Superintendent’s Back to School Message  
2020-21 School Year

August 3, 2020

Dear NJUHSD Families and Students:

The Nevada Joint Union High School District (NJUHSD) is pleased to welcome new and returning students, and their families to the 2020-21 school year.

Thank you for your unwavering support for NJUHSD during this very difficult time in our nation, state, and county’s history. The past six months have been traumatic for all of our students, families, staff, and community. We have witnessed our businesses shuttered, families’ livelihoods and well-being suddenly uprooted, and even the death of members of our staff and students. Despite these seemingly insurmountable challenges, I continue to be in awe of our community’s resilience and ability to quickly adapt during these most difficult months.

Unfortunately, the ongoing and unpredictable aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to pose daunting risks and challenges to our district and Nevada County as a whole. As we initiate the 2020-21 instructional year, the health and safety of our students, staff, and broader community remain our very top priority. Our decisions and actions in the upcoming school year will be grounded in this belief, and in concert with our district’s vision, mission, and core values (https://www.njuhsd.com/Our-District/District-Vision/index.html).

As you may know, all NJUHSD schools will open the 2020-2021 school year in a distance learning model on August 17. We are committed to ensuring that students continue to experience the care and commitment of our staff and the routine of daily learning, even in full distance learning. We acknowledge that our approach to distance learning cannot replicate the deep connections and social learning that happens when school is in regular session and in-person (the invaluable social interactions, real-time in-person feedback, community and extracurricular events, and so much more). However, quality learning can occur from a distance with our new Distance Education Model.

There have been many questions about what distance learning will look like and what resources are available to students and families. Invite students and families to visit our website (www.njuhsd.com) where you will find a range of useful information and resources to help you navigate the 2020-21 school year. In addition, your school site and district office staff will continue to be on the ready to answer your questions and address your concerns.

On behalf of myself, our Cabinet team, and the Board of Trustees, we wish you a successful 2020-21 instructional year. If we can be of assistance to you or your family during the school year, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 530-273-3351 or via our website at www.njuhsd.com.

We are NJUHSD and Nevada County strong!

Sincerely,

Brett W. McFadden
Superintendent