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Date: June 19, 2020

To: Families of Santa Cruz County

Re: Juneteenth, State Guidance on Reopening of Schools, Community Resources through Summer

Dear Families of Santa Cruz County,

Today as we celebrate Juneteenth, a holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States, we have an opportunity to further engage in this critical work of educating ourselves about the ways in which racism and oppression persist, learn about Black history, and reflect on how we can collectively transform our schools and communities into places of respect, safety, compassion, and equitable opportunity.

Santa Cruz County School districts and charter schools continue to prepare for the reopening of schools under the restrictions established by our state and local authorities. It is important to note that based on the guidance from the [Center for Disease Control](#), the [California Department of Public Health](#), and the [California Department of Education](#), schools will need to implement protocols that **significantly reduce the number of students who can be on our school sites at any one time**. This means that until state authorities reduce health restrictions, students will be attending class only part of the time and participating in distance learning for the remainder of the time. Districts and Charter Schools will be sharing school schedules with parents and students as soon as they are available.

The battle over the proposed budget for California education funding draws on in Sacramento. As it stands, the State Assembly and Senate are currently at odds with Governor Newsom on the proposed budget and have yet to reach an agreement. Local and state education leaders and educational associations continue to share concerns about the impact the COVID-19 crisis will have on state and federal funding for schools. We need to stand with our students and advocate for the protection of this funding now more than ever. For resources on how to communicate with Santa Cruz County legislative representatives, please visit [sccoe.link/legislative\\_advocacy](https://sccoe.link/legislative_advocacy).

Many families continue to experience serious hardship impacting their ability to meet the needs of their students. We are fortunate to be part of a community that has quickly mobilized to create services that help meet both the basic needs and emotional health of families. Having a safe way to connect with others while we shelter in place is crucial to help foster a sense of community and belonging that is important to maintain emotional wellness. As we enter the summer months, we encourage you to access the following resources that are available to you:

**Basic Needs:** (Rental Assistance, Food resources)

- Please call 211 or text “coronavirus” to 211211
- Available community resources: [sccoe.link/community\\_resources](https://www.sccoe.link/community_resources)
- [Community Action Board](https://www.sccoe.link/community_resources), (831) 763-2147
- [Live Oak Family Resource Center](https://www.sccoe.link/community_resources), (831) 476-7284
- [Nueva Vista Community Resources](https://www.sccoe.link/community_resources), (831) 423-5747

**Resources for Emotional Wellness**

- If you know of a family who may be experiencing domestic violence, or are experiencing violence yourself, please first contact either [Walnut Avenue Family and Women’s Center](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness), [Monarch Services](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness) or the [Survivors Healing Center](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness) to speak with a certified advocate prior to taking action. Monarch Services Bilingual Crisis Support Line can be reached at 1-888-900-4232, 24 hours a day.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Santa Cruz County: [namisc.org](https://www.namisc.org)
- Parenting Support Groups through [Live Oak Cradle to Career](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness) and [Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness)
- Available Mental Health and Wellness Resources: [sccoe.link/wellness](https://www.sccoe.link/wellness)

**Non-Emergency Health Care**

- [Santa Cruz Community Health Centers](https://www.sccoe.link/health_care), 831-427-3500
- [Salud para la Gente](https://www.sccoe.link/health_care), (831) 728-0222
- [Dientes Community Dental Care](https://www.sccoe.link/health_care) is open for emergency dental care, Santa Cruz: 831-464-5409, Watsonville:831-621-2560
- *\*For a Medical Emergency, Call 911*

**Food Distribution**

- The Santa Cruz COE web page including an interactive map of school based food services distributions: [www.sccoe.link/food\\_service\\_map](https://www.sccoe.link/food_service_map)
- Second Harvest Food Hotline: (831) 662-0991 Distribution Locations: [thefoodbank.org/food-distribution-nutrition-education-locations-times/](https://www.thefoodbank.org/food-distribution-nutrition-education-locations-times/)

**Public Health Resources**

- Public Health [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](https://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus)
- Santa Cruz County Call Center to answer questions about COVID-19. (831) 454-4242 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday-Friday
- Centers for Disease Control website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19>.

**Other Resources**

- Essential workers who need childcare should call (831) 466-5820 to find a licensed facility that can provide quality childcare services.
- Parks that are open: [Here](https://www.sccoe.link/parks)
- Unemployment Resources: [www.edd.ca.gov/about\\_edd/online\\_services.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/online_services.htm)

Yours in education and equity,

Laurie Bruton, Superintendent, San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District  
Lorie Chamberland, Superintendent, Live Oak School District  
Eric Gross, Superintendent, Pacific Elementary School District  
Mike Heffner, Superintendent, Bonny Doon Union Elementary School District  
Tanya Krause, Superintendent, Scotts Valley Unified School District  
Michelle McKinny, Superintendent, Happy Valley Elementary School District  
Diane Morgenstern, Superintendent, Mountain Elementary School District  
Kris Munro, Superintendent, Santa Cruz City Schools  
Michelle Rodriguez, Superintendent, Pajaro Valley Unified School District  
Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools  
Scott Turnbull, Superintendent, Soquel Union Elementary School District