

COVID-19 Update March 15, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Dear Stanislaus County School District Staff, Students, and Families,

In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Stanislaus County Office of Education, in collaboration with the 25 school districts in the county, are announcing plans for school closures beginning Thursday, March 19. Return dates will be announced by individual school districts.

This decision was not made lightly and we recognize that this may cause a hardship for some families. The decision was made based on declining student attendance, increased health concerns, and community feedback. Each school district and charter school will continue to communicate directly with families and staff with updates about re-opening, learning alternatives, and the availability of school meals.

School administrators across Stanislaus County appreciate the proactive illness prevention steps that our families and staff have already taken. Illness prevention steps make a significant difference in safeguarding the health of our communities, and we encourage continued attention in this effort. In order to prevent the spread of the flu and other viruses, remember to practice good hygiene including: wash your hands for 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer; cough or sneeze into your sleeve or tissue; and stay home if you are sick with a fever and other flu-like symptoms.

Please have your children set aside some time every day for school work. When school reopens, students will turn in their completed assignments for credit.

We will continue to update you, as needed, throughout the duration of the school closure. This is a challenging time for our community and we are committed to working with you in the best interest of our students and staff.

This decision was not made lightly as all districts recognize this may cause a hardship for some families. As districts have done in the past, they will make provisions for meals for students. Each district will continue to communicate directly with families and staff with updates.

We appreciate the community's support in taking proactive steps to fight the spread of COVID-19. These steps to prevent illness make a significant difference in safeguarding the health of our communities, and we encourage continued attention in this effort.