

March 19, 2020

Dear St. HOPE Public Schools and Community Members:

I hope you are doing well and enjoying Spring Break! I know all of our lives have shifted quickly over the course of the past few days. These are certainly crazy times, but hopefully you have been able to safely enjoy time with your family and have been able to find moments of joy. More than anything I hope you are staying healthy.

I am sure you are seeing a lot of information regarding the rapidly changing situation with COVID-19. I want to assure you that our team of teachers and staff at St. HOPE Public Schools are working behind the scenes to determine our best next steps in the midst of this challenge. We want to be there for our scholars and families more than ever. We are not sure when schools will be physically open again, and the Governor unofficially indicated that it may not happen during this school year. We will continue to collaborate with the experts in this field before making any decision to resume our physical school days as our top priority is always the health and wellness of our entire St. HOPE community. We are coordinating with and following guidance from multiple agencies including the Center for Disease Control, Sacramento County Public Health Department, Sacramento County Office of Education, California Department of Education, and others. Our plans for moving forward will be appropriately informed by guidance and collaboration with these experts. We will remain flexible and take it week by week and day by day and we will continue to provide you with updates as they come.

We are working diligently to put in place options that will allow us to provide learning opportunities through the rest of the school year, regardless of whether students physically return to their classrooms. We are determined to continue to pursue our mission of preparing all of our scholars to go to and through college. We are planning on resuming instruction for our scholars upon their return from Spring Break on Tuesday, March 31st. We understand that it will likely look different than it ever has but we want to ensure that both students and staff remain as safe as possible, while we continue to support our scholars in their pursuit of their big goals.

Our team is collaborating in real time to respond to the changing needs of this crisis, and ensure that we can meet the needs of St. HOPE's extraordinary scholars. We expect to be following up with you by the end of next week with more details regarding our teaching plans for moving forward – please stay tuned for that information.

We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more information and as we implement any additional next steps for learning and for serving meals to students. Please continue to check here for updates- <https://www.sthope.org/post/covid-19>.

Thank you for your patience during this challenging time. Please stay safe and healthy. We miss you!

Sincerely,

Kari Wehrly