



Dear Irwin County Indian Parents,

We are so excited to begin the 2020 - 21 school year with you! The faculty and staff of ICES has been diligently working to prepare policies, procedures, and classrooms to ensure our students and families are offered an environment that is extremely safe and conducive for learning. ICES's students remain our most valued asset; their well-being and instructional growth is at the forefront of our mission. Our school motto, **Every Child, Every Day**, is the foundation of every decision and it is what drives our actions. As we plan for a beginning like none other, our continued focus is:

- To ensure **Every Child, Every Day** is provided a nurturing and safe learning environment!
- To ensure **Every Child, Every Day** is provided an adequate and equitable education through meaningful experiences in both traditional and virtual platforms.
- To ensure **Every Child, Every Day** has a support system that attends the academic, social, and emotional needs of each student.

Through sound leadership and guidance, we are confident and prepared to begin this school year safely. We remain adaptable as information is updated by the CDC and local health organizations. Rest assured, ICES has strategically planned for multiple instructional approaches and anticipate that any future health challenges faced by our school or community will be met with instructional excellence.

We know you may have questions and concerns about the traditional school setting. With this in mind, here are a few factors you can expect upon returning:

- Daily Covid-19 assessments for staff and students
- Alternate drop off routes for Pre-K and Kindergarten for the month of August



- New arrival and pick up procedures
- Students remaining clustered together to prevent cross mingling of classes
- Modified lunch procedures
- Protective barriers in classrooms and common areas
- New classroom designs, including desks facing in the same direction
- Transition procedures requiring social distancing and travel in one direction
- Extra cleaning and sanitation requirements
- Multiple opportunities for handwashing and sanitizing
- Modified Exploratory guidelines
- No outside lunches or volunteers at this time
- The requirement of masks or face shields are strongly encouraged

ICES administration would like to thank you in advance for your patience as we navigate new procedures. Students' safety remains our number one priority and we are most thankful for your flexibility as we work together to achieve our goals. A great deal of time and consideration has been invested in each and every decision, and we continue to make amendments, as needed. Please know we are doing our absolute best for **Every child, Every day!**

Specific details concerning school transitions will be posted on our county website very soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office at (229) 468-9476.

Sincerely,

Rontee Barnes  
ICES Principal