



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION
ARIZONA NAVAJO NORTH**

Rocky Ridge Boarding School
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Greetings everyone,

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been the Bureau of Indian Education's (BIE) goal to provide continuity of education for all BIE students. BIE continues to strive for excellence in teaching and learning. As a follow-up to BIE tribal consultation held on July 9, 10, and 14, 2020 regarding school reopening, I am pleased to share with you BIE's School Reopening Plan, Return to Learn!

BIE has been actively preparing for the start of the 2020-2021 school year for several months. As you know and have experienced, it has been challenging and complex. The Department of the Interior (Department), Indian Affairs and BIE are actively involved in supporting the federal response to COVID-19. BIE, through Indian Affairs, brought together a strategic team that included experts from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), Indian Health Service, and tribal leadership to ensure we had access to a broad range of expertise in putting together the Plan.

As such, I am sharing with you the Plan as well as the letter from BIE director Dearman regarding school reopening. As your direct line of support in the BIE, I also plan to reach out to you directly to make sure I can address any questions or concerns you may have. In addition to this, I will share with you the school leader toolkit as soon as it is prepared. Finally, BIE's webpage regarding school reopening will have all the latest information and will go live no later than August 26.

As always, thank you for reviewing this information, and I look forward to talking with you to make sure the BIE is providing you the best support possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Peter Carole, Principal