

## Monte Vista School District



## Plans for Back to School in the ERA of COVID-19

Monte Vista School District Families,

Once again, Thank You for all the encouragement and help you have given us through these trying times. As we close the 2019-20 school year out, our minds are racing on how buildings will open up in the fall. There are many concerns and questions to be answered moving into the 2020-21 school year. I believe it will be like nothing you have seen before, but Monte Vista School District will take the lead in providing the education necessary to advance our students ahead academically.

There is no doubt that we all want our students back into a normal routine where students and staff alike are hugging and marching down the hall hand in hand. It will be sometime before we get back to this model according to public health officials. We do not know what the future holds, but we do believe that strict social distancing will continue throughout the summer and maybe into the fall.

Currently, in-person gatherings of more than 10 are prohibited. Restaurants are beginning to open with a capacity of 30%. We know that these restrictions will slowly lift and we can get back to what we believe is normal.

As a result, Monte Vista School District is preparing for the future. We have five phases in which we could start the year. We do believe there will be some type of restrictions in

place when school begins in the fall. These phases will also provide direction should the pandemic flare up or other emergencies arise. These phases will allow us to act quickly, efficiently and more importantly move our students forward academically.

**Please Note:** We understand that some families from around the state and our community may not be comfortable to return to in-person learning. Monte Vista School District, with the guidance of the best and oldest online academy in the state will help provide our Colorado students this opportunity.

## COVID-19 Reintroduction Model

Timeline for phases will be informed by the CDC, local health orders and governor order

Instruction	Phase 1 Stay at home	Phase 2 Safer at home	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5 Returning to normal
Home Learning					<u>NO</u>
In-person learning for selected groups*	<u>NO</u>				
Blended learning for all	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>			
Majority of in-person learning	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>		

★ Small, prioritized groups of students, who may not have equitable access to education through Home Learning.

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## **Phase 1**

The most restrictive situation is when we are under a Stay at Home or similar order. In-person learning is not permitted, so all learning is conducted remotely via Home Learning.

We do want to acknowledge the feedback we're hearing from parents and staff regarding Home Learning. We are making adjustments as necessary before returning in the fall and in the event remote learning continues to be required. We will be improving consistency and expectations, as well as updating attendance and grading policies.

We will be sending out home learning surveys later this summer for Elementary and Secondary schools. Both will help provide us with important feedback that we will use to improve.

## **Phase 2**

Restrictions permit the resumption of limited in-person learning activities. Small, prioritized groups of students, who may not have equitable access to education through Home Learning, will have the opportunity to receive direct in-person instruction if their families desire. Home Learning will remain in place for all other students.

## **Phase 3**

As restrictions continue to ease, it is likely that only a portion of the student population will be allowed to return to buildings at any given time, due to strict social distancing guidelines and similar to the restrictions (e.g. 50% capacity) in place for workplaces under Safer at Home. Knowing that social distancing guidelines will continue to be in place and not all families will feel comfortable returning to school, MVSD will offer a blended model of instruction. This design will enable students and families to participate in both in-person instruction and remote learning as schools are able to accommodate more students on campuses. Families that wish to continue with remote learning only can access the Monte Vista School District Remote Learning Platform under the guidance of the oldest and best online program in the state, Monte Vista Online Academy.

## **Phase 4**

As restrictions are further eased, social distancing is relaxed or no longer required, the majority of our students will return to a normal in-person schedule. Monte Vista School District will, however, provide flexibility for families who may not yet feel comfortable returning to a traditional learning environment and continue to allow students to take advantage of online learning opportunities. Students who prefer to continue 100% online learning will access learning through the Monte Vista Online Academy.

## **Phase 5**

When there are no longer health-related restrictions affecting our community, Monte Vista School District will be able to return to students learning largely in-person at their schools. Again, as always, online opportunities will remain available via **Monte Vista Online Academy**.

We do not know what the next three months have in store for us. You will be receiving a Survey late in July, which will be critical in setting up the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. We will know more by this time and be able to get you plans for the different phases as we move through the school year. It will be important for us to follow local, state and governor recommendations on how fast we can get back to normal.

Thank You again for your patience and we look forward to seeing all of you in the fall, one way or another.

Sincerely,

**Scott Wiedeman**

**Superintendent**

**Monte Vista School District**

***"Home of the Pirates"***

***Mission: "To inspire the pursuit of excellence, one student at a time"***