



Southern Humboldt Unified School District

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Don Boyd
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March 13, 2020

Dear Southern Humboldt Families,

On March 11, Superintendent Don Boyd along with over 45 District Superintendents, educators, health care professionals, and staff met at the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) Sequoia Conference Center with Public Health Director, Michele Stephens, and Public Health Officer, Dr. Teresa Frankovich, to discuss Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as related to the education of our children and the health and safety of our community.

A critical outcome for this convening was to develop and create processes for consistent and informed decision-making with the safety of students remaining top priority. Delivery of service for students, families, employees, and community was also discussed.

At this point in time, there is no evidence of community transmission of COVID-19 in Humboldt County. Currently there is no need for closure or quarantine of schools in Humboldt County, we are diligently monitoring updates and nonetheless we are preparing as if this may take place. A planning committee was formed to share best practices, make recommendations, and to research topics to help inform school district decisions.

Currently, some school-related events and activities have been cancelled due to state guidelines and with consideration to the size, number of anticipated attendees, and physical location. SHUSD and HCOE are notifying stakeholders and the community as these decisions are made.

Currently the Leprechaun Chase scheduled for March 14 is postponed until further notice.

The district is aware that this is a swiftly evolving situation, and the 24-hour news and social media cycles have contributed to our collective concerns and stress. Please trust that we will make all attempts to keep you informed and updated as the situation develops and decisions are made.

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<http://sohumusd.com>

"Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." – Martin Luther King Jr.



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Should the virus make its way into one of our schools, the decision to close a campus and/or quarantine the affected persons will be led by county public health officials. While we hope for the best, we are actively preparing for various scenarios that could occur.

For up-to-date information regarding the novel coronavirus, see:

- the California Department of Public Health website at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx> or
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

I want to thank all of you for your continued partnership to help ensure the health and welfare of our students and community.

Sincerely,

Don Boyd, Superintendent
Southern Humboldt Unified School District