September 15, 2020

Dear Ripon Unified Families and Staff,

As previously shared in my letter dated August 26, 2020, Ripon Unified School District applied for a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through 6th grade waiver with the San Joaquin County Public Health Services for the return of students to in-person learning. We are excited to share that we have received notification that the waiver has been approved! We appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time as the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to directly impact the lives of our students, families, teachers, staff, as well as learning and teaching. We realize that this has been a very challenging, and at times, very frustrating situation. Our continued goal is for all students TK-12th grade to return to their classrooms. We will continue to stay abreast of the situation and do all that we can as we move in that direction.

We are pleased to welcome all TK through 3rd grade students to their respective school campuses on Monday, September 28th for a regular school day. We will be following all of the State safety guidelines. The regular school day for TK through 3rd grade students begins at 8:15 a.m. and dismissal will be at 2:00 p.m. Students will attend on a daily basis per the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar. Please note that school bussing services will also resume.

The next planned step is for all 4th through 6th grade students to return to their respective elementary schools on October 12, 2020 and attend on a regular school schedule per the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar.

Please note that your principal will communicate more information in the next few days with details specific to your elementary school site(s). Please allow time for this information to be vetted and communicated. We understand you may have more questions and thank you in advance for your patience.

Working together, our Ripon Unified Team continues to be committed to providing our students with learning that has evidence of rigor, relevance, and relationships while preparing them to become future contributing citizens. Our ultimate goal remains to provide educational opportunities on our school classroom campuses for all of our students. We truly regret not having more information available or a timeline for 7th through 12th grade students at this time. We will share new information as soon as it becomes available.

We continue to truly miss all of the students and staff being together in person. Should you have any questions or concerns that you feel need to be addressed for your student(s) regarding academic or emotional support please feel free to contact your school site office and/or the teacher directly via email or by phone. We continue to provide nutritional services with Grab and Go Meals through the Seamless Summer Program.

Respectfully,

Dr. Ziggy Robeson, Superintendent