



**WESTERN PLACER  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

600 Sixth Street, Suite 400, Lincoln, CA 95648 Ph: 916-645-6350

## **COVID-19 Update SCHOOL CLOSURES**

**March 13, 2020**

Dear WPUSD Families,

Placer County announced on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, that they have transitioned from containment measures to community mitigation measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the county. The intent is to protect those who are most vulnerable to severe illness and allow the health care system to prepare resources to take care of severely ill patients.

The public health crisis created by the coronavirus is not something any of us could reasonably have expected to happen, and we're in uncharted waters as we work to prevent the spread of the illness. We have been following the guidance of public health experts on how we can keep all who are part of our school community -- students, staff, family members and visitors -- safe in the midst of a growing health crisis. We are now at a point where the balance has shifted and the appropriate path is to close schools. We are taking this step to keep our school communities safe.

**Along with all other schools in Placer County, Western Placer Unified District schools will close beginning Monday, March 16th.** They will remain closed until April 3rd. Spring break will then begin on April 6th. Schools will then open once again for students on Tuesday, April 14th. Plans are in place for students to continue to learn while schools are closed. Opportunities for learning at home will begin no later than March 23rd. You will receive additional information from our Educational Services team next week.

This is a difficult decision, but necessary, as we try to slow the spread of the virus. We understand our schools provide a social safety net for our children. The closing of any school has real consequences beyond the loss of instructional time. This is not an easy decision and not one we take lightly.

In keeping with the spirit of this decision, please do your best to keep your children away from others to limit their exposure to the virus.

**Common Questions:**

Q: What will learning look like for my student(s) while schools are closed?

A: For the first five days of school closure, students will not receive specifically assigned learning activities. Learning at home will begin on the sixth day of a school closure. This will give teachers a week to prepare initial activities and communications. Schools will provide students the opportunity to earn academic credit while at home during the school closures. We will do our best to assure the learning activities will be useful and appropriate for your child. As this is uncharted waters for us, we ask for your patience as we develop these learning activities. Below spells out a process whereby your child can receive the assignments given by the teacher, and how students will turn in their completed work.

Q: Will these days need to be made up at the end of the year?

A: No.

Q: How will students be contacted about learning opportunities?

A: Teachers will be reaching out to parents (students at the secondary level) via email and other communication tools. As a reminder, these activities may not start until March 23rd.

Q: Is the school taking attendance?

A: No, but remember students should stay safe and away from others.

Q: What if we have questions during this time?

A: The District Office phone (916 645-6350) will be open from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to ask questions.

Q: Will STAR after school programs and CARE after school programs be open?

A: Because the school is closed these programs are closed too.