



# ALASKA GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Scott MacManus – Superintendent of Schools

Date: Tuesday, March 19th, 2020  
To: All Concerned  
From: Scott MacManus, Superintendent  
RE: AGSD COVID-19 Update

## Current Status

I wanted to say that as a student of history, I've heard lot of reporters make comparisons of the COVID-19 Pandemic to the Spanish flu of 1918. We need to know that we are in an entirely different situation, and that our ability to meet this challenge is so much better. It is uncomfortable now, and may be for some time, but it is good to see the way our communities are coming together, and to see how Facebook has changed, just a little over the past few weeks, to become a kinder place. Be patient, and be kind with one another, and our world will be a better place when we come out the other side of this.

- As of this writing, there are 244,523 cases of COVID-19 in the world, 14,250 in the US, and 12 in Alaska, all of which still seem to be travel related. There appears to be some progress with finding anti-virals that will work too, which is very good news.
- All District facilities, including the district office, are operating, but are now closed to public.
- We completed a phone survey of all district families today, and are following up tomorrow on those who either do not have a phone or their numbers didn't work.
- Attended a morning briefing with the Commissioner of Education and ASA, AASA board.
  - All AASA sporting events have been changed from "postponed" to "Cancelled"
  - Information of how to sterilize material that get sent home
- Morning briefing with district leadership staff, and today's goals
  - Develop guidance for staff Self-Quarantining, taking leave, and working from home
  - Identifying staff who may need help learning to use VTC to do distance delivery. We can also use the training that Anchorage School District is making available on using ZOOM, here:
    - ECHO Project Zoom trainings info: Alaska Education Network (Project ECHO) is hosting Zoom Basics Q&A (Open Labs)Daily starting March 18, 2020 until the end of March - 8:30 AM and 1:30 PM Join Zoom Meeting<https://zoom.us/j/727951006> Meeting ID: 727 951 006 or call toll free (1 669 900 6833)
  - Connecting with APT, ACS, and Copper Valley Telephone
    - They can help with site boosters, and with many families who do not have internet now.
    - This will probably not be the case in Northway, because the infrastructure is not in place.
- Working on setting up Internet Parking lots at each school so that members of the communities are able to get on line...for some it might be their only way.
- Sent out latest research on the high risk that 20-somethings have...higher for hospitalization than all but the oldest group. This is very important information, because it means that our young people are not safe.
- Implementing safe travel protocols for staff who are returning to the district from outside.
- Getting instructional programs sign on information to families who have
- Working with Northway to support their efforts regarding teachers who need to Self Quarantine when they return to the village. We still need to reach out to Tetlin and Mentasta on this.
- Will be meeting with leadership tomorrow morning for a status update, in preparation for Monday.

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

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