

April 3, 2020

Photo: Mt. Baldy 3-26-20

It is Friday, and already April! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessitated Online Troy High School, our educational experience is more than a little different. Your teachers, counselors, administrators, and classified staff all miss you and would rather be here with you. I come to campus a couple times during the week, and while I know all of you are in the virtual world in your classes, learning and engaging with your teachers and each other, I know we would all like to be back here at Troy High School instead of our virtual world. Right now the most action happening on campus is Luna chasing squirrels up the trees.



Regarding, teaching and learning in the virtual world vs. the physical world at Troy High School, I hope you had a chance to read the message yesterday from our Superintendent, Dr. Scambray.

April 2, 2020 Dear FJUHSD Staff Members and Community Members:

On April 1, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced that all California schools will remain closed to students through the end of the 2019-20 school year due to the safety concerns surrounding coronavirus (COVID-19). The extension of school closures reaffirms the Governor's previous statements and his intention to continue "stay at home" orders to protect the public health.

Locally, Orange County Superintendent of Schools, Al Mijares, expressed his support for Orange County school districts to extend school dismissal dates. "Keeping children home from school is a drastic measure, one that shows how seriously health officials and educators are taking this public health threat," said Mijares. "We must do our part now to flatten the curve."

Based on these conditions, directives and preventive measures, the Fullerton Joint Union High School District has extended the dismissal of our schools through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, which ends on May 28, 2020.

In recent weeks, the State of California escalated its efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, through the executive order issued by Governor Gavin Newsom calling for California residents to stay at home, with exceptions for attending to essential needs. In addition, a Major Disaster Declaration by President Trump acknowledged the scope of this crisis and bolstered California's emergency response efforts.

Within this context, Superintendent Thurmond made the following announcement: "Due to the current safety concerns and needs for ongoing social distancing it currently appears that our students will not be able to return to school campuses before the end of the school year." Thurmond added that "this is in no way to suggest that school is over for the year, but rather we should put all efforts into strengthening our delivery of education through distance learning."

While schools will remain closed to students, I would like to emphasize that distance learning and FJUHSD services will continue, including academic counseling services, mental health and wellness supports, grab-and-go meals, Chromebook support and connectivity, and more. Free meals will continue to be distributed to students and parents between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at each school site.

As one of the largest crises we have had to deal with in our time, COVID-19 has impacted numerous aspects of our daily lives from education to employment to social relationships. It is in these times that you see the immensity of courage and care that our teachers, staff, and families are providing to each other. We are very grateful for our teachers, staff, and families for the outpouring of patience, support, and kindness as we carefully work together to navigate the unprecedented challenge of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

For Our Seniors: We understand the impact that this extraordinary situation is having on all of our students, staff, and families, but especially all of our seniors and their families. It is heartbreaking not to be able to celebrate all of your successes and great moments of senior year in person. Our staff misses you and we are thinking of all of you. Please know that we are still committed to honoring our seniors through some type of graduation celebration if and when our facilities are reopened.

We look forward to this crisis coming to an end and welcoming our students back to their schools. In the meantime, please continue to check your emails and FJUHSD social media for updates and information as we will continue to communicate regularly to address questions that could impact our students, including other end of the year activities.

Thank you for your patience and partnership. We will continue to work together to provide the essential educational resources needed for our students and families.

Take care of yourselves and your families. Sincerely, V. Scott Scambray, Ed.D. Superintendent For our seniors in the Class of 2020, we will do everything we are able within the world in which we are currently living, to normalize your high school experience as we wrap up this school year and move into summer. We don't know yet know for sure what that is going to look like, Dr. Scambray and our Board of Trustees will figure this out, but there will be a graduation celebration in your future! Keep up the good work in your classes! What you are doing matters for you not only this year but in your preparation for AP exams, college, and career!

Regarding AP, yesterday there was a webinar for AP coordinators, administrators and teachers with details about the AP Exams, test dates, and testing format. It was very informational and interesting. Late this afternoon, all the information from yesterday will be posted to the AP College Board website so the links I included last week I am including again. Please review the new information regarding AP exams this year! I know Troy students are quite bright, do their best, and do their own work in the classes and exams. Pay careful attention to keep this mindset and uphold the highest ethics when taking the AP exams. I urge everyone taking an AP exam this year to look at the updated information regarding AP testing in 2020!



From the College Board, information regarding FREE AP REVIEW CLASSES:

https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates#free-ap-classes

Additionally, please continue to access the following resources as they are very helpful

for all students, and are not just for AP and IB.

- <u>Detailed daily schedules for students ages 4 to 18</u> that parents, teachers and district administrators can use to keep students learning at home. (<u>http://khan.co/KA-school-closure-schedule</u>)
- Sal Khan is personally hosting livestreams and answering questions weekdays at noon EST/9am PST on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>YouTube</u> for students, parents and teachers navigating school closures.
- Parent and teacher resources for getting started with Khan Academy.
- Khan Academy is exploring ways to further support students, parents and teachers with live "office hours" and mechanisms to answer academic and logistical questions. Staytuned on the daily livestreams for more info.



When the day is done, this is how I feel—wiped out like Luna and Mrs. Donna Mynster. I know we are all working hard and adjusting to our current educational world. Earlier today I sent to you a Student Organization Sheet, created by Troy Teacher, Ms. Tiffany Wilson. Please use it to help structure and organize your work and questions you may have. Students, if you have questions, problems, issues, anything related to your classes, please communicate with your teachers, counselors, and administrators. Your success and well-being is our first priority! We are all here to help you and we are all in this and will get through this together! It is the weekend! Rest, relax, watch a movie, call a friend, and enjoy some quality time with your family and pets. [©] I will see everyone back in our virtual Online Troy High School on Monday!

Go, Warriors! W. V. Mynster