

Important New Information: School Closure Due to COVID-19

April 3, 2020

Hello Rocklin Unified students, families and staff,

As we continue to adapt to the changes of the COVID-19 global pandemic, I'm sure you and your families-- like me and my family-- have found it is hard to predict what might be the best next step during these unprecedented times. Our District has been working diligently with public health authorities and even other California school districts in order to better understand what the next appropriate course of action would be in terms of continuing community mitigation and what that might hold for schools across our region and state.

Based on new state and county recommendations, I am sad to announce that the closure of Rocklin Unified School District Schools will extend through the end of the 2019-2020 academic year due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency.

Although schools had been tentatively scheduled to reopen on Monday, May 4, our top priority remains the safety and health of our students, their families and our staff members and have therefore come to this difficult conclusion in consultation with the State Department of Education, Placer County Public Health and the Placer County Office of Education. According to Placer County Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson, "Based on modeling of the COVID- 19 outbreak in California and in Placer County, it will not be safe for students to return to school in a traditional in-person model through the end of May into early June." We will continue to monitor the situation with them and share important updates with you as they become available.

Many of our students and families have shared how extremely impressed they are with the continued dedication, innovation, and caring of our teachers and other RUSD staff members to continue to educate, support and serve our students. To assist with the transition to online education for the remainder of the school year, we have reconnected with our labor partners and will move forward with a new phase of online teaching and learning.

We will provide more details to you shortly about this next phase. RUSD will be on our scheduled Spring Break the week of April 6-10 and our teachers and school staff will be collaborating and planning for the next phase of online learning in RUSD Monday, April 13 - Wednesday, April 15. Online learning will resume on Thursday, April 16.

For our high schools, we fully understand the particular disappointment of this announcement for our graduating seniors. We are considering many options for graduations. We recognize the importance of these momentous life events, especially for our seniors, and we will work closely

with our students, staff, and families to make these experiences as meaningful as possible for our amazing students and families. The timing and details of a graduation ceremony will be determined as we navigate the next few weeks and months.

During the current school closures, RUSD has provided more than 12,000 free meals to children who need them. We will continue to provide meals to children during spring break and for the remainder of the school year.

Based on the last few weeks we altered our meal pick up time to 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Monday - Friday at our six locations:

- Rocklin High School: *5301 Victory Lane*
- Whitney High School: *701 Wildcat Boulevard*
- Spring View Middle School: *5040 5th Street*
- Antelope Creek Elementary School: *6185 Springview Drive*
- Rocklin Elementary School: *5025 Meyers Street*
- Sierra Elementary School: *6811 Camborne Way*

If your family is living in transitional/temporary housing, supporting a foster youth, or experiencing a significant hardship and **you need assistance accessing our daily nutrition service**, please reach out to our District Office at (916) 630-3306. Please leave a message and you will receive a phone call back in a timely manner.

We have also provided more than 1,500 Chromebooks and devices for students! If you still need a Chromebook, please reach out to your Principal after Spring Break.

Also, while our schools are closed for Spring Break-we will share with you a special edition of our virtual newsletter-- the RUSD Report. In this issue, we cover COVID-19 adjustments, discuss some good news from throughout the district and share some of our most recent features on local media. Be sure to give it a read when it drops in your inbox!

I am also happy to announce that we will be holding a live virtual "Ask RUSD" session following our Spring Break. This will feature RUSD leaders, including myself, answering your questions about the COVID-19 situation and its impact on our Rocklin Unified Schools. As more information for this event becomes available we will share it with you on our Facebook (www.facebook.com/RocklinUnifiedScholDistrict), our Twitter (www.twitter.com/RocklinUSD) and on our website at www.rocklinusd.org.

In the meantime, we will be accepting questions at the following link: <https://forms.gle/y61ougHoDErxQAYx5>. Simply complete the submission form and your question will be saved for "Ask RUSD." To view a list of questions that have already been submitted, you can visit this link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jAQKwxDBZjpYHkU2_ggux75xLz_-Rg_jdwIWIC1FHgc/edit?usp=sharing.

As the COVID-19 situation progresses in our world, I am eternally grateful for the support, understanding and flexibility you all have shown while our district finds the best way to keep our students, their families and staff healthy and safe. I also want to thank again our incredible teachers and staff for the amazing job they are doing in these difficult times. We hope, despite sheltering in place, you can enjoy Spring Break with your loved ones! Please note that there will be no Distance Learning instruction during this time. We will see you back in our virtual classrooms on Thursday, April 16.

Sincerely,
Roger Stock
Superintendent
Rocklin Unified School District