

March 14, 2020 – 5 pm

Dear PUSD Families,

After carefully monitoring the latest developments in the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation including a national declaration of emergency and considering the extensive input of parents, teachers and staff, we have made the decision to close all Prescott Unified School campuses to students and the public, effective Monday, March 16. This closure will remain in effect through at least Friday, March 27.

Although there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yavapai County, we realize there is great concern among our stakeholders about how this could spread in our schools, and ultimately to the greater community, despite all of the measures taken and planned for the future. Today's decision, although very difficult, is being made in consideration of the overall health of our community.

This is new territory for everyone, and we realize quite clearly that there are many unanswered questions. We are working as quickly as possible to answer those questions with all of our partners and resources in the next few days. Our PUSD Governing Board supports this decision and is appreciative of the community that helped guide this decision. In addition to closing all schools to students and the public, the following measures are also taking place:

- All after school clubs and athletics are cancelled until further notice.
- All school-related events including athletic games and fine arts performances are cancelled until further notice.
- Preschool and daycare programs are cancelled until further notice.
- We are working on providing food options for families, and will provide more information soon.
- CTED classes will continue in an online format until further notice.

Despite this adversity, we are committed to continuing to deliver high-quality instruction for which PUSD has been known for more than 150 years. District leadership is meeting to define additional details for our staff. Future developments will continue to be communicated through email, our website, and Facebook. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this unprecedented public health challenge.

Sincerely,

Joe Howard

Superintendent