

Dear Union Families and Staff,

As you are likely aware, school staff statewide voted on Thursday, April 19 to support a teacher walk-out or strike. While we had hoped that we would be able to keep our schools open, we cannot at this time ensure that we will have sufficient staff to keep all students safe. **This Thursday, April 26th and Friday, April 27th all UESD schools will be closed.**

Although schools will be closed, we intend to provide breakfast and lunch to students who may need this service. Breakfast may be eaten at your home school 8:00-8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:00-11:30 a.m. on the days school is closed.

If school will be closed for more than two days, you can expect to receive daily communications from the district. Families will be notified via our School-Messenger emergency notifications system, which includes automated calls and/or email (if provided to the school) and SMS text message (if families have opted in) with information about school closures.

Principals will communicate any site specific information to the community as needed.

Below is an FAQ we hope will answer some immediate questions you may have.

1. Do parents need to contact their school to report an absence?

No. Parents will not need to contact schools to report an absence if the school is closed.

2. Does the closure also affect preschool programs?

Yes. The preschool program will be **cancelled**.

3. Does the closure affect before and after-school programs?

Yes. All before- and after-school programs are **cancelled**. Cancelled programs include: PAC and 21st Century enrichment or tutoring programs.

4. Will the district be able to provide meals?

Yes. We intend to provide breakfast and lunch at all school sites for enrolled students who need services. More detailed information will be communicated regarding how to access the meal program.

5. Will athletic programs including sports practices and games be affected?

Yes. All practices and games will be cancelled.

6. If a school is closed, would the school year be extended?

Based upon state laws and current policies, any day that school is closed may need to be made up. We will let you know as soon as we are able to regarding our obligation about possible make-up days that would fall at the end of the school year.

7. Would school closures affect 8th grade promotion dates?

Promotion dates and times *currently* remain as scheduled. Should anything change, we will provide as much advance notice as possible.

8. Are scheduled school field trips also cancelled?

Yes. As we are unable to safely chaperone these trips.

9. What is the impact on the school closure to my employee group?

The district will be sending out a separate communication to all employees regarding the impact of the school closure to our various employee groups.

While we know these are challenging times for everyone, we are hopeful that the legislature and Governor are able to reach a timely resolution that will avoid a prolonged walk-out.

Thank you in advance for your patience during this difficult time.

Lorah J. Neville
Superintendent