



Dear ZED Families,

3/5/21

Thank you for your trust and patience in ZED. You may have noticed that the Minnesota Department of Education has made updates to the Safe Learning Plan in order to bring all k-12 students in-person this school year. As a result, ZED will be changing learning models so all students will be in-person starting on **Tuesday, March 30th**. This means all k-12 ALC, ZED South Campus and T2Success students can attend on-campus starting on 3/30/21 and we would move away from the middle/high school hybrid model. ZED will need a planning day to prepare for in-person learning on **Monday, March 29th** which means no students on this day.

A reminder of the current plan:

- **NOW - Friday, 3/19:** Maintain current models which is “elementary in-person, middle/high school hybrid”
- **Monday, 3/22--Friday, 3/26:** Spring Break (no students)
- **Monday, 3/29:** Teacher Planning Day for In-Person Instruction (no students or programming)
- **Tuesday, 3/30-end of the year:** All students can attend in-person Monday-Thursday.
**Fridays will still be distance learning for entire district

After careful consideration of our local data and consultative conversations with our health teams, ZED leadership felt it was appropriate and safe to bring back students districtwide. While students will be in-person, there will still be the same health protocols such as wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing. Some factors that helped in this decision included:

- Staff/student quarantine data has remained consistently low for weeks
- Almost 90% of our ZED staff will be fully vaccinated by Tuesday 3/30
- The 7 county positive case data (where all our students reside) are dramatically lowered
- ZED's robust COVID-19 safety plan is working and prepared for all changes
- ZED will continue to offer staff (every two weeks) saliva testing on-site as an additional mitigation factor

****Please remember while ZED is changing its learning model to in-person on 3/30/21, all students/families can still remain in distance learning for the duration of the 2020-21 school year if they choose. Please contact your program supervisor with any questions or updates. Those numbers are below:**

ZED South: 507-775-2108

dellingworth@zumbroed.org

ZED ALC: 507-775-2083

astites@zumbroed.org

T2Success: 507-775-2083

pames@zumbroed.org

Both the Minnesota Department of Health as well as the Minnesota Department of Education encourage all students and all families to get tested for COVID-19 every two weeks. There are many free, available and no-appointment sites across Minnesota. If interested please click [HERE](#) for available sites in your area. Additionally you can saliva test in the comforts of your own home and click [HERE](#) for that information.

Finally, the Centers of Disease Control (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health have some recommendations regarding the upcoming spring break and traveling. Please click [HERE](#) for more information. We want all students, families, and staff safe as we open up things more after spring break. As you know, all ZED student COVID cases throughout the year have been due to community transmission and not due to in-school transmission. We need your help to continue to follow safety precautions at home and in your community.

My hope is that this is the last calendar change for the year but ZED will always be prepared for the unexpected. We are extremely excited to get more students on campus soon and very appreciative of your patience through this whole year.

Sincerely,

Patrick Gordon

Executive Director | 507-775-2037 | pgordon@zumbroed.org