



RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Educating for the Future Together"

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www.rescueusd.org

April 1, 2020

Dear RUSD Families,

Every day we hear heartwarming stories of special connections being made between students and teachers, between friends, among families, birthday celebrations happening online, parades, and various other creative methods to have meaningful interactions during this difficult season. It touches our hearts to hear these stories. Thank you for your continued efforts to make the best of this situation, supporting your families, your children, your jobs, and in a huge way right now, your children's education too. We just remind you to give yourselves grace. We know this is a stressful time. The most important thing is to stay safe and healthy. Spend time with your family playing games, reading books, going for bike rides, cooking, doing puzzles, or whatever else your family enjoys. Our kids grow up so fast. Cherish every moment. We do encourage you to do whatever you can with the lessons and work provided by our wonderful teachers, but we do not want to overwhelm you. Remember that! Reach out to us if we can help in any way.

With that said, you may have heard that State Superintendent of Public Instruction for California, Tony Thurmond, stated yesterday, *"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."* Additionally, today, Governor Newsome remarked, *"It is self-evident that we should not bring our children back into the schools."* These declarations and the projected spread of COVID-19 in California have influenced our county's educational leaders and the Department of Public Health's recommendations for extended school closure.

Due to this new information, Rescue Union School District will be closed through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Our Board of Trustees has consistently messaged, *"Our approach must be measured and thoughtful, always mindful of the safety and health of our students, families, teachers, and staff as top priority."* This decision to close through the end of the year deeply saddens our Board, as well as all of us. We do not make this decision lightly.

Again, thank you for your partnership with us. We love your children and miss them terribly. We look forward to the day we can welcome them back with open arms. We will continue serving our students through our distance learning program, the Seamless meal program, and any other way possible during this difficult time. We are in this together.

Most sincerely,

Cheryl Olson, Superintendent

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