March 15, 2020

Dear Valued Staff Members,

This letter updates you with the new information released by the Governor on March 12, 2020 regarding her decision to close all district and charter schools for the next three weeks. As you may be aware, the Governor of the State of New Mexico has declared a **Public Health Emergency** in response to COVID-19 (commonly known as the Coronavirus). Please note that we are providing this information in an effort to adhere to our stated protocol that was released on March 11, 2020 via the [ccsdnm.org](http://www.ccsdnm.org) website. This protocol will continually be updated to adapt to circumstances as they unfold.

**Please understand the message from the Governor regarding the reason for closure:** The stated reason is to be proactive so that we address the situation in a productive, prepared and non-panicked manner. It is hoped that by taking this measure now, it will be much more manageable and greatly reduce the ultimate impact of the outbreak to our community.

**Governor Lujan Grisham reassured the public, “Most importantly, no one who is leading this response is panicked. No one in New Mexico should be panicked.”**

The bottom line is that these efforts are being undertaken to avoid the tragic losses experienced elsewhere.

CCSD is very concerned about the health, safety and emotional well-being of our students, staff and families. As a community leader, CCSD asks staff to help us be helpers to our community and especially to our children during this time. Our elderly and our medically fragile are the most vulnerable from a health standpoint. Our children are also vulnerable from a social-emotional standpoint in their understanding and comprehension of this situation. We are working diligently to address these needs and are reaching out to coordinate with other area stakeholders so that we can band together to pull resources and utilize them in the best interest of our children and community. We ask during this time to be mindful of your health – if you believe you are affected please get appropriate medical care and stay home. We also ask that you stand ready to be helpers, only if you are medically able, so that we can be a beacon to our children and our community on how we come together in crisis to protect our most vulnerable: our children, our elderly and our medically fragile.

Per the Governor’s mandate, and subject to change, Central Consolidated Schools will be closed through March 16, 2020 and will resume on Monday, April 6, 2020.

- As described more fully in the attachments, CCSD and its staff, along with other community and governmental organizations, will be working to find solutions to providing meals to students, finding solutions to help address the ongoing academic, health, safety and social-emotional needs of our children, as well as the child-care needs of our families.
• All athletic and academic activities (including games, practices, meetings, etc.) are cancelled. Any athletic and academic activities after that date are subject to change on a case-by-case basis.
• After school activities are also cancelled. Any school activities after that date are subject to change on a case-by-case basis.
• All field trips scheduled through April 6, 2020 are cancelled. Any field trips scheduled after that date are subject to change on a case-by-case basis.
• Any approved or unapproved district-sponsored travel has been cancelled through April 6, 2020. Any travel after that date is subject to change on a case-by-case basis.
• Based on new developments, updated information will be available on the district website and the District Facebook page.
• Please be advised these conditions and circumstances are continually changing with current updates.

CCSD is in contact with local, state, federal, and tribal leadership and will respond according to the guidance received by the Governor and key agencies, including the Public Education Department, the Department of Health, the CDC and our local emergency response leadership.

Central Consolidated Schools cares about the health and well-being of our staff, students, and community. We will be diligent in keeping everyone informed as new developments become available, along with opportunities to help pitch in to help our CCSD and area communities.

Attached please find answers to questions and helpful information in the attachments as follows:

• Answers to Your Questions
• 3/13/20 Memo from PED Secretary: Alternate Work Expectations for School Staff Members During Closure Period
• 3/13/20 PED Letter re. Closure Guidelines
• CCSD: How to Support Children
• CCSD: Mental Health – Self Care
• CoVID 19 – CDC: Symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019
• CoVID 19 – CDC: Stop the Spread of Germs
• 3/13/20 Memo From PED Deputy General Counsel: Questions Regarding Payment of Teachers, Staff, and Contractors During School
• 3/13/20 Memo From PED Secretary: Feeding Plan During COVID-19 School Closure
• 3/13/20 Email NM Interim Executive Director, Public Schools Insurance Authority: Announces No Cost-Sharing for COVID-19 Testing

You, our children and our community are our most valuable assets!

Please take care,

CCSD Board of Education
CCSD Interim Superintendent Dr. Dave Goldtooth
and CCSD Safety Team