

March 13, 2020

Dear Pacific Grove USD Staff Community,

Like you, we are all concerned about the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the uncertainty it's creating in our daily lives. There are no confirmed cases in Monterey County as of today, March 13, 2020, however, Monterey County has declared a state of emergency, which will provide additional resources for coronavirus responses.

Our state and local health and government entities have expressed the need to increase our preventative measures to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the various ways we as communities can work together to do so. In the interest of the health of our community, Pacific Grove USD has decided to join with all other Monterey County districts, the Monterey County Office of Education, and in conjunction with the Monterey County Health Department, will close all of our schools to students beginning Monday, March 16 through Tuesday, March 31. Please see notice that was sent to all Monterey County school communities and families earlier today.

During the closure, public health officials encourage social distancing to control the spread of the virus. It is strongly recommended that students stay home during the closure as much as possible and do not gather in public places.

Many questions will arise from staff and families at this time, and we are working to create frequently asked questions documents for staff and for families about these closures. **At this time, all employees are expected to report to work on Monday, March 16 at regular work time for further direction from the administration. We will arrange for appropriate social distancing.**

We understand that school closures have significant impacts on our students and families and we look forward to resuming normal operations as soon as possible. We thank you for your understanding during this challenging time.

Sincerely,
Ralph G Porras Superintendent