



# Sierra Foothill Charter School

4952 School House Road | Catheys Valley, CA 95306 | [sierrafoothillcharterschool.org](http://sierrafoothillcharterschool.org)

August 3, 2020

Dear SFCS Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for your participation in the survey regarding reopening schools. The SFCS Board carefully considered the survey results and other data at tonight's Board Meeting when discussing this matter. As part of the approved plan, SFCS will be starting the school year with distance learning for all grades. Limited in-person learning opportunities for select students will be provided, as permitted. With a goal of mid October, SFCS will phase in a gradual return to hybrid learning (a combination of in-person and distance learning) as data and science suggest safety measures can be met. It is then our hope that the final phase will occur after Winter Break with a return to full time in-person learning, while maintaining distance learning as an option for families through June 2021. If you are interested in the information shared as part of this decision, the Board Report has been posted on our school website ([sierrafoothillcharterschool.org](http://sierrafoothillcharterschool.org)).

The SFCS teachers and instructional aides have participated in training this summer to strengthen our distance learning program. To provide additional preparation and training time, the first day of school has been moved forward three days to Monday, August 24th. To adjust the school calendar, the Teacher Work Days that were scheduled for September 28th, November 6th, and January 4th have been removed and are now student instruction days. The revised SFCS 2020-2021 School Calendar has been posted on our school website.

Distance learning will be far more structured and rigorous than what was experienced last spring. Distance learning program standards have been established by the CA Department of Education. These standards include daily live interaction with the teacher, daily student attendance, and required grade level minimum instructional minutes per day between teacher instruction and assignments. While certainly not the optimal mode of instruction, the staff and I are committed to providing an effective teaching and learning program through distance learning.

Over the next few weeks, the staff and I will be contacting each family to determine needs and plan support. Part of this outreach will be an assessment of each family's internet connectivity and any training needed to access instruction and assignments for distance learning. In addition, we will have community resources to share that may assist with the many challenges facing families. Until then, please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns by phone (209-742-6222) or email ([principal@sierrafoothillcharterschool.org](mailto:principal@sierrafoothillcharterschool.org)).

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. Together we will make the best of this extremely difficult time. Please take care.

Sincerely,

*Mindy Bolar*

Principal/Superintendent