



April 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community,

Livingston Union School District has been working closely in monitoring the impact the COVID-19 health crisis has on our students and school community. The safety of students and staff continues to be a top priority during this unprecedented pandemic. As such, careful consideration has been given to how to best proceed for the remainder of the school year.

Based on the recommendation from Governor Newsom, State Superintendent Tony Thurmond, and in collaboration with the Merced County Office of Education and the Merced County Department of Public Health, LUSD is announcing that the temporary school site closure will extend for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.

The school year is not over. It will transition from in-person classroom instruction to distance learning. In Merced County, there is no definitive date for when school sites will reopen. Should the following criteria be met, school sites may reopen:

- The California State "Shelter in Place" order has been lifted
- The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Merced County has remained constant for a two week period or declined
- The directive to *Social Distance* has been removed
- The limit placed on social gatherings has been removed

School Districts in Merced County will continue daily surveillance of these criteria for the benefit of students and families.

During this timeframe, our district will continue to provide essential services to students, like meals during the regular school schedule. Though the buildings will be closed, education will continue through distance learning.

Livingston leaders and teachers are working hard to ensure that learning continues for students. Our educators are working to provide instructional resources for distance learning opportunities for 3rd - 8th grade students beginning April 20th. Students in TK - 2nd grade will continue to receive educational packets. More information will be shared about what this will look like for your student and family.

It is crucial during this health crisis that families follow the guidance of public health officials to practice social distancing and only go out when necessary. Children should not congregate during the stay-at-home order as it puts the child, their families and the community at-risk.

Sincerely,

Andres Zamora, Livingston Union School District

Steve Tietjen, Ed.D., Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Sandra Schiber, Ed.D., Atwater Elementary School District

Bliss Propes, Ballico-Cressey Elementary School District

Adolfo Melara, Delhi Unified School District

Justin Miller, Ed.D., Dos Palos-Oro Loma Joint Unified School District

Lori Gonzalez, El Nido Elementary School District

Bryan Ballenger, Ed.D., Gustine Unified School District

Isabel Cabral-Johnson, Hilmar Unified School District

Scott M. Borba, Le Grand Union Elementary School District

Donna Alley, Le Grand Union High School District

Mark Marshall, Ed.D., Los Banos Unified School District

Mike Crass, McSwain Union Elementary School District

Al Rogers, Ed.D., Merced City School District

Richard Lopez, Merced River Union Elementary School District

Alan Peterson, Merced Union High School District

Kristi Kingston, Plainsburg Union Elementary School District

Jose Gonzalez, Planada Elementary School District

Alison Kahl, Snelling-Merced Falls Union Elementary School District

John Curry, Weaver Union School District

Randall Heller, Winton Elementary School District