



MICHELE BOWERS
Superintendent

Lancaster School District

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April 23, 2020

Dear Families of the Antelope Valley,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a joint communication from all the school district superintendents across the Antelope Valley.

As we navigate the COVID-19 health crisis, the safety of students and staff continues to be a top priority. By now, you are aware that the Governor Newsom, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, and Los Angeles County Office of Education Superintendent Debra Duardo have all recommended the physical closure of schools through the end of the academic year. As such, all of our Antelope Valley school districts have taken action to align with that recommendation.

This does not mean that the school year is over. Our schools have thoughtfully transitioned from providing in-person classroom instruction to age-appropriate distance learning. At this time, all families should have received specific instructions from your school on what distance learning looks like for your student.

Each school district will continue to provide essential meal service for students. Together, we are serving over 53,000 meals a day! We are very proud and grateful for our food service teams. You can find a list of times and locations at www.lanccsd.org.

Our teachers and staff have worked hard to ensure that learning continues for every student. Collectively we have distributed over 25,000 digital devices to connect our students in this time of distance learning.

While continuity of learning is important to all of us, we also know that families may be experiencing increased levels of stress. Each school has communicated ways in which students can access social/emotional support virtually. In addition, families in need of increased support can find a wealth of available resources by visiting www.findhelp.org or by calling 2-1-1. If we can be of assistance in connecting you to available resources, please do not hesitate to contact a counselor or administrator at your school.

It is crucial during this health crisis that families follow the guidance of public health officials to practice physical distancing and to go out only when necessary. Students should not congregate during this Safer-at-Home order, as it puts them, their families, and the community at risk.

Please continue to stay connected to your school's communication platforms to receive up-to-date information.

We sincerely appreciate the grace and support you have given as we all adapt to this new way of teaching and learning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Bowers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Michele Bowers, Superintendent
Lancaster School District
www.lancsd.org

David J. Vierra, Ph.D., Superintendent
Antelope Valley Union High School District
www.avdistrict.org

Dr. Joshua L. Lightle, Superintendent
Eastside Union School District
www.eastsideusd.org

Joe Andrews, Superintendent
Gorman Joint School District
www.gorman.k12.ca.us

Dr. Lori Slaven, Superintendent
Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School District
www.helus.org

Vishna Herrity, Interim Superintendent
Keppel Union School District
www.keppelunion.org

Raul Maldonado, Superintendent
Palmdale School District
www.palmdalesd.org

Regina Rossall, Superintendent
Westside Union School District
www.westside.k12.ca.us

Susan Andreas-Bavel, Superintendent
Wilsona Elementary School District
www.wilsonasd.net