



## BRITTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 5, 2020

**TO:** The Parents of Brittan Elementary School

**FROM:** Staci Kaelin, Superintendent/Principal

As Most of you are aware, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency for California on March 4, 2020.

There are no known cases of coronavirus in Sutter or Yuba County currently

If a single case is confirmed in either county, it is the intention of Bi-County Health Officer Dr. Phuong Luu and the County of Sutter to declare a local state of emergency. A local emergency declaration should not be received with unnecessary alarm. It would not signal an “outbreak” of coronavirus here. It is a proactive step that will allow the County to better prepare for the possibility of future additional cases. In addition, a declaration of emergency improves the chances that the County will receive state and/or federal assistance, as needed, and recoup costs associated with investigating potential or actual cases and monitoring people in quarantine, with or without symptoms.

In the meantime, Dr. Luu is working closely with Health and Human Services’ Public Health Division, as well as Public Health in Yuba County, and Emergency Management from both Sutter and Yuba Counties. Each County’s Public Health Department has assigned key staff to monitor the situation.

Reminder: A person’s risk for COVID-19 depends on travel history and/or close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, not on race, ethnicity or culture. Residents of Sutter-Yuba remain at low risk of infection from COVID-19 overall. Medical testing has been occurring to rule out coronavirus when deemed medically appropriate for individuals meeting specific criteria.

To stay up to date on this rapidly evolving situation, there are several great resources from Bi-County Health Officer Dr. Phuong Luu, California Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization at [www.bepreparedsutter.org](http://www.bepreparedsutter.org).

Public, charter and private schools, along with the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools Office (SCSOS), are teaming up with the Sutter County Public Health Department to provide students, families, and the public with the most accurate information available regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We strongly urge all families in our school community to rely on their local school leaders and the Sutter County Public Health Department for accurate and timely information. We want to ensure that only accurate information about COVID-19, particularly information about schools, circulates in our county. Our goal is to be proactive rather than reactive and to promote healthy behaviors amongst our students and staff.

Sutter County Superintendent of Schools and local districts will communicate regularly with their school communities and pass along reliable COVID-19 related medical information provided by the Sutter County Public Health Department and/or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)). We believe collaboration and a united and joint effort is the best way to get credible information out to parents and the entire Sutter County community.

The community can help slow the spread of coronavirus by:

- Washing your hands often for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
- Coughing into a tissue or your elbow if a tissue isn't available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth especially with unwashed hands.
- Keeping your distance from people who are sick, especially if they have a respiratory virus. If you think you are exhibiting symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) and have been exposed to the coronavirus, call your local health care provider. Contacting them in advance will make sure that people can get the care they need without putting others at risk.

Since there are no diagnosed local cases currently in Sutter or Yuba County, now is a great time to prepare for an actual event. Sutter County Public Health is asking the community to consider how they might adjust if daily routines are disrupted by an outbreak:

- Can you work from home/remotely?
- What are your transportation plans if public transportation is disrupted?
- If schools are closed, do you have an alternate plan for childcare?
- Do you have enough food, medications and other necessities to sustain you and your family if you need to stay home?

Student, staff and community safety and wellness is our number one goal. Working together we can help provide a safe and healthy learning environment.

More information can be found about the virus and appropriate safety precautions by clicking on attached links:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/>

Sutter County Coronavirus link:

[https://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/cao/em/cs\\_es\\_home](https://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/cao/em/cs_es_home)

Talking with students about Coronavirus:

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)