

## What Does SFUSD's News Mean For Us?

Dear SFS Community:

County superintendents, including SFUSD's Dr. Vincent Matthews, and public health officers from six Bay Area counties announced that its school sites will remain closed through the end of the school year. As California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond said last week, "Quite frankly, none of us knows when it's safe for our kids to return."

All of us -- administrators, educators, parents/guardians -- are reluctant to keep our children away from campus for a moment longer than necessary. However, viral spread is predicted to peak in mid-May, testing remains a statewide challenge, and no treatment or vaccine is likely to be available in the immediate future. It is very possible the "stay safe at home" restrictions in San Francisco will be extended beyond May 3.

The SFS Administration, Board of Trustees, and Emergency Preparedness Team are considering the conditions under which reopening campus would be feasible and safe. For now, we will be making decisions incrementally, based primarily on the shelter in place orders. If you want to know what is really on my mind, as a parent with three school-aged kids, in a house with two full-time working adults: I believe that SFS is a smaller, independent entity and when compared to the larger public schools we can be nimble and creative while protecting our constituencies and staff. Call it a pandemic pipe dream, but I am not yet willing to say our campus is closed for the remainder of the year. And, as always, the wellbeing of the SFS community is our priority. I promise to stay in touch as our team weighs in with the next steps.

Together,

Steve