Information on State-Wide Closure of Schools Through April 24, 2020

March 13, 2020

The rapidly-evolving situation with the coronavirus pandemic in our state has caused a great deal of concern for schools due to the potential for the virus to be spread among children and staff.

Yesterday, Washington Governor Inslee announced that he is mandating the closure of all schools in Seattlearea counties for six weeks continuing through Friday, April 24. Yesterday, he also banned gatherings of 250 or more people in the same Seattle-area counties. The goal of these measures is to prevent the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Today the Governor announced the closure of all schools in Washington State through April 24, 2020.

These social-distancing actions are being taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 and help insure our healthcare system is not overwhelmed by patients with the coronavirus.

Today the superintendents of all districts in Clark County met about this rapidly-evolving public health crisis, and demonstrated proactive leadership to keep students safe. Our of concern for the safety of our students, staff, and families, we were prepared to close all school in the county prior to the Governor's decision.

District Changes/Cancellations

All school events during this period are cancelled:

- The PTSO Spring Carnival (scheduled for March 21) is cancelled. Watch for additional information about the possibility of online auctions for this important PTSO fundraiser.
- The 5th/6th Grade outdoor school at Cispus Learning Center (scheduled March 23-27) is cancelled. We will work to re-schedule this important experience at a later date or next fall.

The district will evaluate the practicality of offering any level of instructional services during this school closure. As shared in my previous letter, however, the state would require that the district insure equity in the services to students during a closure. Those requirements at this juncture appear to be insurmountable for our district with the infrastructure and resources we have available.

I understand this is a time of uncertainty and it is my pledge to continue to keep you updated as information becomes available. Please be sure to continue to check our website for updates as this dynamic situation continues to unfold. Thank you for your support and understanding in this challenging time for our district.

PAWSitively,

Tyson J. Vogeler, Superintendent/Principal