



Small School Districts' Association

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March 15, 2020

Dear Small School District Leaders:

I wanted to update you on school closures surrounding the COVID-19 virus.

1. Early this afternoon, I spoke with Superintendent Tony Thurmond. He wanted me to pass on to small districts of California that he is supportive of your decision making on closing schools during this national and state of emergency pandemic. He assured me that **NO SCHOOL WILL LOSE FUNDING** for deciding to close school due to the COVID-19 virus *even without the approval of your Local Public Health Director.*

Let me repeat that: no school will lose funding who opts to close during this state of emergency.

2. Governor Newsom, in press conference today, said that 51% of districts are closed representing 85% of the students in California. Ours are the 15%. He said that each district is different, and it is a local decision.
3. Tuesday the County Superintendents will be convening on a phone call with Superintendent Thurmond. Governor Newsom said that Tuesday they will vet out school questions and decisions for all of California.

On behalf of the Small School Districts Association Executive Committee, **we are recommending that you close your schools.**

Lastly, I have been through multiple catastrophes in Butte County. If you are doing what is best for students and your staff, then be a strong leader and err on the side of caution. It takes strong leadership and you know what is best for your school district.

If you need anything, please email me at tim@ssda.org or call at 916-949-1601.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Taylor
Executive Director
Small School Districts' Association