

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Federal, State and local health authorities have strongly urged the public to avoid public gatherings in order to limit the spread of the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, Arizona's Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction have ordered the State-wide closure of schools through at least March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Tucson has declared a Public Emergency and ordered closure of a number of public establishments and has strongly encourages all employers to practice social distancing practices that avoid gatherings of more than 10 individuals through March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Tucson Unified School District No. 1 of Pima County, Arizona ("District") has the authority, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B) and Governing Board Policy ID, "School Day" and accompanying Administrative Regulations, to close schools and other District facilities in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board recognizes the right of the public to observe the open meetings of the Board, but it also recognizes that Federal, State and local officials have discouraged attendance at public gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds it is in the best interest of the District and its community to close schools as necessary to combat the Coronavirus pandemic, and to carry out the actions listed below; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds that it is in the best interest of the District and serves a public purpose to continue to pay its employees for the time period of school closures in order to maintain order in the community, reduce employee turnover, allow employees to care for the needs of their families, meet its contractual obligations and maintain the morale of District employees during this state and national emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved hat:

Section 1. The Governing Board authorizes the closure of all District schools and school programs through at least March 27, 2020. The Superintendent is authorized to extend the dates of school closures if necessary, in accordance with Governing Board Policy ID.

Section 2. The Superintendent is authorized to continue regular payroll expenses for all employees and leased personnel in accordance with their budgeted full-time

equivalent (FTE) hours or per applicable contract provisions. Extended placement substitutes who have been designated as the teacher of record shall be paid their regular substitute rate. Temporary employees who do not have a regular work schedule, including daily substitute teachers, shall not be paid, but will be permitted to use leave. All employees will report to work either on-site or assigned to work at home or remotely as determined by their supervisors. The Superintendent may exercise his existing authority to assign any employee to work remotely. The Superintendent is authorized to modify payroll necessary to comply with any State or Federal laws that may be passed in response to COVID-19.

- Section 3. The Superintendent is authorized to make any necessary adjustments to the provision of employee leave to comply with any State or Federal laws that may be passed modifying family medical leave provisions applicable to District employees. The Superintendent is encouraged to exercise reasonable flexibility with granting leave under these unusual circumstances.
- Section 4. The Superintendent is authorized to take any necessary steps to implement District's continuation of optimal access to meals for students and families during any period of school closure due to COVID-19 within any relevant rules now existing or as may be modified by the national and state school lunch program authorities.
- Section 5. The Superintendent is authorized to expand district childcare programs for children of health care professionals and first responders should the need arise due to strain on the health care system in Tucson as recommended by the Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- Section 6. The Superintendent is authorized to work with State authorities to meet minimum requirements of instruction and to create a corresponding change to the school calendar, if necessary.
- Section 7. The Superintendent is authorized to execute all requisite documents to apply to the Arizona Department of Education to excuse students from school attendance because of school closure pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B).
- Section 8. The Superintendent is authorized to prepare a plan for online educational options for students to the extent practical and within existing budget parameters should the school closures be extended.
- Section 9. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the President, in collaboration with the Superintendent, to make necessary arrangements and adopt temporary protocols to limit the staff and audience at any Board meeting to as few as 10 or such other number as deemed appropriate to protect the health and safety of the public, while also taking what steps are financially and logistically feasible to allow the public to

observe the proceedings outside of the boardroom. Such arrangements may include modifying or limiting the Call to the Audience portion of Board agendas, including, if possible, permitting members of the public to make their comments publicly via technological means. For so long as the pandemic persists, the Governing Board urges the community to remain involved in Board meetings by taking advantage of the live-stream of its Board meetings rather than appearing in person.

Passed and adopted: March 18, 2020. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Governing Board President to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Governing Board.

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1

By: _____
Kristel Ann Foster, President
Tucson Unified Governing Board