



**Superintendent**

Christopher Downing, Ed.D.

**Board of Education**

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April 1, 2020

Re: Extension of School Dismissal

Dear Anaheim Elementary School District Families,

Based on the latest guidance received today from Governor Newsom, communication received from the California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, support from Orange County Department of Education Superintendent Dr. Al Mijares, and the projections from health officials regarding the Coronavirus pandemic, **the Anaheim Elementary School District will extend school dismissal through the remainder of the school year which ends on June 4, 2020.** The decision is not made lightly but it must be made for the safety of everyone.

We appreciate the support that parents, staff, and our community partners have shown as we have come together to respond to this unprecedented crisis. These past three weeks, we have been able to send over 15,000 Chromebook computers and 1,000 WiFi hotspots home with students, provide 54,096 free meals for children, disinfect over 900 classrooms and offices, support AESD families through 818 returned phone calls, and participate in over 30 collective hours of professional development as teachers prepared to implement Distance Learning.

This quickly-evolving situation has required flexibility and adaptability. What we have been able to accomplish these past few weeks is a true testament to our commitment to serving and supporting your child, even in the middle of the biggest health pandemic and social crisis the world has seen in over 100 years.

During school dismissal AESD staff will continue to be here for you and your children. We will continue to:

- Support Distance Learning and supplemental educational activities through the student portal ([link here](#)).
- Provide free meals with the help of our partners at all 23 AESD schools for children 18 years or younger ([link here](#)).
- Offer you support by phone at (714) 517-7500 or by email at [support@aesd.org](mailto:support@aesd.org).
- Maintain and disinfect all schools, ensuring they are ready for students to start the new school year.
- Make progress on the Sunkist and Roosevelt reconstruction projects.
- Work on educational planning and program development to provide your child with all the amazing learning and enrichment opportunities that we offer at our award-winning schools.

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Phone 714-517-7500  
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We will also continue to work with the California Department of Education and the Orange County Department of Education for direction and guidance as we support students during this dismissal, and prepare for the next school year. As we receive additional information and resources, we will share it with you.

Three weeks ago nobody could have imagined the changes to our world that we are seeing. Although these uncertain times may leave us with many questions, these times have also given us clarity of what is most important for each of us. Please make sure you hug your child extra tight and tell them how important they are. May you and your family continue to be safe and healthy, and we look forward to the day when we can once again open the doors of our schools and come together to empower students to learn, grow, and thrive.

Kind regards,

Dr. Christopher Downing  
Superintendent