March 14, 2020

Dear SUSD Families,

Thank you for your patience while the District works through the many ramifications of yesterday’s decision to close our schools through at least Friday, March 27, as we all try to do our part to protect students, staff and family members from COVID-19.

I know you have many questions about our path going forward, and while we do not have all of the answers yet, please know that we are working on them thoughtfully and diligently. Here are some answers we have at this point:

• SUSD Nutrition Services has developed a plan to provide school breakfasts and lunches to children ages 1-18 on weekdays, starting Monday, March 16, at four SUSD school locations: Navajo, Tavan and Yavapai Elementary schools and Tonalea K-8 School. You can read about the plan here.

• In-person parent/teacher elementary, middle and K-8 conferences scheduled for the coming week are postponed until further notice. We are looking into the possibility of their being able to be conducted by telephone or online.

• March 15, 2020 update: EVIT announced today it is cancelling classes until further notice. Read more here. At this point, EVIT continues to offer CTE classes at its Mesa campus. It is up to SUSD students’ parents whether they attend their regular EVIT classes. SUSD transportation will continue to be provided, as usual. To read more about EVIT’s COVID-19 actions, click here.

• All school field trips and overnight trips, whether they are in Arizona or out-of-state, are cancelled until further notice.

• No fine arts events will occur for the time being.

• Middle school track and field is cancelled for now.

• We will learn more about the future of high school athletics next week from its governing organization, the Arizona Interscholastic Association, whose executive board meets March 16.
- Upcoming Gifted testing will be rescheduled for a later date. Parents will be notified of the new dates.

- School psychologists will work with parents to reschedule already-planned IEP meetings.

- Kids Club and after-school Enrichment Zone programs are suspended for the time being. The issue of refunds is not yet resolved.

As was stated yesterday, it is our intention to continue delivering high-quality instruction to SUSD students during this period of uncertainty, and planning for that continues. We expect to be able to tell you more about that in the coming days, but I can tell you now that SUSD’s dedicated corps of teachers is already hard at work adapting lesson plans to this new, hopefully short-term, reality.

The Governing Board and I appreciate your support as we continue to address the situation in which we find ourselves. Please continue to monitor www.susd.org/COVID19 for the latest developments.

Be well, and take good care of yourselves and your families.

Respectfully,

John A. Kriekard, Ed.D.
Superintendent