



COVID-19, Update #19; April 17, 2020

Dear SVUSD Community,

I'd like to welcome everyone back from Spring Break and hope that all of our students and families were able to find some time to relax during these unusual times. While break may have looked different this year, it's important that our students were able to take some time away from studies to recharge after these past few weeks.

As we end this week of distance learning, I'd like to share some updates regarding what the model of learning will entail for the remainder of the year. SVUSD staff has been working in conjunction with an array of stakeholders and agencies to tackle some of the complex issues that have arisen in light of our current circumstances, and we will continue to assess protocols and procedures as we progress through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Grading

We realize this unprecedented time has impacted many aspects of our school year, including the way our students access learning as well as the different approaches our teachers have traditionally taken to assess student learning. We are analyzing grading options during Distance Learning as we consider guidance provided by the California Department of Education, Orange County Department of Education, and higher education institutions. Teachers will continue to use their current system of monitoring student progress on learning new content. Therefore, it is critical for students to fully participate in Distance Learning and complete all assigned work and projects. Our goal is to ensure that all students have access to their education and continue to learn as teachers deliver new content. As a district, we are discussing different grading options for our students. A decision has not yet been made with regards to the grading approach we will utilize for the 4th quarter. Please be assured that more communication will be sent to families as soon as details are finalized.

Additionally, the UC/CSU systems have issued a joint statement along with the California Department of Education on this matter. You can read the statement [here](#):

Graduation

The impact school dismissals have had on all of our students is clearly significant. I recognize that this is even more impactful for our seniors who have worked so hard to meet their graduation requirements and who have been looking forward to celebrating with the traditional end of year senior activities and graduation. I am hopeful that we will be able to salvage a portion of the senior year experience for them, and we are working with all of our high schools to offer similar graduation experiences throughout the district. No decision has been made regarding alternative graduation activities nor postponement of graduation ceremonies. Adding to the complexity of the situation, the directives from our government and health agencies regarding mass gatherings and when those may resume, make it difficult to solidify graduation ceremony plans. However, we are committed to honoring our seniors and I can assure you that while graduation may look different this year, our students will be recognized for all of their hard work and achievements. As part of the brainstorming process, we find it imperative to garner feedback from our families and students regarding ideas for alternate graduation ideas. I

encourage our senior families to fill out this [Google form](#) where you may provide your feedback regarding graduation.

We will continue to keep you updated on any developments regarding grading and graduation, as well as other information as it becomes available. Please reach out to your school site administration for school-specific questions.

Food Services

Take away lunch service locations continue to operate 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

In the coming weeks, Western Youth Services, a District provider for health services, is making available student wellness packages. These packages containing items such as stress balls, lip balm, and hand sanitizer will be distributed to students during food distribution.

Your efforts at home to support your student is greatly appreciated. Please stay safe and take care.

Crystal Turner, Ed.D.
Superintendent