

April 1, 2020

Dear families and staff,

In a press conference today, California Governor Gavin Newsom recommended that public schools across the state prepare to suspend in-class instruction for the rest of the 2019-20 school year to help prevent what could be a significant surge in serious illness due to COVID-19 cases over the coming weeks. AUSD takes this recommendation very seriously and is analyzing and discussing the best course of direction for our district. We expect to have more information for our community about this early next week.

To be clear, the governor's announcement was a recommendation and not a directive, although the spirit of these concerns are very much in line with our own in terms of both keeping community safety first and establishing some consistency and focus in regards to learning and opportunity structures for the remainder of the school year.

For now, decisions to suspend in-class instruction remain under local (meaning school district) control, and as you likely already know, AUSD has suspended in-class instruction through May 1. We will be discussing our response to the Governor's guidance and ongoing considerations of extending that suspension beyond that date with our Board of Education tomorrow.

In the meantime, we want to assure our families that we will continuously deepen our investment in and evaluation of our distance learning platform to continue to engage and educate students over the next nine weeks, and we will continue to support our children, families, and community to the very best of our abilities.

Again, we will have more details in the coming days.

Respectfully,

Pasquale Scuderi
Superintendent