



March 30, 2020

Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux
Superintendent

Dear Pendergast Families,

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We hope this letter finds all of you safe and well. This morning, we were informed by Governor Ducey's Office and Kathy Hoffman, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction that schools in Arizona would be closed for the remainder of the school year due to concerns for health and safety because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a statement from the Governor's office, the following was issued, "Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman today announced the extension of Arizona school closures through the end of the school year. The extension follows updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and an announcement from the White House extending physical distancing guidelines until April 30, 2020.

Governor Ducey and Superintendent Hoffman released the following joint statement: "In alignment with yesterday's updated federal guidance, today we are announcing the extension of school closures through the remainder of the school year. Today's announcement is intended to give parents and educators as much certainty as possible so they can plan and make decisions. While this isn't the outcome any of us wanted, we are grateful for the partnership of schools around the state, who have stepped up to offer virtual and take-home learning opportunities for our students. These efforts are crucial, and we recognize that schools are making every effort possible to continue providing instruction during closures. We also thank our legislative partners for passing legislation ensuring all educators and staff see no disruption in pay. Our number one priority will continue to be health and safety, and we will continue to work closely with public health officials to make the best decisions for kids, families, and our school communities."

Pendergast District and its schools have begun immediate planning to keep learning and connections continuing through the school year. We will be communicating additional information to you through our website and social media, on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as well as Class Dojo and School Messenger.

We appreciate all of your support as we work through this together. Remember, Pendergast is the District that believes in you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux
Pendergast District Superintendent