

March 12, 2020

Dear Federal Way Public Schools Parents and Guardians,

Federal Way Public Schools (FWPS) has been following the Washington State Department of Health (WSDOH)'s guidance related to school operations such as openings and closures.

Based on the governor's proclamation, and the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, FWPS is closing beginning Monday, March 16 to Friday, April 24, 2020. This is to help "flatten the curve" of the rate of infection. Without these restrictions, the rate of infection would overwhelm the health care system.

**All schools in the district will be closed during this time.** Student Led Conferences previously scheduled for March 19 and 20 are cancelled.

Parents, students, and staff should bring home medication and other essential personal items on Friday, March 13 or call the school to make arrangements to pick up items on Monday, March 16 or Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

We know this closure will have an impact on our students, staff, families and community. Our team has prepared a long-term closure plan to mitigate this impact as much as possible.

### **Learning at Home**

While Federal Way Public Schools are closed, we are partnering with families and community to support our scholars' learning while they are home. Our approach ensures equitable learning access for ALL students. Because there are limitations to going to an online only model, we will be mailing a 6-week learning packet to ensure all students have access to essential learning and practice while schools are closed. More information is available at [www.fwps.org](http://www.fwps.org).

Teachers may also provide additional instructional learning materials to students.

Additionally, teachers will be available to provide students and parents assistance with the learning packet via email.

### **Meals**

FWPS will make a packaged meal, consisting of breakfast and lunch, available to students throughout the closure. There will be stations at Decatur High School, Federal Way High School, Thomas Jefferson High School, and Todd Beamer High School where students may pick up one packaged meal between 10 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday.

Additionally, the FRED bus will be serving meals at identified communities. Please visit [www.fwps.org](http://www.fwps.org) to view the list of locations and times the FRED bus will be available.

Per our normal practice, meals will not be provided during spring break week, April 6-10, 2020.



### **Childcare**

We are working with our partners to determine childcare options and will share more information about childcare availability in the coming days.

### **Events**

All field trips and events, including sports, are cancelled during the closure.

***We know there are many questions, and we will be spending the next days and weeks to respond to many of these questions.*** We are actively working with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to understand how this extended closure may impact the school year calendar, testing, graduation, and more.

We will continue to be proactive in communicating with parents, families and community. Updates will be provided through our automated messaging system, on our website at [www.fwps.org](http://www.fwps.org), and on Facebook and Twitter, @FWPS210.

If you have questions, you may contact us at 253-945-2000 or at [comments@fwps.org](mailto:comments@fwps.org).

This is a rapidly evolving situation, but together we can take important steps toward the health of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tammy Campbell, Superintendent