



# *ABC Unified School District*

16700 Norwalk Boulevard, Cerritos, CA 90703 (562) 926-5566

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Chris Apodaca • Maynard Law • Leticia Mendoza  
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## **SUPERINTENDENT**

**Dr. Mary Sieu**

March 12, 2020

ABCUSD Staff and Families,

Our first priority is the health and safety of ABCUSD students, staff, families, and community members, including those who may have a greater risk of complications from COVID-19. We will take all precautions recommended by the Los Angeles County Office of Education, L.A. County Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control to prevent or contain the disease from spreading at our schools.

According to the Department of Public Health, there are no cases of COVID-19 in ABCUSD at this time. We want to advise you that we are working closely with our Board of Education to take the needed actions to help protect our school community.

At the time of this writing, LA County has confirmed another case of COVID-19 with unknown exposure. This makes for a total of two cases of community transmission, placing us in Scenario II of the California Department of Public Health School Guidance on Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19.

This involves taking more immediate and proactive steps to ensure the safety of our students and staff. ABCUSD has been proactively planning for the different scenarios that will protect our students, staff, families, and community members. We are taking the following immediate steps effective Monday, March 16, 2020:

- ABCUSD is postponing or canceling all public events that bring large groups of students, adults, and community members together. Child care and extended day learning programs are still running to support working parents. This decision was made out of concern for the health of our community as a social distancing measure in light of COVID-19. We will assess and reevaluate extending this decision early in April. These actions include:
  - School assemblies and performances
  - Area Band Concerts, Science Olympics, and Reading Olympics
  - All District and school level meetings, including PTA events
  - School Open House events
  
- We are limiting visitors to ABCUSD schools, including volunteers.

- All District sponsored travel and scheduled field trips are canceled until further notice.
- Athletic competitions will continue without spectators until further notice.

We are working with community groups that use our facilities during non-school hours to evaluate if these events will proceed as normal.

At this time, the Department of Public Health does not recommend proactively closing schools. In the event of school closures, we are preparing to offer an online learning program.

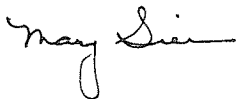
Please continue to take all possible precautions to help reduce the risk of spreading germs to others. These include the following recommendations from public health officials:

- Keep children who are sick at home and away from others if they have a fever of 100°F or above.
- The #1 prevention method is frequent handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limit close contact with people who are sick.
- Face masks are most effective when used appropriately by health care workers and people who are sick.
- Clean frequently used surfaces.
- Get the flu vaccine if you have not done so this season. It's not too late to get the flu vaccine.
- Practicing simple steps that limit your exposure to others who may be ill (such as verbal salutations instead of handshakes and hugs, not sharing utensils, cups, and linens).

You can learn more about our COVID-19 response on our website, at [abcusd.us](http://abcusd.us).

Our primary concern is the health and safety of our students, staff, and families in the ABC Unified School District. We continue to be in regular contact with the Department of Public Health and the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and will share information on how we will all be meeting the challenges. Thank you for your support and understanding as we all work through this evolving situation. We will continue to provide you regular updates.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mary Sieu  
Superintendent