



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

TONY THURMOND
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION

CLARK BROOKE, Ed. S., SUPERINTENDENT

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September 16, 2020

Students, Families, Staff and Community,



Letter in ASL

This year definitely will be different than previous years. For health and safety reasons, the California Department of Education (CDE) has decided that the three State Special Schools will continue to operate in virtual learning mode with Distance Learning through at least December 31, 2020.

We will continue to provide high-quality Distance Learning and enrichment activities as we have been doing since school started in August. To learn more about our Distance Learning program, please do take the opportunity to read [the handbook](#) (QR code below). If there is any input, please do communicate your ideas and/or suggestions with your child's principal.

Our Student Life staff will continue to deliver instructional materials and/or technology equipment to our students on a weekly basis as needed and based on reasonable driving distance from/to CSD or these materials may be mailed. This also includes ongoing coordination with your Local Education Agency (LEA) representative keeping them informed of any needs that your child may have. To assist us with streamlining services for your child, please do communicate your needs with us and the LEA representative working with you.

We continue to feel deeply fortunate to be serving every student and their families as well as our faculty and staff. There will undoubtedly be bumps down the road as we continue to respond to and handle this pandemic. Regardless of that, we as a school community will continue to navigate this together!

In response to the Black Lives Matter movement, CSD faculty and staff will be expected to participate in a yearlong professional development continuum that will address Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) topics. Those EDI trainings will be offered by the Department of Education and the Monroe Pedagogy.

While we engage in EDI dialogue collectively, we will continue to review and strengthen our existing accreditation action plans. The action plans addressing this goal was identified in Spring of 2019 as part of our program review effort. It is written that **CSD will address the needs of marginalized students by providing an inclusive space and an equitable, culturally relevant pedagogy across all curricula.**

In closing, we appreciate your continued patience, support, and partnership during the challenging time. Your words of encouragement continue to inspire us. Together, we will continue to ensure that the emotional well-being and education needs of our CSD students remain our priority.

With Eagle Pride,

Clark Brooke, Ed.S.
Superintendent
California School for the Deaf, Fremont



Distance Learning Handbook