



March 13, 2020

Dear Two Rock Families,

NOTE: Based on the most current information from the Sonoma County Office of Education, the state may give guidance later today to extend Spring Break. We do not have information about how this may impact the length of the school year yet. We want to let families know now so that you can begin to plan ahead. We will keep you posted as news develops. In the meantime, we are exploring ways to provide distance learning to students.

As you know, we are closely monitoring the COVID 19 situation and working on the necessary preparations in case COVID-19 becomes more prevalent in our community. To date, no student or employee of Two Rock Union School District has tested positive for COVID-19. Information regarding the virus and the many efforts underway to stop the spread are moving quickly. Last Friday, I received notification regarding the cancellation of our Ag Days field trip. Ten minutes later, I received the call regarding the temporary closure of Walker Creek Ranch and had to notify our sixth graders just before the end of the day, with great disappointment. The South County Spelling Bee was also cancelled this week. Governor Newsom has recommended canceling or postponing larger events, the California Department of Education issued guidance about excluding students and staff in certain circumstances, and I received additional guidance from the County Office of Education regarding spring break travel. I have included the highlights of these advisories.

6th Grade Outdoor Education Alternatives: Ms. Thomson has planned some activities this week to ease the sting of the cancellation of 6th Grade Camp. Walker Creek officials are meeting this week to determine what they might be able offer. We are also exploring the possibility of a trip to Alliance Redwoods and will keep parents of sixth graders informed as things develop.

Travel Restrictions: As of Wednesday, March 11, the Federal Government is restricting travel from the European Union, China, and Iran. In addition, For those who have previously travelled, the CDC now advises that travelers returning from mainland China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran stay home for 14 days following their return. Based on this guidance, travelers returning from these countries are to be excluded from school for 14 days, beginning the day after they left the affected country.

SPRING BREAK

As noted above, the Center for Disease Control advises 14 day home quarantines for travelers coming to the US from several countries. Some countries are now requiring 14 day home or hotel quarantines for travelers coming from the US to their countries upon arrival. This is a rapidly changing situation, and we expect new countries and locations to be added over the coming weeks. This is a very important link if you will be traveling during Spring Break:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

The County Office of Education shared the following message:

As spring recess approaches, we would like to remind you to please take all necessary precautions to protect yourselves and our community from this and any illness.

- *People who travel outside the country will be screened upon re-entry to the United States, as determined by federal and state officials.*
- *If you travel to mainland China or any country with COVID-19 travel advisories during the upcoming spring break (including Iran, Italy, and South Korea), you will be subject to the above*

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guidelines and any new guidelines that may be implemented. Visit the CDC website for a list of current destinations with risk of community spread of Coronavirus, as the list continues to change.

- *If you travel to any affected countries we urge you to follow all related guidelines to support the health and safety of our community.*
- *School districts do not have the authority to monitor travel of our students or staff, but they do have both the authority and responsibility to exclude students and staff who pose a health risk to others.*

Students will be allowed to return to school when a written note from a health care provider clears them by stating that the person is no longer contagious.

The California Department of Education has advised districts to exclude students and staff who meet any of the following three criteria:

1. Traveled during the previous 14 days to an area identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as a Level 3 Travel Health Notice location. Here is the link to the CDC website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>.
2. Confirmed to be exposed—confirmed to have been in close (less than 6 feet) contact during the previous 14 days with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
3. Showing the following signs:
 - Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) or higher **AND**
 - Respiratory symptoms such as
 - Shortness of breath
 - Persistent cough

Students and staff who are excluded from school will be required to present verification from a medical provider that they are safe to return to school.

The Department of Health Services is monitoring all suspected/confirmed cases of the virus in our community and will let us know if there is any further action to take regarding our schools. We are in close coordination with the Sonoma County Office of Education and the Department of Health Services.

How you can help: We all play a role in reducing the likelihood of a coronavirus outbreak in our school district community and in helping each other through this stressful time. While it may be stating the obvious, we encourage everyone to practice good habits, including:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Wash for 20 seconds, using soap and hot water. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- If children are feeling sick, please keep them home from school. Allow them some time to feel better so that they do not risk infecting others.
- Students and staff must be **fever free (without the use of fever reducing medications) for 24 hours** before returning to school.
- Remain calm and kind. This situation can leave us all on edge. Kindness helps everyone!

We will continue to communicate with you in the days and weeks to come. As always, the safety of our students, staff, and families remains our top priority. We will act out of an abundance of caution to protect everyone's health and wellbeing.

Stay safe and enjoy the break,
Betha MacClain
Superintendent/Principal

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