



Katherine Kolker, Interim Superintendent  
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March 13, 2020

Dear BUSD Community,

We continue to stay informed, collaborate with our local and state-wide partners, and actively communicate with you about the impact Coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on our schools. As you know this situation is quite fluid, and direction and information is continuously shifting especially now that the US Government has declared this situation a National Emergency. As of the writing of this letter, Inyo County still has 0 confirmed cases of COVID-19. We are aware of one BUSD student who has been tested for COVID-19 and will be receiving the results from Public Health over the weekend. We will continue to follow the direction from local officials as well as CDPH and CDE that was outlined in the letter sent out to you last Monday. Mammoth Schools, like several others across the state, have announced school closures for the next 2 weeks. All districts in Inyo County continue to remain open. That being said, it is highly likely that circumstances may soon change and BUSD schools may need to close for an extended period of time as well. We do not take this decision lightly as we recognize how integral schools and school meals are to many of our families as well as the impact our school system has in our neighboring districts and communities.

BUSD teachers have been preparing lessons for students that will help keep them on track academically during a school closure. The details of how students will be served while campuses are closed will be well thought out and widely communicated if/when this occurs. All out-of-county travel for BUSD student activities and events have been cancelled through April 13th including athletics. We strongly encourage students and staff members to stay home if they are sick. The school can readily provide an independent study contract with work in all subject areas to students who need to stay home for 5 or more days. While children are among the least likely to be directly affected by COVID-19, their contact with others who are more vulnerable is what social distancing helps to prevent.

We will continue to communicate and make decisions on behalf of our students' and community's well being. These are unprecedented times we're facing and the tone we set for our young ones makes a big difference in how we all get through this together. Take care of one another and know that our school district is well equipped and well informed to do what we need to do for our kids during these difficult times. Thank you for your continued understanding, flexibility, and partnership.

Respectfully,

Katie Kolker  
BUSD Interim Superintendent

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