



Santa Ana Unified School District

Jerry Almendarez
Superintendent of Schools

March 13, 2020

Dear Santa Ana Unified School District Students, Families, Community Members, and Staff,

The Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD), like many other school districts in the State of California, is committed to doing our part to stave off the growing national public health crisis being caused by the Coronavirus, COVID-19. The health and safety of our students, family, community, staff, and educational partners is our primary concern and focus during this crisis.

Today, the SAUSD Board of Education determined that in the interest of public health, SAUSD schools will be closed effective Monday, March 16 through April 10, 2020. Although there are no known cases in SAUSD, we are taking all precautionary measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our stakeholders. Classes are scheduled to resume after the SAUSD scheduled spring break on Monday, April 13, 2020.

Please know that to date, no student or staff have tested positive for COVID-19 in SAUSD. The purpose of the closure is to prevent unnecessary gatherings of large numbers of people which, research has shown, only serve to accelerate the spread of the virus. We are not only closing schools; we are also recommending that you likewise do your part to avoid large gatherings and social interactions that are not essential.

This complex decision involved close collaboration and coordination with our Board of Education, labor groups, the Orange County Department of Education and the Orange County Health Care Agency. We will be working closely with multiple community partners to coordinate and adjust planned events as needed. We have created instructional materials accessible to students in both printed and online platforms to minimize the impact to student learning and any loss of school days. Individual schools will be in communication with their families when printed instructional materials are ready for pick up. Online documents are accessible via the district website at this time . (<https://www.sausd.us/>)

We understand there are many concerns around COVID-19 and want to ensure families that we are working closely with the Orange County Health Care Agency for updates and guidance. For the latest information on COVID-19, families are encouraged to visit SAUSD website, the [Orange County Health Care Agency](#) webpage dedicated to COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus), and the [Center for Disease Control](#) homepage.

For questions regarding this closure, please contact our SAUSD main telephone number at (714) 558-5501.

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