



COVID-19, Update #16; March 31, 2020

Dear SVUSD Community,

The health and safety of our students is a responsibility we take seriously. As you know, we are in constant communication with the Orange County Department of Education, The Orange County Public Health Agency and statewide education leaders on how we can keep all who are part of our learning community safe in the midst of this health crisis.

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.

Locally, the Orange County Health Care Agency tightened restrictions on public and private gatherings and the Orange County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Al Mijares, expressed his support for Orange County school districts to extend school closure 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 continued preventive measures, **SVUSD is extending the student dismissal with distance learning in place through Friday, May 1, 2020. Students are now scheduled to return to campus on Monday, May 4, 2020.** Spring Break will continue as previously scheduled April 6-10, 2020. While students are not physically attending school on campus, teaching and learning has continued throughout the dismissals, and as such we will observe the previously scheduled break.

If we learn, prior to May 1, that circumstances have changed and that we can safely reopen our schools, SVUSD will do so at our earliest opportunity. To that end, the District will continue to monitor closely the guidance from federal, state and local authorities and coordinate our actions and responses with expert health agencies.

During the upcoming Spring Break, SVUSD is continuing to provide lunch service for our students. Please note that the take away lunch service locations are operating on **Monday** and **Thursday only** between 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm. On Monday, students will receive lunch for 3 days and Thursday for 2 days. **Please note that in order to receive a meal, the child must be present and families can only go to one location daily.** Locations are:

- El Toro High School: 25255 Toledo Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630
- Laguna Hills High School: 25401 Paseo De Valencia, Laguna Hills, CA 92653
- Mission Viejo High School: 25025 Chrisanta Dr, Mission Viejo, CA 92691
- Trabuco Hills High School: 27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo, CA 92691
- District Nutrition Services: 25566 Peter A Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691

If your student is still in need of a Chromebook device, or needs assistance with an SVUSD Chromebook, please contact the Help Desk at portalsupport@svusd.org or (949) 855-4357 between 7:30 am and 4:30 pm (Monday-Friday).

We realize the impact this has on students, staff, parents and our community. We all want students back in school and for our communities to return to normalcy as soon as possible, but not at the risk of their health and safety. This is a public safety crisis and it's critical we all do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to keep you informed as we learn more, but for now, please plan on our school dismissal being extended an additional month with distance learning continuing.

We are now in our second week of distance learning and I am proud to see our staff work collaboratively and diligently to engage with students and parents via phone, email, and learning software; helping our students stay connected, feel cared for and continue with important learning. Our staff continues to work to provide lunch for families needing food, assisting with enrollment and other office duties, and our custodial staff are continuing to prep the facilities for the safe return of our students and staff. Thank you for your continued partnership and support of our students.

Thank you,

Crystal Turner, Ed.D.
Superintendent