Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members of Kittitas School District,

I know it is late in the evening to be making a decision to cancel school on Monday but under the circumstances I believe it is the right course of action. Please know that the decision to do so was not taken lightly and much consultation and research was involved in this. I apologize for the inconvenience this has caused you and your family. The last 48 hours have been filled with decisions, changing decisions and developing new decisions as information changes.

As I was monitoring staff absences for tomorrow, a significant number of people have come down with the flu or colds and with increased student absences it seemed reasonable to cancel the half day of school. The health and safety of all concerned was the priority in this decision. We are all dealing with uncertain times and keeping the COVID-19 flu from spreading is important as we make plans for the future.

**Important Information**

- Grab and Go meals will be provided for those in need Monday through Friday of this week at the elementary school between 11 and 12 each day. During spring break, March 23rd – March 27th meals will not be provided. Meals will resume again March 30th.
- We will provide free daycare for our healthcare workers and first responders if they need it. Please contact the district office for more information.
- Parent/Teacher conferences have been postponed until a later date. The staff will work to develop K-12 conferences for parents in the near future.
- KSS will be in contact with seniors who will be approaching graduation.
- All state testing is canceled for this year.
- All district athletic and activity events are suspended until further notice.
- During the closure our maintenance crews will take extra measures to clean and disinfect surfaces.
- Schools will be open tomorrow from 7:30-4 so parents can pick up student belongings and medicines. If you are unable to come at that time please make arrangements with the school secretary.
- Information is evolving daily so please check email, school district website and the district Facebook page.

Your child’s education is very important to us. The single most important thing you can do is have your child read or you read to them every day. There are free educational websites coming
out each day that we will be posting on our Facebook page. My hope is that teachers will stay in contact with families and their students through email during this extended closure.

Working together as a community we will get through this trying time. We will be working as a leadership team that includes our school board to provide the best resources for you and your children. Henry Ford once said, “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success. I am confident in the power of teamwork that I have witnessed in this community and the support you have for one another. Things will get better. We got this.

Mike Nollan, Superintendent