



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY
Guam Community Superintendent's Office
PSC 455 Box 208
FPO AP 96540

October 15, 2020

Dear DoDEA Pacific West - Guam Families,

As you know, Pacific West has been working closely with our local military installation leaders to evaluate local environmental conditions and determine when in-person instruction will resume at our brick and mortar schools. Our installations in Guam recently announced a shift to Health Protection Condition Bravo and we have begun the process of transitioning to the brick and mortar learning environment. **At this time, Pacific West is planning to resume in-person instruction on Monday, October 26 at all of our schools in Guam.**

In order to provide students with continuity in education, remote instruction will continue through Thursday, October 22. Please know that from Oct. 20 to Oct. 22, staff will be receiving training on COVID-19 mitigation strategies and protocols as well as preparing their classrooms for the return of students. There will be no live sessions on these days; your child will receive asynchronous assignments. Friday, Oct. 23 is a teacher workday and no assignments will be provided to students.

Return of DoDEA Technology Resources

In order to ensure our brick and mortar schools have technology resources for in-person learning, schools will sign in laptops and Chromebooks that were signed out to support remote learning from Oct. 21-23. Specific instructions from each school will be sent to families. Families who cannot return technology on these days should contact their child's school to make other arrangements. Students enrolled in the DoDEA Virtual School may continue to use their DoDEA devices at home.

Bus Ridership

Out of an abundance of caution, installation leaders have requested additional mitigations for bus ridership based on local environmental conditions in Guam. Installation commands may reduce student ridership on buses at full capacity. Commanders will provide further details to families.

Free Meals for All Students

Our schools have been granted a waiver from USDA which will make school lunches free for all students through the end of the school year, including DoDEA Virtual School students. In order to prepare for our Virtual School families intending to participate, we ask that you complete the request at the following link: <http://bit.ly/DVSfreemeal>. Families returning to the brick and mortar school do not need to complete the above request.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences have been rescheduled to be held virtually Thursday, Nov. 5 and Friday, Nov. 6.



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Brick and Mortar Mitigation Strategies

As a reminder, your child will be required to wear a face covering when we return to in-person instruction. Please ensure your child has a face covering to wear on the first day – October 26. We will have mitigation strategies in place for the health and safety of students and employees, including social distancing to the greatest extent possible, face coverings, healthy hygiene practices, cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces, clear physical barriers for cafeterias and all classrooms, 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>.

Our DoDEA schools will continue to work in close coordination with military and public health officials to support the safe and healthy return to brick and mortar schools.

You can expect to receive a letter from your child's principal on Friday, Oct. 16 with more information as we transition to the brick and mortar setting. DoDEA Pacific West will be hosting a Facebook Live event at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19 to answer questions about our return to brick and mortar learning.

We thank you for your flexibility and continued support. Our school administrators and staff look forward to meeting and welcoming your student in-person on Monday, Oct. 26.

GAIL WILEY
COMMUNITY SUPERINTENDENT