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Dr. Michelle Rodriguez
Superintendent of Schools

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March 16, 2020

Dear PVUSD Parents and Community,

We recognize that this is a challenging and unprecedented time with constantly changing conditions. The health and safety of our community and families remain at the center of all decision making. On Saturday, March 14, 2020, the PVUSD Board of Trustees held an emergency board meeting to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on our community. At this meeting, the Board of Trustees unanimously decided to close all sites to students and non-essential staff for two weeks from March 16-March 27. Spring break will follow the two weeks of closure, as scheduled, from March 30-April 3.

After the issuance today of the Shelter in Place order by the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Health, PVUSD sites will now be closed through Friday, April 10. Further closures will be reassessed based on regional/local COVID-19 activity and guidance from the County Department of Public Health and from Disease Control and Prevention

Shelter in Place Order

Our decisions continue to support mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, minimizing risk to our staff and school community, and providing continuity of education and essential services. The **“Shelter in Place” order for Santa Cruz County** directs all individuals to shelter at their place of residence except to leave to access essential services or engage in essential activities and work for essential businesses and government services. To view the public health order, click [here](#). School districts will remain in operation to provide essential services to students and families including, but not limited to, food service and high-quality educational opportunities facilitated by staff to students through distance learning.

Student Instruction/Distance Learning

This week, teachers are preparing for distance learning to begin on Monday, March 23, 2020. All Chromebooks located at PVUSD sites will be cleaned prior to releasing them to students in grades 3-12. Students may use a personal or family computer if they wish. Please note students from WHS, PVHS, DTI, Lakeview, Pajaro Middle grades 7-8 and WCSA grades 6-8 already have their Chromebooks through the District’s technology take home program. If students need to receive a loaned Chromebook and/or hotspot, they will be available for distribution on Thursday, March 19 or Friday, March 20 at their school site. The student and their parent/guardian must be present to receive their Chromebook. The Chromebook pickup schedule will be available in the next few days.

During Chromebook checkout, one hotspot per household will be made available, for those who do not have internet access. These hotspots are embedded with PVUSD firewalls to ensure students are safe online and are only compatible with PVUSD Chromebooks, therefore, they will not provide access to the internet for other devices. Parents can take advantage of Charter’s offer of free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription. The installation fees will be waived for new student households. To enroll with Spectrum, parents may call 1-844-488-8395. In

addition, there is the Comcast Internet Essentials Program for \$10 a month for qualifying families, who is providing 2 months free for new accounts: The information can be found at <https://www.internetessentials.com/>

Starting Monday, March 23, students in TK-2nd grade will primarily use packets of instructional materials compiled by their teacher for student learning. Packets will be available for distribution each week of school closure on Mondays from 8:00-10:00am and 3:30-5:30pm at the school site. Students will submit their completed packets each time that they pick up a new packet. Please note that packets will not be provided during the week of spring break from March 30-April 3, 2020. A new instructional packet for students will be available for pickup at the school sites on Monday, April 6, 2020.

Keeping You Informed and Connected

Our meal distribution program will continue throughout the school closure period at the same identified locations and times. There will be no food distribution during the scheduled spring break, from March 30 - April 3, 2020.

Information and communication at this time is updated as necessary on our main website, pvusd.net as well as in each school's website under the [COVID-19](#) tab. Families can find home resources under the parent tab at <https://sites.google.com/pvusd.net/pvusdparentideas/home>. During school closures, should you have questions not answered on the website, to ensure timely response you may contact either the office of Secondary Services at 786-2395 or Elementary Services at 786-2133. We are working diligently to ensure our online resources are updated regularly with the most accurate information from public health authorities. Please visit the Centers for Disease Control 2019 novel coronavirus website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19>. For ideas on how to talk to your children about COVID-19 please visit: sccoe.link/talking_about_COVID19. For local information, residents may visit www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus, call 211 or text "coronavirus" to 211211.

I appreciate and value the flexibility of the Board, staff, teachers, administration, parents and students during this challenging time. We must continue to work together to support each other, our students, our families and our community each day and in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,



Michelle Rodriguez, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools