

## COVID-19 UPDATE—MARCH 18, 2020

### Learning Opportunities During Closure

We are excited about the pool of resources we have been able to provide on our district website at <https://www.bulldogs.org/School-Closure-Learning-Opportunities>. Spending time each day working within these sites and others you may have discovered on your own is crucial to helping our students maintain and continue moving forward with their learning. Please know that our principals and teachers are making plans now and working toward better organization of resources by grade level and subject area. Although we are currently still planning on returning to school on April 6<sup>th</sup>, we have to be prepared in case of an extended closure. I appreciate the work of our staff to make sure we are ready. Please remember that you are welcome to reach out to our principals, teachers, counselors, and social workers for any assistance. Principals' and teachers' e-mail addresses are available here [https://www.bulldogs.org/School\\_Info](https://www.bulldogs.org/School_Info) by clicking on the "About Us" "Teachers and Staff" tabs. If your child needs to speak with one of our counselors or social workers, encourage them to reach out to them by e-mail at these addresses:

Grand Heights—Pat Ledezma [pledezma@bulldogs.org](mailto:pledezma@bulldogs.org)  
Hermosa—Ranae Blackerby [rblackerby@bulldogs.org](mailto:rblackerby@bulldogs.org)  
Yeso—Kristie Montoya [kmontoya@bulldogs.org](mailto:kmontoya@bulldogs.org)  
AIS—Nikia Rubio [nrubio@bulldogs.org](mailto:nrubio@bulldogs.org)  
AJHS—Lena Bustamante [lbustamante@bulldogs.org](mailto:lbustamante@bulldogs.org)  
AHS—Debbie Kinnibrugh [dkinnibrugh@bulldogs.org](mailto:dkinnibrugh@bulldogs.org)  
AHS—Eva Cabezuela [ecabezuela@bulldogs.org](mailto:ecabezuela@bulldogs.org)

Central—Desirii Mondragon [dmondragon@bulldogs.org](mailto:dmondragon@bulldogs.org)  
Roselawn—Celestina Prieto [cprieto@bulldogs.org](mailto:cprieto@bulldogs.org)  
Yucca—Tara Skinner [tskinner@bulldogs.org](mailto:tskinner@bulldogs.org)  
AJHS—Dena Nelson [dnelson@bulldogs.org](mailto:dnelson@bulldogs.org)  
AHS—Adrienne Blackburn [ablackburn@bulldogs.org](mailto:ablackburn@bulldogs.org)  
AHS—Halee Goff [hgooff@bulldogs.org](mailto:hgooff@bulldogs.org)  
Penasco—any of the above

IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY OR YOUR CHILD IS IN CRISIS, CALL 911 OR THE NEW MEXICO HELP LINE AT 1-855-NMCRISIS (TOLL-FREE) IMMEDIATELY.

### Travel for Students and Staff

I have received many questions regarding travel during the time of school closure—especially with Spring Break next week. Our goal has to be to keep all of us as safe as possible, so please use good judgment in making travel decisions.

### District Expectations

- All are encouraged to avoid unnecessary travel during this time. If you must travel or decide to travel, be sure to practice the precautions advised by the CDC [CDC How to Protect Yourself](#), [CDC Travelers in the US](#), [CDC Cruise Ship Guidance](#), [CDC Travel Recommendations by Country](#) and New Mexico Department of Health [NMDOH Travel Recommendations](#).
- If a student or staff member travels to a high-risk COVID-19 area (currently China, Europe—especially Italy, Japan, Iran, South Korea, Seattle, Washington, Portland, Oregon, New York, New York, San Francisco, California) that travel must be reported to your school principal, and you ***will not be allowed to return to school until 14 days after returning from the trip.*** The list of high-risk areas could change at any time.
- If a student or staff member travels out of state, they should contact the NMDOH hotline at 855-600-3453 for specific guidance regarding the travel and the potential need for self-isolation upon their return. **If the travel involves commercial travel or time on a cruise ship, it is even more imperative they contact the NMDOH hotline at 855-600-3453 for specific guidance regarding the travel and the potential need for self-isolation upon return.** Please self-report the travel and NMDOH recommendation to your school principal. Be prepared for the recommendation from the

NMDOH to be 14 days of self-isolation.

- If you develop any respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath or fever) at any time, you should immediately contact the NMDOH hotline at 855-600-3453. Do not come to school with symptoms.

**Please remember that new information is coming rapidly, and new travel recommendations and more extensive restrictions could be put into place by the NMDOH and/or CDC affecting the ability to return to school following travel. You will be notified immediately if expectations for travel change. Thank you very much for your cooperation!**

#### Meals for Students

We continue to serve breakfast and lunch daily at all school sites except AHS from 8:30-10:00 am. A student does not have to go to the school they currently attend. We are following the US Department of Agriculture guidelines by following the same payment plans as if school was still in session (free, reduced, or full pay).

#### Events and Activities

The New Mexico Activities Association has suspended spring athletics, spirit, and activities including organized practices until further notice. The NMAA Board of Directors will meet again soon to further evaluate the situation and next course of action. Scheduled school events such as prom and graduation have not been cancelled yet, because those events are after the state's current emergency orders end. However, those events could be postponed or modified based on additional restrictions.

OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO OUR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES. NOT ONLY ARE THEY MISSING OUT ON THE ACADEMIC PART OF SCHOOL BUT ALSO THE MEMORABLE TIMES THAT MIGHT COME ALONG ONLY ONCE. WE ARE ESPECIALLY MINDFUL OF OUR SENIORS WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO GET TO THIS FINAL STRETCH OF THEIR TIME IN THE ARTESIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS. PLEASE KNOW THAT WE CARE FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU, AND WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REACH OUT TO US WITH ANY NEEDS YOU HAVE.