



Santa Clara County Office of Education

Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

March 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

After close consultation with The Public Health Department, the County Superintendent of Schools and all district superintendents in the county have decided to close schools to students for three weeks beginning Monday, March 16th through April 3rd.

During what is a rapidly changing time for all of us, I want to keep you updated on what we are doing as a school community to keep our students, staff, and families safe and informed.

Health and safety remain a top priority for us and the information around COVID-19 coronavirus is constantly evolving. Experts are advising that individuals be vigilant, to stay healthy and to help keep the virus from spreading. We know that school closures might create a hardship on families and are sensitive to each families' needs.

Program staff will be working to develop plans to implement the recent guidelines provided by the Public Health Department to ensure our facilities are safe and clean when school reopens.

Our program leadership will work together throughout the closure to provide the vital services and resources our schools offer to our community, including, but not limited to, free and reduced meal programs. Staff will be contacting families promptly about services available to them throughout the closure. Please know that we will maintain regular communication with our families.

During this time, the expectation is that students will actively participate in at home learning opportunities, and remember that practicing social distancing helps slow the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing means staying 6 feet or at least an arm's length away from others. Please also practice the following safe and healthy routines:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Alcohol hand sanitizers are also effective
- Frequently clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces like doorknobs, light switches, toys, computers and tablets, etc.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick



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- Stay home if you are sick (except to get medical care)
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. If you use a tissue, wash your hands afterwards.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces (like doorknobs and light switches). Regular household cleaners are effective.
- Get plenty of rest, drink plenty of fluids, eat healthy foods, and manage your stress to keep your immunity strong.
- Practice social distancing
- Limit play dates and study groups to no more than 10 people and ensure that everyone's temperature is below 100.4F prior to meeting
- Adhere to the moratorium on any gatherings that are larger than 100 people

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring a safe and healthy school community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Ann Dewan".

Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools