



TWAIN HARTE SCHOOL

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April 3, 2020

Dear Twain Harte School Families,

As you know, the current school closure situation we are experiencing has had a drastic effect on our school district as well as our nation. Last week the closure was extended through May 1st due to increasing concerns of the coronavirus spread through our community. We had hoped to be able to return to school later this year, if even for a very short time. **However, after consulting with state and local health officials as well as representatives from every school district in Tuolumne County, the decision was made today to keep the school campus closed for the remainder of the school year.**

While Tuolumne County has not experienced the impact felt in other areas of the state, it is time to address the reality that our determination to flatten the infection curve to keep students safe cannot be accomplished in the span of only a few weeks and further time is needed. It is important to understand that we are not ending the school year. We will continue the essential work of teaching and learning for all of our students. While our physical sites are closed we will continue to provide educational and meal services through the scheduled end of the 2019-20 school year.

Our staff has embraced this new challenge. Teachers will continue to provide learning activities for their students. We will provide paper based learning packets for students who require it and we have begun distributing devices to students who may need one. Please contact your teacher if you are in need of a device to access learning materials.

We know our 8th grade students have been looking forward to celebrating graduation and promotion events. These are momentous occasions and we will explore alternate ways to offer these experiences in different formats and/or at a later date. In the coming weeks information about how grades will be assigned will be communicated as we continue to provide our distance learning instruction.

While we recognize that the closing of the school facility places a great hardship on our families, the most effective way to interrupt the spread of this pandemic is by persistent implementation of social distancing practices. We are grateful to everyone in our community for the tremendous amount of support during this unique and challenging time.

Sincerely,

Rick Hennes
Superintendent
Twain Harte School

Gabe Wingo
Principal
Twain Harte School