

Meridian Elementary School District

15898 Central Street

Meridian, CA 95957

(530) 696-2604

March 30, 2020

Dear Meridian Families and Community,

In light of the President’s order and after consultation with local and state health officials, as well as neighboring districts and our county office of education, the Meridian Elementary School District will extend our school closure through May 1st.

The latest data from public health officials both national and local make it clear that the spread of the COVID-19 virus still has the potential to overburden our community health resources, and continued isolation is necessary to slow the threat and this spread.

MESD’s decision follows similar extensions announced in six Bay Area counties, Sacramento and Placer Counties and in Southern California. Other districts in our region are making or have made similar announcements.

The May 1 extension, like the original projection of April 14, is subject to change. MESD will continue to monitor the situation closely and make decisions based on the best information and guidance available from public health officials.

We understand that the uncertainty of when things will return to normal is very hard on students and their families, but we must do what will best protect the health and safety of our students, our staff and our community.

MESD is preparing a distance-learning curriculum that will allow students to continue their schooling while observing shelter-in-place directives and remaining home. The staff is building this curriculum with the capabilities and needs of our community in mind.

Our focus in building a distance-learning program is on what is best for our children -- what will keep them learning and progressing toward their goals. That requires all of us working together and being as flexible as we can – teachers, staff and families.

Students will change the way they learn and teachers will change the way they teach. Families will change the way they support their students. All of us have important jobs to do in this time of unprecedented challenge.

MESD will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will update our school families and community as more information becomes available.

Please stay safe, healthy and wise as we navigate these uncharted waters together!

Sincerely,

Marty Ofenham, Superintendent

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