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April 1, 2020

TO: SVUSD Community

FR: Superintendent Socorro Shiels

RE: On-Site Classes Suspended for the 2019-2020 School Year

Due to comments made yesterday by State Superintendent Tony Thurmond and reinforced today by Governor Newsom, many of you might be wondering about the status of Sonoma Valley Unified for the remainder of the school year.

In light of the comments made by Governor Newsom and after consultation with our county superintendent and local public health officer, it is advisable that all schools in California, including Sonoma Valley Unified, will now focus on distance learning for the remainder of the school year. While school will continue, our school facilities will not reopen before the next school year.

As evidenced by the education already being provided, regardless of the format, SVUSD is committed to and will continue to provide the highest quality education possible. Teachers and staff are working collaboratively, creatively, and continue to educate, accommodate, and connect with every student. We will continue to provide free meals to all students up to age 18. Weekly meals will continue to be available from 11-1 at Sassarini, Adele, and Altimira.

We are awaiting the final guidelines for grading and testing that will connect K-12 to higher education. We know that the University of California, California State University, and the community college systems are partners with us and will work to ensure that no student is unfairly impacted by these decisions that are far beyond their control. We do not yet have final information regarding promotion and graduation ceremonies, either. We know how vital these significant milestones are. We will work with our students and community to brainstorm ideas regarding how to celebrate in a meaningful way while also remaining safe and practicing appropriate social distancing.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we once again navigate unknown territory. I will continue to share information as it becomes available and encourage you to frequently visit the [SVUSD web page](#) and our [Remote Learning web page](#).