



Ellensburg School District #401

1300 East Third Avenue Ellensburg, WA 98926, www.esd401.org, Phone: 509-925-8000, Fax: 509-925-802

April 6, 2020

Dear students, staff and families,

I hope that you had a great weekend. As we are all adjusting to the new opportunity of distance learning, I have some news to share that will affect the remainder of the school year. Today, Governor Jay Inslee officially closed all schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. This is a hard day for everyone who works in or is associated with education in Washington. Our schools are important places for strong supportive relationships and friendships, as well as academic growth and learning. I know that our students, especially our seniors, feel a great sense of loss. I feel disappointed too and empathize with you.

Ellensburg, however, is a strong community, and I am confident that we will continue to work together to provide our students with a quality education. We do not believe that distance learning will ever replace the benefits of in-person instruction. We will, however, do whatever it takes to support our students and their families to press forward with continuous learning for all students. Please visit our website at esd401.org/covid-19 for all information related to distance learning and school closures.

In the days ahead, and as we receive more guidance from the State, we will be adapting our plans and communicating with everyone about the remainder of the school year. There are a lot of questions to answer as this is a very different landscape. I know, however, that we have a dedicated staff and the support of our community to rise to this challenge. I thank you, sincerely, for your patience and grace. Feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have at jinger.haberer@esd401.org.

Sincerely,

Jinger Haberer, Superintendent of ESD