

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**CLARKDALE-JEROME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #3**  
**8/12/20**

At its regularly scheduled meeting last night, the CJSD Governing Board approved in a 4-0 vote to delay the re-opening of school until September 14, 2020 for In person learning.

Upon review of the metrics provided to all school districts across the state, CJSD superintendent Danny Brown stated, “we are close, but the positivity rate is not where we want it to be yet”. Brown alluded to the fact that for In person learning that rate should be at 5% or below. Right now, the Yavapai County positivity rate is at 7.8% over the last two weeks.

“We understand the hardship this might have on our families, but we also want to make sure the conditions are safe for us to return,” said Brown. “Our families have been wonderfully patient and understanding during the pandemic and we so much appreciate it.”

The AZ Dep’t. of Health Services released the metrics last week and they will be made public each Thursday based on a rolling two week average. Jill Zaske, Board President, stated, “I want to thank everyone for their comments and participation during last night’s meeting. Although this was a very difficult decision for the Board, we hope our families understand that we want our kids back in school, but under safe conditions.”

Brown also stated that we do not want to place a short notice on parents and we need to be cognizant of their life plans also. Parents now know a possible start date for In person learning and also know that our governing board will be looking at the metrics well ahead of time to give families more time to plan.

CJSD will continue to provide curbside breakfast and lunch meal pick up, Mon.-Fri. from 7:30 – 11:00 am in the front of school as we remain in our Distance Learning model.