

# Toppenish School District No. 202

306 BOLIN DRIVE  
TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON 98948-1644  
PHONE (509) 865-4455  
FAX (509) 865-2067

March 13, 2020

Dear Toppenish School District Parents and Community,

I have a difficult announcement to share with you all today. Following the executive order issued by the Governor of the State of Washington, the Toppenish School District will close all schools from Tuesday, March 17 through Friday, April 24, 2020. This closure includes the cancellation of all out-of-district transportation, events, athletic practices, field trips, and competitions. We will continue to have parent-teacher conferences via telephone on Monday, March 16.

All school offices will be open regular hours through Tuesday, March 17 to allow for parents and students to retrieve personal items or medications as needed while schools are closed. Staff are expected to report to work at their regularly scheduled time until further notice.

We recognize that this extended closure creates significant challenges for many of our families and the community. Our schools allow workers to provide for their families and serve the community, knowing that their children are receiving a high quality education while being well cared for at school. Many students receive nutritious meals from their school and also receive the social-emotional supports they need.

We care deeply, and we are assessing what options we have to best provide, nutritious meals, emergency learning resources, and other vital services during the closure. Our goal is to reduce the negative impacts to students and families as much as possible.

In the coming days, our staff will be at work and focused on implementing and adjusting these plans. We will share updates about these items through School Messenger, our websites, and our social media channels as we finalize the details of our plans.

I think it is important to let you know that we may be asked by the state or the health department to extend the closure period. If this occurs, we will communicate to families as soon as possible to allow time to prepare.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership as we work together to continue to care for our students, staff, and families during these difficult times. We will get through this, and we will do it by taking care of each other, treating each other with kindness and compassion, and holding together as a community.

Sincerely,



John M. Cerna, Superintendent  
Toppenish School District

*"We do what's best for kids."*

*"Hacemos lo que es mejor para los niños."*

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER