

## COVID-19 Updates from SSDA

SSDA and many of our partner associations are here in Sacramento working together to monitor the impact Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is having throughout our state and especially our schools. Remember, if you need anything additional please email [tim@ssda.org](mailto:tim@ssda.org) or [corrie@ssda.org](mailto:corrie@ssda.org) or call us at 916-662-7213.

### SSDA Offices and Events

The SSDA offices and our partnering advocacy firm, Capitol Advisors, are housed in a 12<sup>th</sup> and 14-floor office buildings in downtown Sacramento. We are closely monitoring the coronavirus situation in and around our building, and are taking the proper precautions to ensure our staff remains safe.

As you know we are within a block of the Capitol. We are in close communication with staff from the Governor's Office and Legislature about updates on potential building closures, tour cancellations and what will happen with legislation this Spring.

We have found that this [one-minute video on washing your hands](#) is simple and invaluable reminder of the 5 step process of washing your hands. We encourage you to watch this, share with staff, students and your education community.

### We are very thankful that SSDA was able to host our 2020 Annual Conference last week.

As you know, all major state conferences are being cancelled or postponed. At this time, we don't have a scheduled event until late April. We are planning to continue all of our scheduled events at this time. However, we will monitor the advice of local, state and national public health officials and decisions could change quickly.

### SSDA Resources

SSDA has [uploaded a variety of resources](#) for you including guidance from the U.S. Department of Education, California Department of Education, World Health Organization and others. We have also included communication examples for you to parents and employees and a variety of toolkits. Please let us use this site and/or send us anything else we can share with our members!

### SSDA Advocacy

We are also working with Capitol Advisors and other education associations to ensure Sacramento decision makers that the number one priority for schools is providing safe and healthy school options during a pandemic. As we head into the busiest time of the year, SSDA is advocating CDE, State Board of Education and Governor's Office to provide waivers to decrease the usual mandated work while schools are dealing with Covid-19 pandemic. Distance learning, independent studies, special education services and all the state and federal assessment and accountability mandates are being discussed. We will keep you informed of our progress with our partnering associations. Thank you for all of you who have told us that providing support for staff, students and parents is your priority not paperwork deadlines.

### State and Federal Guidance

SSDA staff is closely monitoring information from California and Washington, DC. [We have a resource article on our website](#) that we are constantly updating with the latest information from

various entities, as well as free resources being offered by our Associate members. We will continue to update our members daily with the latest information through both our website and social media.

Here are some recent news headlines:

- [Governor Newsom Issues New Executive Order Further Enhancing State a Local Government's Ability to Respond to COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Secretary DeVos Releases New Resources for Educators, Local Leaders on K-12 Flexibilities, Student Privacy, and Educating Students with Disabilities During Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

## Resources

### [California Department of Education](#)

Get the latest coronavirus disease advisories and updates from CDE.

### [US Department of Education](#)

Latest federal updates

### [Centers for Disease Control](#)

### [California Department of Public Health](#)

### [World Health Organization](#)

**The SSDA Executive Committee and Staff are here to support you. Please don't hesitate to call or email if we can help you with anything.**

**Quote: Leadership during a crisis is like a mama duck:**

- 1. Mama Duck with duckling in formation leading them to a destination as a team.**
- 2. Displaying a sense of calm in times of a crisis above water, but underneath they are scrambling and working extremely hard.**
- 3. Mama ducks and the team let's water roll off their backs. Deflect those COVID-19 obstacles and stay dry as that relentless rain of obstacles rain down on you!**

Aaron Rosenberg