

PSUSD Schools Directed Closed Through April 3; Spring Break April 6-17

Starting March 16, Palm Springs Unified School District schools have been ordered closed through at least April 3 by the Riverside County Department of Public Health as part of a county-wide district shut down in an effort to curtail the spread of COVID-19. All district and school building activities including school day instruction, child care, health services, enrichment, student internships, athletics and club sports, preschool etc. are canceled through at least April 3. PSUSD's spring break runs April 6 to 17. Classes are scheduled to resume on April 20 (subject to change).

How will students who qualify for free or reduced lunch be supported during the closure?

As part of our emergency plan to address the closure of schools, we are distributing daily breakfast and lunch packages prepared by our Nutrition Services Department to all PSUSD students at each bus stop and at many school site locations in the parking lots through drive-up service. For more information on school site times and locations:

<https://www.psusd.us/cms/lib/CA02204874/Centricity/Domain/4/Free%20Meals.pdf>. For bus schedule: <https://www.psusd.us/cms/lib/CA02204874/Centricity/Domain/4/Bus%20Routes%20for%20Meal%20Program.pdf>. We will continue to provide meal service during spring break (April 6 through 17) as well.

How is PSUSD making decisions?

Riverside County Department of Public Health is the lead agency in our community's COVID-19 response and PSUSD plays an important role in providing stability and safety for our region. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Sandra Lyon and the PSUSD Leadership Team have been working in daily partnership with Public Health and officials from the county and state, and other county superintendents to assess and respond to new information. Having a seat at the table ensures our voices are heard and included in decisions that impact all of us

Will the central office be open during the closure?

Yes, at this time essential central office staff are working and preparing for continuity of learning and support services for our students and their families and staff. We are open for student support service during regular hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at this time (subject to change).

Will student graduations and graduation requirements be impacted? What about state testing, AP and IB tests?

We are in close contact with county and state education officials. There are a number of decisions that need to be made to support our students. Included are discussions with CollegeBoard and the IB organization. More information will be coming soon.

Will PSUSD be providing supplemental learning enrichment opportunities during the closure?

During these weeks that schools are closed as directed by the Department of Public Health we will be providing as many supplemental resources as possible while your students are at home. These resources are available to those who have a device and internet access at home at this link: [Supplemental Enrichment Activities](#).

Paper packets focused on primary grades will be available in a few days for pick up at our [Meal Distribution Sites](#) or at bus stop meal delivery locations at campuses or d We are also working on a plan for providing Chromebooks 3rd-12th for our students who did not take them home. We will keep you updated on new resources as they become available

Do schools or the district need to make up lost instructional time because of the closure?

Governor Gavin Newsom has waived the minimum 175-day instruction requirement, so the school year will not be extended due to the closure.

Are child care or extended day programs canceled?

Child care and extended day programs are canceled because ALL school buildings are closed.

We know that closing our schools will impact our most vulnerable families and we recognize that working families depend on the consistency and predictability of supports and services our schools offer. We are working with our community partners to determine how to best mitigate the impact closing schools will have on working families, especially if closure extends beyond April 3rd per Public Health and the Governor's office.

Are all athletics and club sports canceled?

Yes, athletics are canceled until further notice.

What should we consider prior to spring break travel?

If you will be traveling during spring break please monitor the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) travel advisories... Updated travel information and [current guidelines can be found on the CDC website](#).

How will PSUSD keep families, staff, and students informed regarding Coronavirus and information related to the closure?

PSUSD will be sending frequent messaging to families and staff to provide the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 and the district website and school sites will be updated regularly with the most current information.

As soon as new information becomes available, families will receive notifications similar, through video messaging, call, email, SMS messages and district and school social media platforms.

What are the procedures and instructions for students to wash their hands (even while at home)?

We are encouraging families to continue to prioritize student hand washing at home. Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the most effective way to contain the spread of illness and disease, including COVID-19. For more information: visit <https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus>.

What conversations should parents have with their children at home?

We know families, staff, and students are worried. We are committed to keeping you informed and working with you to keep our school communities safe. Want resources to share with your children? [Here's an informative graphic resource from NPR.](#)

Where can I obtain more information?

As with any newly emerging infectious disease, knowledge evolves with time. Early on, it is difficult to know the source of the disease, the ways in which it spreads, how effectively it spreads from person to person, and how severe the infection is. Here are some sources to get the most up-to-date information and resources:

- o Riverside University Health System - Public Health (RUHS-PH, County)
 - <https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus>
- o California Department of Public Health (CDPH, State)
 - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>
- o Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, National)
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>
- o World Health Organization (WHO, International)
 - <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- o Call 2-1-1 for general information

What If I or a Loved One is Experiencing Symptoms?

If you are having difficulty breathing or keeping fluids down, go to an emergency room or call 911, If symptoms are less severe, call your doctor or the Riverside County Health Line at (760) 837-8988. You should also contact your doctor if you know you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.