

School Closed Starting March 13 at 5:00 pm

Dear SFS Community:

The coronavirus epidemic continues to progress locally and worldwide, and the wellbeing of our students, families, and staff is paramount. *To date, there are no suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 at The San Francisco School.* With the SFS Emergency Preparedness team and the Executive Committee of the SFS Board of Trustees earlier this afternoon, I have made the difficult decision to suspend classes and activities for the wellbeing of our community. Tomorrow, March 13, 2020, will be a transitional day during which the campus will be open for regularly scheduled classes. The campus will be closed at 5:00 pm (extended day is abbreviated). For now, we will remain closed through Friday, March 20.

All students from PSK - 8th grade have been informed by their teachers or division heads of Friday's closure. We are aware that the worry and isolation caused by this epidemic are real. As a result of the closure, students may become stressed and require more physical and emotional support. We will partner with you in staying positive and being mindful of their concerns.

We are fortunate that, with our resources and the intentional preparations we have made, The SFS can be proactive and conservative by closing school immediately and minimizing the potential for the transmission of COVID-19. Our School on the Go bags (PS/K to 5th grades) and iPads (4th - 5th grades) were distributed to take home today. If your student was not in school today and is absent tomorrow, please contact your division head (Maggie Weis or Nancy Nagramada) to make alternate arrangements.

We expect that the first few days of the closure may be stressful and hectic for our families as they make contingency plans. As you adjust to a new routine at home, the faculty will be finalizing online meetings, lessons, and assignments. Our goal is for the teachers to provide instructions to families and students on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

As we have all seen, the news continues to unfold rapidly. We will continue to provide alerts through ParentSquare. These important updates and useful resources are now compiled and accessible on www.sfschool.org/covid19.

Together,

Steve