



TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EQUITY CHARACTER EXCELLENCE TEAM JOY

March 25, 2020

Dear parents and families,

This morning, the Oklahoma State Board of Education voted to approve State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister's recommendation to implement a continuous learning plan without reopening school buildings. **This means that while instruction of students will resume remotely on April 6, our school buildings will NOT reopen this school year.**

Even as we face this unprecedented challenge, know that your child's learning **WILL** continue this school year. Teaching and learning will look different over the next six weeks, but our teachers and school leaders will do all that they can to help students stay on track academically.

We know that not all of our families have access to internet services and computers. We are working urgently with school leaders and their teams to understand what support and tools our families and teachers need in order to engage in remote learning. **It is important to know that remote learning does not require that families have devices at home.** While technology is an incredibly helpful tool, we are also making plans to accommodate the varied needs of the learners we serve.

We are creating a process for students to check-out computers. Once we have this process in place, **we will prioritize our high school juniors and seniors to ensure that they stay on track to graduate.** While it is possible that we may be able to have graduation ceremonies this summer, our high school graduations will likely not be traditional ceremonies. However, our high school teachers and school leaders are committed to making sure that each senior earns their diploma and is able to celebrate that accomplishment.

We want you to know that the Tulsa Public Schools team is working tirelessly to prepare to resume teaching and learning on April 6 in order to ensure a strong, although nontraditional, conclusion for our school year. There is, however, still a lot that we don't know about the immediate future. We have many issues to work through in the next 11 days, and **school teams will be in touch with families soon to share more information.**

In the interim, know that:

- We will continue to provide breakfast and lunch meals to our students free of charge - you can find locations and times at www.tulsaschools.org/mealsites; and
- We are providing activities and resources for at-home student engagement at www.tulsaschools.org/athomeactivities, and printed materials are available at meal sites.

We will also continue to share information, updates, and resources on our website at www.tulsaschools.org.

Best,

Deborah A. Gist, Superintendent