



FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Office of the Superintendent

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.

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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Scambray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

V. Scott Scambray, Ed.D.

Superintendent