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Quality education and opportunity for all students to succeed

March 13, 2020

Dear SYSD Families & Staff,

In an abundance of caution, and in consultation with local public health all public schools in San Diego county will close in order to curb the potential transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19) beginning Monday, March 16th, 2020. At this time, San Ysidro School District will be closed from Monday, March 16th through Monday, April 6th (several staff) and on Tuesday, April 7th schools will reopen for students.

Please note, the county public health department has **not** notified San Ysidro School District of any confirmed COVID-19 cases in our community.

The decision to close districts in San Diego County was made in consultation with the County Public Health Department and the San Diego County Office of Education. Our top priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, families and community.

While your student(s) remains home, we encourage you to continue practicing good hygiene, which includes:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Get vaccinated for the flu if you have not already.

If you feel for any reason your child may have or has been exposed to the novel coronavirus, please contact your doctor immediately. Virus symptoms can range from mild to severe and could include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear in a few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

San Ysidro School District is in the process of determining what options we have for our students to continue learning while the school is closed. The district will send out information early next week regarding at home learning options for our students.

Regarding food service next week, March 16th - 20th, our school district will provide breakfast and lunch to any child in our community (including those that do not attend our schools) between the ages 1 up to 18. The schools that will be open for food service next week will be: La Mirada Elementary, Willow Elementary and San Ysidro Middle School. Breakfast will be served from

8:00a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11:30a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is a requirement for students to be present when the food is served. Meal service will be provided in a Grab and Go style.

We will remain in close contact with the San Diego County Office of Education and local public health officials throughout the duration of this closure and will provide updates to families as appropriate.

Staff, in accordance with Government Code 3100, Title I, Division 4, Chapter 8: Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance for Disaster Services Workers and Public Employees, "all public employees are hereby declared to be disaster service workers subject to such disaster service activities as may be assigned to them by their superiors or by law." Please stand by for an all staff email detailing essential staff needed to work at the district next week, telecommuting work, on call expectations, and other pertinent information.

We encourage you to stay informed of the situation by regularly checking updates from [San Diego County Public Health Services, Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), [Coronavirus-sd.com](https://www.coronavirus-sd.com) and on both the San Diego County Office of Education and our San Ysidro School District websites.

If you have health-related questions, please contact the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Epidemiology Department at (619) 542-4170 or 2-1-1 for additional services available. If you have questions about our school district, please call (619) 428-4476.

We understand this is a time of uncertainty and concern. We will work through this together to keep our students, families, staff and community safe.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent