



ALUM ROCK UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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April 9, 2020

Dear Alum Rock Community,

By now, everyone has heard the Governor's recommendation to keep our sites closed. I welcomed the news, because this clarity helps us to move forward with our essential functions: educating students and feeding them.

I want to give a big "shout out" to all our own first responders: Teachers, providing distance learning, Child Nutrition Service workers distributing meals, Custodians, cleaning, disinfecting all our spaces, District Nurse, keeping us healthy, Support staff, for their endless contributions. To all of you: Thank you for your dedication!!!! The unified effort as we persist through these unprecedented and challenging times together has been nothing short of remarkable.

Governor Newsom and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond announced that school campuses in California are not likely to be able to reopen this school year. To be clear, this recommendation does not end the 2019-20 school year. It transitions the school year from in-person classroom instruction to instruction and support for students through [distance learning](#) options as described by California Department of Education (CDE).

We will continue to navigate our way through this pandemic locally with the [guidance](#) of Dr. Sara Cody and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department so that we can ensure the health and safety of our students and their families as well as for our staff.

We acknowledge that distance learning comes with its own set of challenges, and we want to provide students, families and educators with ongoing support. Alum Rock Union School District has developed a distance learning plan that incorporates a blend of virtual and traditional offerings to meet the varied needs of teachers and students. Our primary delivery mechanisms for learning will be a combination of content posted through Google Classroom, SeeSaw, Class Dojo, or ECHO, as well as traditional teacher created printed work. Students may also participate in live video instruction or support using apps such as Zoom, Google Meet or other virtual conferencing tools. In addition, we will support teachers, parents, and students through our [distance learning resources hub](#), housed on our [district webpage](#). Here you will find lesson plan templates, professional development offerings, curated content for students and parents, as well as technology support resources. In addition to many other distance learning options provided by schools and teachers, the [learning resource portal](#) on the SCCOE website features educational tools that can help. The CDE has provided [guidance and resources](#) for distance learning as well. As an additional resource, the Santa

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Clara County Office of Education has established a 16-hour [Remote Learning Warmline](#) that is available in five languages.

As all districts further implement distance learning options and academic strategies, the social and emotional well-being of all of our students is of utmost importance to us. We are working to find ways to stay connected which will continue to help us learn together and celebrate important milestones. In the coming weeks, we will provide families with information regarding how grades, transcripts, summer school, and continued distance learning instruction will be handled.

Our community is strong, and together we will overcome the negative impact of these life-changing events. When school sites re-open, we will enthusiastically welcome back our students, staff, and families to our campuses. In the meantime, thank you for your patience, flexibility, and understanding.

Sincerely,



Hilaria Bauer, PhD
Superintendent

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