending an email to

your child/children's school. The meals will need to be paid for by using accounts established at <https://www.K12paymentcenter.com>. You will need your student's 10-digit ID, which you can obtain from the school or cafeteria.

We are excited to share with you the link to our Pacific West District's Parent University site. This site will host information for parents to assist in supporting their student with both the Remote and In-Person learning environment. There will be synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities for parents. We hope you find this a valuable resource. The link is <https://sites.google.com/student.dodea.edu/pacificwestparentuniversity/home>.

Another resource available to you is our Pacific West District Back to School SY 20-21 site. This site provides general information about school opening and the opportunity to ask and have questions answered, as well as view other Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). The link to this site is <https://sites.google.com/student.dodea.edu/pwdreopen/home>

As a reminder, when we transition to in-person instruction there will be mitigation strategies in place for the health and safety of students and employees. These mitigation strategies include social distancing to the greatest extent possible, face masks, healthy hygiene practices, frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces, clear physical barriers for tabletops, and signage to remind everyone who enters our building of these protective measures. Families can access more information about our return to school plan at <https://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/return-to-school.cfm>.

We appreciate your partnership, flexibility and support as we work together to provide all students with continuity in education during these unprecedented times. We look forward to welcoming your student to the new school year remotely on Monday, August 24.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Arrington', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Jeff Arrington
Superintendent
DoDEA Pacific West District