

# Taft Union High School District

## Office of the Superintendent

April 2, 2020

Blanca G. Cavazos, Ed.D

Dear TUHSD Parent/Guardian,

After consultation with the Kern County Department of Public Health, and the other 46 Kern County School Districts and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, Taft Union High School District will follow the recommendation of Governor Gavin Newsom, and complete the 2019-20 school year utilizing distance learning. This is part of a concerted effort to limit the community spread of COVID-19 and address the important continued safety of our students.

We understand how challenging this decision is for our families and we appreciate your support, dedication and patience. We are very grateful for all that our students, parents and staff are doing to support safety, continuity of education and addressing the nutritional needs of our students during school closures.

Over the past several weeks, we have rapidly adapted to this pandemic by providing distance learning, "grab-and-go" meal distribution, and telecommuting for our employees. We will continue to do so despite the physical closure of our schools.

In the coming days and weeks, districts will receive clarity regarding how grades, graduation, transcripts, scholarships, summer school, continued distance learning instruction, and a myriad of other issues will be addressed. We will communicate that information to you as soon as it becomes available.

### **Extended School Closure Timeline**

Taft Union High School District and all of its facilities will remain physically closed through the current 2019-20 school year, in response to the COVID-19 emergency. Teachers and staff will continue to work remotely to provide distance learning and other critical services to our students.

### **Meal Service Distribution**

Taft Union High School District will continue to provide "Grab and Go" daily lunches and breakfast for the remainder of the school year to children 18 years and younger at the locations listed on our website.

### **Prevention**

During school closures, it is important that staff, students and families follow the Governor's orders to stay home and minimize social contact to the extent possible.

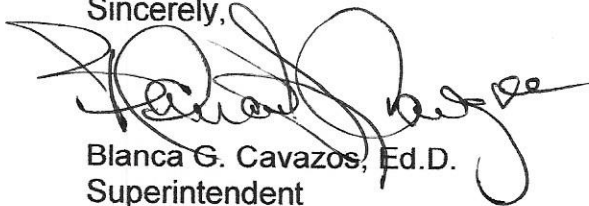
Furthermore, Kern County Public Health recommends the following everyday personal prevention actions:

- If you are sick or mildly sick for any reason, stay home! Call your doctor if you are concerned and/or if your symptoms worsen.
  - Symptoms to watch for include a fever over 100 degrees; respiratory illness such as cough or difficulty breathing.
- Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay 6 feet or more away from strangers and those who are ill.
- Do not shake hands with others.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Sneeze and cough into a tissue or your sleeve; throw away tissues in a safe manner.

This is a dynamic situation where information and circumstances can evolve quickly. At this time, we are postponing our graduation ceremony. It is our desire to hold the ceremony, but we will have to wait until we can make a more informed decision as to whether and when it is safe to hold a gathering. We know how important this ceremony is to our seniors, their families and to those of us who have been privileged to work with them. We will make a decision regarding the ceremony as soon as it is prudent to do so and then communicate it to you and your student.

Please continue to be patient with us as we work to provide our students with quality learning experiences through distance learning and meals while striving to keep them, our staff and our community safe. We are grateful to you and our entire school community for your tremendous care, collaboration and understanding you've shown us during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blanca G. Cavazos', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Blanca G. Cavazos, Ed.D.  
Superintendent