



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Message to El Dorado County

The El Dorado County Office of Education in concurrence with the El Dorado County Public Health Officer and the superintendents of our 15 school districts are providing the communities of El Dorado County with an important update on school facility closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Yesterday, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, released information that stated, “Due to the current safety concerns and needs for ongoing social distancing it currently appears that our students will not be able to return to school campuses before the end of the school year. This is in no way to suggest that school is over for the year, but rather we should put all efforts into strengthening our delivery of education through distance learning.” Superintendent Thurmond urged all school districts in California to move towards and/or continue to strengthen distance learning programs and opportunities for students at this time. Today, Governor Gavin Newsom said that families and educators should operate “with the expectation now that schools will not reopen” for the remainder of the year.

With this new information, we are taking a safety-first approach and immediate action to extend the school facility closures through the end of the school year. We ask for patience and understanding as we are all quickly transitioning into a new way of teaching and learning to meet the health and safety impacts of COVID-19.

While we recognize this extension of school facility closures poses challenges and hardship to many families in El Dorado County, the most effective way to slow and disrupt the transmission of this pandemic is by continuing to implement social distancing practices. We are grateful to community members throughout El Dorado County for their tremendous prevention efforts during this unique and challenging time.

For the latest updates, visit:

- El Dorado County COVID website: <https://www.edcgov.us/Government/hhsa/Pages/EDCCOVID-19.aspx>
- El Dorado County Office of Education website: <http://edcoe.org/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-information>

Sincerely,

Dr. Ed Manansala, El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools
Jeremy Meyers, Superintendent, Black Oak Mine Unified School District
Dr. David Roth, Superintendent, Buckeye Union School District
Matt Smith, Superintendent, Camino Union School District
Dr. Ron Carruth, Superintendent, El Dorado Union High School District
Meg Enns, Superintendent, Gold Oak Union School District
Scott Lyons, Superintendent, Gold Trail Union School District
Grant Coffin, Superintendent, Indian Digging School District
Dr. James Tarwater, Superintendent, Lake Tahoe Unified School District
Natalie Miller, Superintendent, Latrobe School District
Annette Lane, Superintendent, Pioneer Union School District

Dr. Marcy Guthrie, Superintendent, Mother Lode Union School District
Eric Bonniksen, Superintendent, Placerville Union School District
Pat Atkins, Superintendent, Pollock Pines/Silver Fork School Districts
Cheryl Olson, Superintendent, Rescue Union School District