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March 18, 2020

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Joseph Dougherty Business Services Dear EUSD Families,

I hope this message finds you and your family well. Please know we miss all of you! It is truly the people that make up a school district and we are doing our best to make connections with you in new and different ways. I know timely information is important so I wanted to share a few updates with all of you. I have heard the terms fluid, uncharted, unprecedented, fast moving and dynamic all used to describe our knowledge and reactions to the situation we are facing with the Coronavirus. They truly all apply. We are getting new information daily and are charged with remaining flexible and responsive.

Yesterday, Governor Gavin Newsom, in his update on the state's response to the Coronavirus, stated that it is 'unlikely' that schools will open before the summer break. It is important to note that he offered an opinion, and has not at this time issued an order for a state-mandated closure of schools. In my virtual meeting with the County Office of Education yesterday, we heard from Public Health Officer, Dr. Wilma Wooten, that she is recommending closing through the end of the month (March 2020). Those of course are vastly different messages, and the reality could land anywhere in between. Therefore, we are planning for all scenarios.

At this time, our plan is for reopening on April 13, 2020, at the conclusion of our spring break. This includes the two week closure (March 16 - 27, 2020) and the two week scheduled spring break (March 30 – April 10, 2020). When the decision on Friday, March 13 was made to close for the two weeks, the District instituted the <u>Learning @ Home</u> webpage, resources and protocols for the two week closure, which included provisions for our students with special needs. This information was created with the intent to continue learning at home in a way that would support families with resources and opportunities to engage together. We are now preparing the next phase of learning at home that could be implemented after Spring Break, if school closures continue. This type of distance learning would be a longer term solution with teacher directed learning, schedules, assignments, and would include opportunities for students to engage with each other and the teacher regularly. We are working with our general and special education teachers, staff, and families to create districtwide templates, schedules and resources. You will receive more information from your teacher directly about this if closures should continue beyond April 13th. In the meantime, if you have concerns or questions about your child's learning, please email your teacher. They are checking emails daily and working to support families from home.

The decision on when schools will re-open will be made first and foremost with students' health and safety in mind. This is done in consultation with our <u>San Diego</u> <u>County Department of Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)</u> and our San Diego County Office of Education. We continue to monitor all updates related to COVID-19 and will respond to all public health directives immediately.

We have had several teachers, principals and families share stories and photos of how they are managing at home. I love seeing and hearing what our students are doing, so please send us any photos or stories! We love sharing them – it helps us to stay connected!

Our District will send additional updates as we receive them from the county and the state. We appreciate your patience, feedback and suggestions as we manage this together. We hope your families stay healthy and safe.

Warmly,

Andrée Grey, Ed.D. Superintendent

Andrew Money