



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Scott MacManus – Superintendent of Schools

Date: Tuesday, March 17th, 2020  
To: Regional School Board  
From: Scott MacManus, Superintendent  
RE: Update - AGSD COVID-19

Tonight in Alaska there are 3 more COVID19 cases in Alaska, and in addition to schools and government offices, the Governor has now also closed all restaurants, pubs and bars. The Alaska Department of Health and Human Services has issued guidelines for Self-Quarantine and Monitoring, and asked that folks not be in groups larger than 10. Today we have been working on connecting staff and having them interact with each other, so that they can plan out a distance delivery of instruction. We are developing our Phase I of a rollout schedule, providing food service, and finalizing district guidance for Self-Quarantining and developing a matrix for taking Leave, and being available for work.

This afternoon I meet with the Regional Board and gave an update of what our current readiness and actions that were being taken. The Board asked for information about the safety of staff and students, asked questions about instruction, meals for students, and the long term issues of district finances. I am proud to work with this group of unpaid citizens who believe in the mission of public education, and are there to help in this unprecedented situation.

There is new guidance out today from the State regarding staff returning from travel outside. Most staff will not have to do anything unless they report symptoms. Some staff may be asked to self-quarantine, and we are working up a short questionnaire so that we can make good decisions about that, and will have that protocol done tomorrow. Staff who are asked to self-quarantine will be paid their regular salary for that duration. Under established guidelines, staff who have traveled in-state are not expected to be quarantined at all unless they have symptoms. Staff who have traveled out of state, unless they were in a high risk area, should be fine. We are looking into whether or not SeaTac qualifies as a high risk area, given that it is in Seattle.

We have some staff who may have underlying health conditions that will make undue contact with the public unwise for them, but there will still be jobs that they can do. Some may work in areas outside of what they were hired to do. This is all being set up, and we hope we will be ready to roll that all out at the beginning of next week. We are also building a decision matrix that we hope will address most of these situations. I want to be clear that staff who are unwilling to work for their own reasons may use their personal and sick leave, or go on leave without pay.

Administrative staff who can, should report to work the morning of March 23<sup>rd</sup> and get set up for a video conference. That afternoon your certified staff will come in. Keep you groups under 10, and maintain distance, and be sure to wash your hands and disinfect your area. Tok Elementary teachers who are able will meet in the Elementary wing or on line, at 1p. Secondary teachers in Erica Burnham's classroom, same time. All staff are requested to maintain a social distance of 6' from each other, to clean their areas and your hands. Classified staff will start on the morning of

**“Educating all students to reach their full potential as responsible citizens”**

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March 24<sup>th</sup>, reporting as directed by their supervisor. We may stagger starts for classified staff, so please pay attention to your email!

Please wash your hands often, eat well, rest, and stay healthy

Sincerely,



Scott MacManus, Superintendent