



**March 31, 2020**

Hello, Scottsdale Unified Employees!

There have been some developments relating to our school year schedule that we would like to share with you today.

### **School Closure for the Remainder of the School Year**

On March 30, 2020, Governor Ducey issued a "stay home, stay healthy, stay connected" [Executive Order](#) and, in conjunction with State School Superintendent Hoffman, announced the extension of all Arizona school closures through the end of the [2019-2020 school year](#). We will remain in an online learning model for all schools and all grades, following our current school year calendar available at [www.susd.org/Calendar](http://www.susd.org/Calendar).

### **Clarification on Stay at Home vs Shelter in Place**

The Governor's "stay home, stay healthy, stay connected" [Executive Order](#) is not an order to "shelter in place." Arizonans are directed to remain at their residence except to conduct certain essential functions and activities. Schools continue to be recognized as part of the [Governor's listing of "essential services"](#) that must continue to operate. "Attending or conducting work or volunteering in Essential Functions" is identified as one of the permissible reasons for Arizonans to leave their homes. Accordingly, school employees are expected to continue their work as directed by their supervisor.

As always, we remain committed to protecting the health of our employees by finding ways in which employees can conduct their work remotely as much as possible. Supervisors continue to work with the District's Cabinet leadership to identify the essential functions of our District and conduct them in the safest manner possible. We recognize that some essential functions cannot be performed remotely. We would like to make sure that we emphasize that we are working to clean work sites and keep them sanitized. Employees are also encouraged to practice social distancing, use tissues when coughing or sneezing, practice regular handwashing and use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

We are also committed to protecting public health. That is why Scottsdale Unified schools, facilities, athletic fields, running tracks, playgrounds, parking lots and sports courts remain closed to the public.

### **Meals for Students**

If someone you know needs assistance with meals for children ages 1 – 18 years old, please have them contact Scottsdale Unified's Nutrition Services Department at 480-484-6234 and visit [www.susd.org/Meals](http://www.susd.org/Meals) for a listing of locations offering free meals for children.

### **Chromebook and Wi-Fi Checkout Opportunity**

There is *one more opportunity* for families to check out Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots for online learning. Remember: we will be in an online learning mode through the end of the school year, May 21, 2020. We are now allowing multiple devices to be checked out to families with three or more students enrolled in SUSD. If a family has not been able to pick up a device yet, tomorrow's event is also for them. This event takes place tomorrow, Wednesday, April 1, from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at two locations: Coronado High School at 7501 E. Virginia Ave. in Scottsdale and Ingleside Middle School at 5402 E. Osborn Rd. in Phoenix.

## **ParentVUE**

Parents and guardians of students in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade can stay connected with their student's learning through ParentVUE. A link to this application is available at [www.susd.org/Parents](http://www.susd.org/Parents). There is also this [handy guide to help you](#) with ParentVUE.

## **Spring Sports and Activities**

In accordance with the [Governor's March 30, 2020 Executive Order](#) keeping schools closed for the remainder of this school year, all school-sponsored extracurricular sports, field trips and activities have been cancelled through the remainder of the [2019-2020 school year](#). The [Arizona Interscholastic Association](#) has cancelled the spring season and championships at all levels.

## **Activity Refunds**

The Scottsdale Unified Finance Department is developing an online process to provide refunds for certain activities and payments. More information will be coming later this week on how and where to obtain refunds for qualifying activities. Payments and contributions that have been made in the form of a tax credit are not refundable under state law as the payment/contribution is a dollar-for-dollar tax credit that is deductible through state income tax filing.

## **Fields, Playgrounds, Sport Courts, Parking Lots, Tracks Closed**

Please help us slow the spread of the coronavirus. Do not attempt to gain access to any Scottsdale Unified school campus, facility, playground, sport court, tracks or athletic fields. These District facilities are locked and closed to the public, athletes and neighbors for safety and health reasons. Please do not attempt to jump fences, pry open gates or use these facilities in any way. When we have reports from concerned neighbors and police, we must dispatch personnel to check on the facilities, putting them at risk. We appreciate your cooperation.

## **Support Services**

Scottsdale Unified's Support Services team is here for you! We have a list of e-mail addresses of our social workers, student support professionals and middle school guidance counselors in our newsletters available at [www.susd.org/eLearning](http://www.susd.org/eLearning). Look at the bottom right corner of that web page for links to all of our newsletters.

## **Latest Updates**

To stay in-the-know when it comes to the official news, activities and announcements by the Scottsdale Unified School District Office and your school principals, be sure to check these sources:

- News Releases: We post all of our news releases online at [www.susd.org/News](http://www.susd.org/News)
- Parent Briefings: We post all of the briefings online at [www.susd.org/COVID19](http://www.susd.org/COVID19)
- School Listing: Find a directory of school information at [www.susd.org/Schools](http://www.susd.org/Schools)
- Social Media: Connect with us on social media at [www.susd.org/Connect](http://www.susd.org/Connect)

We remain committed to teaching and learning, and we are so proud of our teachers and all of our staff who are continuing to work so diligently to deliver the quality of instruction our community expects and deserves.

Keep up the great work!

Scottsdale Unified School District Cabinet