

March 12, 2020

Dear Skykomish School District Community,

After conference calls yesterday and today with Governor Jay Inslee, and State Superintendent Chris Reykdal, and other Superintendents from throughout King, Pierce, and Snohomish County, the Governor has ordered all schools K-12 in these three counties to close beginning Tuesday, March 17 through Friday, April 24 in order to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 throughout our counties. Tomorrow, Friday, March 13, there will be no school as originally calendared.

This was not a decision that the Governor and State Superintendents came to lightly and our plans moving forward require additional planning and preparation. We will spend the remainder of this week planning for alternatives for the following services:

- Educational resources and support
- Food and Nutrition Services
- Potential childcare during school hours for families who are not able to remain home and serve in critical community roles such as healthcare and first responders

We recognize that this closure creates serious hurdles for everyone, and our goal is to continue to provide the very best basic services that we can while supporting all students and their families throughout our community.

We will continue to provide updated information over the next several days and we ask for your patience as our staff work through planning and communicating this information to each of you. We know that our staff and our community will have multiple questions and we will work diligently to get information to you as we work to navigate this unmapped and unfamiliar ground.

We firmly urge all families to follow the updated guidance from the <u>King County Department of Health</u> for social distancing and other precautions in an effort to slow the spread of this virus even while school is not in session.

We thank each you for staying calm and working with us as we all work through the COVID-19 pandemic. Please remember to check the district website and our Facebook page for updates and answers to frequently asked questions.

Please do not hesitate to contact the District with any questions or concerns, and we will do our very best to answer your questions as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

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