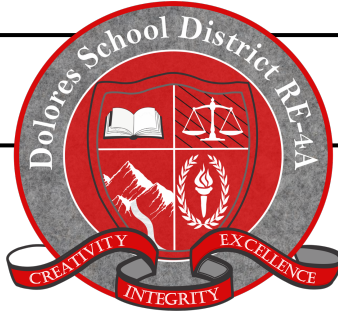


DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE~4A

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November 6, 2020

Dear Dolores School District:

This email is written to provide you an update on our actions due to recent COVID-related activity in our county. Montezuma County has experienced a surge of positive COVID cases. This information is concerning, and we are going to add additional safety measures where we feel necessary in order to continue to provide a safe school environment.

Please remain calm as there is no reason to currently cancel our classes. We have had no exposure in our buildings. Please remember that we will honor your choice to keep your student home if you do not feel comfortable sending them to school, and principals will work with you to continue to provide curriculum. If staff members have reason to be uncomfortable, we are working with them and will make alternative plans. To date, our staff has been unbelievable and amazing!

Our school board has remained briefed on the situation. Our school nurse and I attend the meetings weekly with public health, physician's group, and other districts. We are working carefully and cautiously to keep the safety of students and staff at the forefront of decisions. We also want to provide every opportunity for safe learning to our students.

We know that every child does not have equal support when they are sent home for online schooling. We also know that we saw tremendous increase in social/emotional needs and academic decline during our online period from March to May. With all of this in mind, we still have to make decisions that are difficult.

As of today, November 6, 2020, we will continue in person unless a health breach in our facilities necessitates any closure for certain groups. Fortunately, we are the only district that has not closed one of our schools. We will continue to work carefully. However, the upcoming Veterans Parade scheduled for November 11 is **cancelled**. After the board meeting on November 12th, we will make the decision about whether or not our district will move to online learning from the period of November 30, 2020 - January 4, 2021.

I would like to reiterate that we have online options for any parents who feel they do not want to send their children to school. Contact the school offices to make any arrangements accordingly.

Here are our current decisions and actions:

1. We are cancelling the Veterans Day Parade on November 11.
2. We are closing our district library in order to avoid unnecessary possible spread and to free up staff to help support the district in other areas.
3. We are meeting with staff to review health and safety protocols and answer their questions.
4. We are meeting on November 12 with the school board to consider Montezuma Public Health recommendations for the period between Thanksgiving and winter breaks.
5. We will begin regular communications again with parents in regard to these situations.
6. We will continue to follow all guidelines provided by CDC, CDE, and Public Health in regard to safety and closures.

Please feel free to call or email. We are here to answer your questions.

Sincerely,
Lis Richard
Superintendent