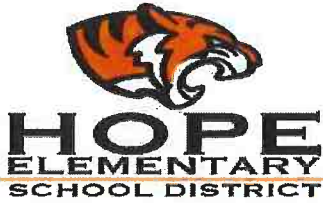


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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**  
BOB NUCKOLS, CLERK  
TOM CEMO, MEMBER  
TIM NEWBY, MEMBER

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MELANIE MATTA, SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL

March 15, 2020

Dear parents,

Our Board of Trustees met this morning to discuss closing down Hope Elementary due to the COVID-19 spread. The board unanimously voted to shut down our school to students starting March 23 and a possible return on April 13. We will re-evaluate the situation during our regularly scheduled board meeting on April 8 and decide the future of re-opening the following week.

Currently, our teachers are on Spring Break, but when they return, they will be working to prepare online lessons and packets for students.

If your student does not have a computer at home, the office will be open for you to check one out starting on Tuesday, March 24. If you do not have access to the internet at home, please contact your local internet provider. Xfinity/Comcast/Charter are offering low-income families internet at no-cost for 60 days so children can access their lessons online. We will be sending you more instructions for your children as we are able to get together as a staff and plan. We will also be in discussion with Porterville Unified to provide meals to students should you still need this service.

Please understand that we have everyone's best interest at the forefront of every decision being made. These decisions are made with great care and consideration for all involved to be able to continue to provide instruction and care to all of our children. If a child or an adult in our system were to contract the virus, we would be extremely sorrowful. At this time, it is impossible to know if we are all overreacting. However, it would be devastating if we under-reacted and did too little to prevent the spread.

We will get through this as a school community. Thank you for trusting us to do our jobs and educate your children through this uncertain time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melanie Matta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melanie Matta