



March 13, 2020

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Superintendent

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Dear Pendergast Families,

Pendergast Elementary School District has been closely monitoring the global spread of COVID-19 virus and the advice from County, State, and Federal health and education officials daily. We have followed all recommended guidelines for preventing the spread of the virus and its impact on our schools. After careful consideration, Pendergast Elementary School District has decided to close in order to slow the spread of COVID-19. Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, all Pendergast schools and departments will be closed until further notice. This includes after school clubs, athletics, before and after school programs (extended day) and all school functions, as well as all community use of facilities.

This decision has not been made lightly and we appreciate your cooperation in this challenging situation. We are working on plans to provide meals to students in need during the school closure and to identify ways to provide supplemental remote learning opportunities. Further details are forthcoming via email and on our website.

At this time we have no known cases of COVID-19 with students or staff, and this decision is simply a precaution to ensure the health and well-being of all of our students and employees. The district wanted to provide you with time to find childcare arrangements and to safely take care of your families at home.

We are in the process of developing detailed plans to address important items that families need to know, and will be updating you very soon through our school and district websites located at [www.pesd92.org](http://www.pesd92.org), School Messenger, and Class Dojo communication systems.

According to the experts, the best advice to stop the spread and stay healthy is to use preventative and proper hygiene methods including washing hands, staying away from people who are ill, and avoiding crowded places. There are excellent informational resources at the Maricopa County Health Department at [www.azdhs.gov](http://www.azdhs.gov) and the Centers for Disease Control at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). **As a reminder, please do not send your children to school on Monday.**

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and our decision to be proactive in closing our schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux  
Pendergast District Superintendent