

# **TAFT CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

FAX (661) 763-1495

*JULIE A. GRAVES, Ed.D., Superintendent*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
*Les Clark*  
*Stacey Falgout*  
*Michael McCormick*  
*Keith McElmurry*  
*Greg Mudge*

Dear staff:

After consultation with the Kern County Department of Public Health, and the other 46 Kern County School Districts and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, Taft City School District will follow the recommendation of Governor Gavin Newsom, and complete the 2019-20 school year utilizing alternative teaching methodologies, including online distance learning.

This is part of a concerted effort to limit the community spread of COVID-19 and address the important continued safety of our students.

In the meantime, we will continue to follow the Governor's orders, which include:

- Schools will continue to deliver high-quality educational opportunities to students, to the extent feasible, through distance learning.
- Schools will provide meals in non-congregate settings.
- Schools will arrange for, to the extent practicable, supervision for students during ordinary school hours; and
- Schools will continue to pay employees.

At this point we do not know when the current shelter at home order will be lifted.

We truly appreciate the patience, collaboration, creativity and tremendous care that you have exhibited for our students during these very challenging times. We understand how challenging this decision is for our families and we appreciate your support, dedication and patience. Moreover, we are grateful to our students, parents and staff for maintaining continuity of education, helping our schools address the nutritional needs of our students and adhering to local and statewide safety guidelines during school closures.

In the coming days and weeks, districts will receive clarity regarding how grades, graduation, transcripts, scholarships, summer school, continued distance learning instruction, and a myriad of other issues will be addressed.

## **Prevention**

During school closures, it is important that staff, students and families follow the Governor's orders to stay home and minimize social contact to the extent possible.

Furthermore, Kern County Public Health recommends the following everyday personal prevention actions:

- If you are sick or mildly sick for any reason, stay home! Call your doctor if you are concerned and/or if your symptoms worsen.
  - Symptoms to watch for include a fever over 100 degrees; respiratory illness such as cough or difficulty breathing.
- Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay 6 feet or more away from strangers and those who are ill.
- Do not shake hands with others.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Sneeze and cough into a tissue or your sleeve; safely throw away tissues in a safe manner.

This is a dynamic situation where information and circumstances can evolve quickly. We truly appreciate your patience, collaboration, creativity and tremendous care that you have exhibited for our students during these very challenging times.

Sincerely,

Julie Graves  
Superintendent