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April 9, 2020

## **D60 to Suspend in-person Instruction for Remainder of Year**

PUEBLO, CO – In response to the evolving COVID-19 public health crisis, the Pueblo School District No. 60 Board of Education voted to suspend in-person instruction at all District 60 (D60) schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, instead continuing to implement the Distance Learning Plan for the remainder of the school year.

All school related activities and travel have been canceled for the remainder of the school year. In addition, all in-person graduation ceremonies are canceled, and planning will begin in regard to how best D60 can honor and celebrate the achievements of our students through a virtual type event for the Class of 2020.

The Board approved the measure at its April 9, 2020 Board of Education meeting, which was held digitally.

On April 1, Colorado Governor Jared Polis issued an executive order suspending all in-person instruction at all Colorado schools until April 30. Thursday's vote allowed the Board of Education to assess the specific circumstances of D60 students, deciding whether or not it was in the best interest of students to exclusively continue with distance learning, which began March 30.

"This is a decision that has been weighing heavily on me," Board President Taylor Voss said. "But from everything I've seen, from distributing meals to providing technology, as well as the work of our teachers and our incredible staff, all going above and beyond to make sure we are serving our kids, it makes me confident that this good work will continue."

D60 Superintendent Charlotte Macaluso added: "Although this was a very difficult and painful decision, the health and safety of our students, staff, and community is our priority. We acknowledge that this is terribly difficult for everybody associated with D60, both for students, families, staff, and teachers alike. There is truly no substitute for in-person instruction and engagement our students experience in our school district. It is disappointing to go so long without teachers interacting with students face-to-face in our classrooms, however we believe that this approach is the next best option to keep moving forward and providing our students with education and enrichment."

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