



## Announcement Regarding School Closure Through June 4, 2020

Dear Families, Students and Staff:

Thank you to everyone for making distance learning so successful. We are so proud of our students, our parents and our staff. Everyone is doing such a wonderful job with incorporating distance learning into their daily lives and making the best out of a difficult situation. The stories coming from our teachers about how the students and families are making this work are nothing short of fabulous.

We had held out hope that the government would release us to come back together in classrooms on our school sites, but we know now that just is not going to happen. I thank the Board and the Community for holding onto this hope of a return to have closure with the students. At this time, we are announcing that the WSD schools will remain physically closed through the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year.

District administration and site principals will be focused on developing plans on how to get student materials/work/personal items and medications picked up, which will include the plan for you to drop off the District owned computers and textbooks (if you have them). We will make a plan for a 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion video using social media or the like. Your school site administration will notify you of the plans for your child(ren)'s school. Please note that the Summer Camp Program has also been cancelled for this year.

We will continue distance learning through May 22, 2020 and then start collecting computers back from families. The last 8 days will be assignments that are fun in nature and will not require the use of the school laptops. Please stay focused on distance learning with your students and let us worry about all of the year wrap up logistics. It will be important for our students to stay engaged in learning. I am proud of the program that our teachers have developed and know that the learning is meaningful and important for our students over the next few weeks. As a District, we are appreciative of the positive and engaged family support during Distance Learning.

On Tuesday, April 28th, Governor Newsom made a blanket statement about the possibility of schools reopening in late July or early August. The comment has caused confusion and many questions regarding the 2020/21 school year start date. This comment came as a surprise to many educational leaders in the State of California. While some may have taken this comment as a mandate, it was not intended to be a requirement and the school beginning date will continue to be a local decision. There is NO state plan for that early start. We plan to return per our adopted calendar on August 12, 2020 for the 2020/21 school year. Our calendar is on our District Website if you would like to refer to it.

Thank you again for being such an incredible community and doing all you can to make this unprecedented time successful for your children. I applaud all of you and the staff for doing everything they can for our children.

We will continue to provide meals to our students through June 4, 2020. At this time, we will not be providing meals during the summer months. I thank everyone that has been involved in making this free breakfast/lunch program so successful.

Sincerely,

*Craig M Guensler*

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