



**Scott M. Borba, Superintendent**

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) FAQs

After much deliberation and in cooperation with Merced County Office of Education and public health officials, we will suspend school effective Thursday, March 19 through Sunday, April 19. We collectively believe this is in the best interest of our students and staff. We will notify you in the event that schools remain suspended beyond this period. Closing on Thursday will provide our families the time they need to make the necessary arrangements, including childcare.

During the closure, Le Grand Elementary will continue to provide much-needed nutrition services to all students ages 2-18 with pick-up at the Le Grand Elementary front parking lot until Thursday, April 9th. No meals will be served during the scheduled Easter Break (April 10-17). Breakfast can be picked up between 8:00-9:00 AM and lunch between 12:00-1:00 PM. For our more remote students who utilize district transportation, breakfast and lunch will be delivered to your respective bus stops at the normally scheduled times. Unfortunately, after-school supper services will be discontinued during this closure. We are also working to provide access to schoolwork for our students to continue their learning while school is suspended.

Please continue to check our website at <https://www.legrand.k12.ca.us> for updated information.

For FAQs specific to the COVID-19 visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

We have attempted to address below some of the most commonly asked questions:

**Q: Are schools suspended because of the coronavirus (COVID-19)?**

A: Yes, on March 15, after further discussions with Merced County Superintendents and Merced County Office of Education, the decision was made to suspend school, based on the state's stricter policies regarding social-distancing, effective Thursday, March 19 for three weeks. Spring Break will continue as scheduled with students expected to return to school on April 20th. This suspension includes all early learning and adult school activities as well. We are hopeful that we will resume classroom instruction after spring break, but we will continue to evaluate what is best for the Le Grand community.

During this time of school suspension, we highly recommend that students and families continue to practice health and safety measures such as handwashing and social distancing and staying home unless necessary to travel. This school closure is put in place to help mitigate the spread of this virus and if our students and families congregate in groups, this can counteract these social distancing measures.

LGUESD continues to encourage our community to take common-sense precautions to prevent the spread of infectious germs:

- If you are sick, stay home.
- Avoid close contact with those who are already sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with a tissue or the crook of your arm.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If you don't have access to soap and water, hand sanitizer with an alcohol content of 60% or more is a great alternative
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

**Q: Will students still have access to meals while schools are suspended?**

A: Yes, meal service will continue as normal (with the exception of supper services) through Wednesday, March 18. Beginning Thursday, March 19 through Thursday, April 9, breakfast will be provided at Le Grand Elementary between 8-9:00 AM and lunch between 12-1:00 PM on a grab-and-go basis. Any child between the ages of 2 and 18 can get a free meal from this location; they do not need to be enrolled in a Le Grand school nor go to their school of enrollment but the child does need to be present. The school will also be delivering breakfast and lunch to all bus riders. Both breakfast and lunch can be picked up at your designated bus stops at the already scheduled morning pick-up times.

**Q: What instructional options are available to students while schools are suspended?**

A: We understand the loss that instructional time has on our students' learning. We are working on optional educational resources to serve students during this unprecedented time. We will have enrichment, skill practice and continued readiness through paper and pencil and/or online services. Your child will not be penalized for not completing optional resources.

**Q: Will specialized options be provided to students?**

A: During this time of closure, specialized services will NOT be provided to students. However, you may contact your teacher and/or specialized support provider should you have questions or if help is needed.

**Q: Are graduations, trips, etc. canceled because school are suspended?**

A: All LGUESD events through April 19 have been canceled. No decisions have been made for events beyond April 19. We will monitor the situation carefully and follow state and local guidelines for large group gatherings.

**Q: Does suspending school change the last day of school?**

A: The last day of school remains June 5.

**Q: My student has medicine at school. How do I retrieve it?**

A: We suggest all medicines are retrieved from school prior to the end of the day on Wednesday, March 18.

**Q: Is staff working while schools are suspended?**

A: We will assess work schedules and be sharing that information with employees this week however, with the exception of essential services, I will be instructing the majority of our District staff to work remotely to encourage safety and social distancing.

**Q: What else can we do to reduce the spread of COVID-19 while schools are suspended?**

A: While schools are suspended, we want to remind students and families to continue to employ health and safety measures such as handwashing and social distancing and only travel when necessary. This suspension of schools is put in place to help mitigate the spread of this virus and if our students and families congregate in groups this can counteract these social distancing measures.

**Q: Where can I get more information on COVID-19?**

A: For FAQs specific to the COVID-19 visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**Q: I'm not comfortable sending my children to school through Wednesday, March 18 due to COVID-19. What are my options?**

A: To support our best intentions for all, if keeping your child home is the right thing for your family please do so. As a parent/guardian, please call in your student's absence and it will be marked excused. If sending your child to school is the right thing for your family at this time, please continue to do so. As it relates to perfect attendance awards, no child will be penalized as a result of your decision to keep him or her at home. If you do decide to keep your child out of school due to COVID-19 concerns it will not be necessary to call in his or her absence every day but a note from a parent or guardian must be provided when the child returns to school. Your child will be given the opportunity to make up work while absent.

**Q: My child currently has perfect attendance; will he or she be penalized if I keep them out of school due to COVID-19 concerns?**

A: No child will be penalized as a result of your decision to keep him or her at home due to concerns for COVID19. All Perfect Attendance awards, etc. will take this event into consideration.

**Q: How are student absences being handled?**

A: All absences due to illnesses or concerns surrounding COVID-19 will be excused with parent confirmation, per our District attendance policy.