

## Arickaree School District R-2

Washington County R-2  
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October 7, 2021

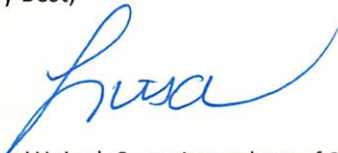
Dear Arickaree Families and Friends,

As we approach this time of year when our fall season quickly turns to cold weather, we can sometimes see an increase in colds, flu, and illnesses. We also continue to be aware of COVID needs in our area and want to remain pro-active in all of our approaches to assist with student and staff safety, health, and well-being. We are continuing with our diligent efforts in our extra cleaning and sanitation practices throughout our entire school. We also are consistent in our hand-washing, and spacing in our classrooms if needed. We also encourage parents and staff who are experiencing any illness or flu-COVID like symptoms to remain at home. We appreciate your support and assistance in our pro-active safety supports!

You may also be aware of recent Colorado legislation (SB 21-116) surrounding schools that have Native American mascots, team names, or logos. As of June 1, 2022 all schools utilizing a Native American mascot, team name or logo, will need to comply with the required change. We have been working closely with legal counsel and others, to seek out alternatives to continue to support the "Arickaree Indian" culture, traditions and heritage, however we may be in a position that we are going to need to move forward complying with the state statute or incur hefty penalties. We will continue to seek out input from our students, staff, and families to assist us with possible logo, team name options that will ensure we keep the tradition and spirit that has always been part of the Arickaree school community. If you have ideas or input you would like to share, please feel free to reach out and share with any of our staff, board members, or myself. We will provide updates as further information and work is done in this area.

It's hard to believe that next week we wrap up our first quarter with students. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday October 15<sup>th</sup>. Elementary staff will be contacting individual families to arrange conferences and our high school staff will be available from 4:30-7:30 on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-11:30 for any families who would like to stop in and conference. I know that our staff is anxious to share the successes we have experienced in just a short amount of time. We appreciate your partnership and THANK YOU for sharing your children with us!

My Best,



Lisa Weigel, Superintendent of Schools