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SVUSD Corona Community Communications April 3, 2020

We are learning so much each week. Thank you for the patience and grace to grow and learn together in unprecedented times. We appreciate your patience as our staff gets up to speed with this remote learning world. Please continue to prioritize safety and practice self-care for yourself and our community.

Current Week News Highlights (recap):

- On-campus school suspended until the end of the school year per Governor and Sonoma County Public Health direction (if allowed back earlier we would return)
- 9080 breakfasts and lunches served this week- added two mobile spots (look for the school bus)

Week 2: Where we are:

- Online distance learning
 - **High School** student
 - Soft launch online
 - Google classrooms and google hangouts are the main platforms currently
 - **Middle school** student technology distribution finalized (device and wifi access)
 - Soft launch online options week 3
 - Google classrooms and google hangouts are the main platforms currently
 - Order and catalog elementary student technology (Gr 2-5) for distribution week 3/4
 - Ordered early elementary technology (Gr TK-1) for distribution once arrived (week three and beyond)
- Warm mental health line established
 - Counselors, psychologists, and nurses begin checking in with students and families
- School Medicine distribution back to families
- Remote learning, district and site websites updated for user ease
- Additional two mobile food distribution locations added (600 more meals)
 - Mobile food sites – Madrone/Marty and Flowery Area (look for the school bus)

Week 3: Where we are going:

- Online distance learning
 - High school teachers and students begin online work
 - Middle school technology distribution finalized
 - Soft launch online options
 - Google classrooms and google hangouts are the main platforms currently used
 - Elementary technology plan developed for Week 3/4
 - Redistribute site-based technology for Gr 2-5
 - Order technology (devices and wifi) for Gr TK-1
 - Remote, calendared professional development available for teachers and support staff
- Mental health support structures for staff and students in place
- Sites/grade levels discuss and form common expectations for daily practice and communication
- District grading guidelines finalized and published.

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Pending Decisions

- Graduation Ceremony
 - Expect a survey for ideas and suggestions
- Summer schools
 - Discussions will begin next week with multiple scenarios in discussion
- High School/Middle School Grade Calculations
 - Expected clarity by the end of next week

Ongoing: What to expect:

- More online learning with modifications for students who need them
- Weekly school communication in ways we have in the past- look for videos, newsletters, Facebook posts texts, and others to connect with families
- Weekly teacher and staff check-ins
- Daily suggested schedules for learning at home
- Daily food for Valley children ages 0-18 at three sites from 11-1: Altimira, Adele and Sassarini
 - Mobile food sites – Madrone/Marty and Flowery Area (look for the school bus)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is expected of my students each day?

There is learning expected of your student. Your student is expected to do a certain about of schoolwork each day. We are moving further into an online learning model each week, starting with high school students. We must make sure that students have a device and wifi access. We are utilizing google classrooms and google hangouts as our main platforms. Online learning as the primary focus will begin:

- High school- predominantly online beginning 4/6/2020
- Middle school- predominantly online beginning 4/13/2020
- Elementary school- predominantly online beginning 4/20/2020

This remote learning will last for two months. How will my student make up this lost time?

We understand that this type of learning is not the same as being in class. The global pandemic does limit how we engage with students. Each home is different – in access to wifi, in the availability of parents, siblings online, etc. Each teacher and class is also different- we are doing what we can in the crisis. We are also committed to exploring options over the summer that students and parents may take advantage of to address lost learning time. At the start of the next school year, every teacher across the country will take stock of where their students are and make the adjustments necessary to continue learning.

What incentive do students have to stay engaged?

There is no magic bullet for this. We are finalizing now how final grades will be determined and what engagement will look like to earn full credit for the year. Expect more details next week. Please remember our students are still young people living through a crisis and responding in the ways available to them- both physically and mentally. We will work with parents to create the conditions for success and be flexible and supportive in meeting our students and families where they are. We should not underestimate the toll our current circumstances could be taking on any of us.

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What about graduation ceremonies?

If we had to answer this right now, with the information we have from public health, we would probably have to cancel the date we had set aside in June. We will postpone the ceremony--hold off as long as we can-- to allow some version of this to happen for the sake of students. We will decide by the beginning of May and communicate it broadly. Please be looking for a suggestion survey to help brainstorm possibilities.

If the shelter in place/social distancing order is lifted, will we return to school?

Yes, we will return to school during the established school year if allowed. With the information we have now, we do not believe this will happen. We want families and staff to be able to prepare as best as possible for what lies ahead.

What about summer school?

We are exploring all these options now. We are hoping for new state or federal funding to be able to offer new options if the social distancing directive is lifted. We are creating different options depending on the safety precautions mandated by public health. More information will be available in May.

My family does not have wifi access. Now what?

We will work to provide every family that does not have wifi access to learning options. It may be through a wifi device, or it may be through paper and pencil alternatives. Please work with your school principal.

My child is not a strong learner in an online environment. Are there other options?

We will have low technology and experiential alternatives available as appropriate. Please contact your child's teacher and or principal for specific support.

My child has special learning needs. How will those be addressed?

We are working to provide available and appropriate modifications and services. Please contact your child's teacher, case manager, or principal directly for support.

Important documents released from the state regarding instruction on Wednesday/Thursday

- Grading & Graduation: [New Guidance on Grades and Graduation for Seniors](#)
 - See also this [FAQ webpage](#) which includes guidance on grading work through distance learning and alternative grading systems.