Chrys Harttraft, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

April 2, 2020

Dear SCVTS educational community member,

This serves as our most recent update regarding our school closure plan. Immediately after our last update, Governor Murphy mandated that all schools remain closed until April 17th. As of this writing all indications are that schools will remain closed until the end of April or longer.

We at SCVTS are planning for emergency remote learning to continue throughout April and beyond. Practices include real-time, pre-recorded instruction, and teacher developed instructional materials. Any recording of classrooms in real-time will be destroyed once regular classes resume. If this is a concern please contact Interim Principal Montes with the specifics.

These past weeks have given us opportunities to "tweak" our methods of instruction to better meet the needs of our learners, and in some ways improve education for the future. Presently however, adapting designs and classroom practices to a virtual format has been challenging for some content areas more than others. Our attention is focused on the most meaningful ways of delivering Career and Technical Education (CTE). Some flexibility has been granted by the industries that inform our work, therefore we believe that CTE education will not be "left behind", but broadened to include a wealth of related skills and competencies.

We have been receptive to teacher and student feedback indicating that remote learning is more time consuming and tedious than regular in-person learning. Efforts are being made to strike the right balance between meeting all of the educational standards and reducing them to those most essential.

Since we are aware of the difficulty that students are having covering all classes, we have decided to move to an A/B schedule beginning on April 14th:

- On (A) days students will attend their scheduled classes for periods 1-5.
- On (B) days, students will attend their scheduled classes for periods 6-9.

We believe that this will benefit both students and teachers. The specifics are posted on the website for a day-by-day reference.

Our school calendar has not been modified; therefore Spring Break will begin tomorrow on April 3rd at 12PM through Monday April 13th. During this time, teachers will not be posting assignments and students will not be expected to check in with teachers. Students will however have the option of continuing to work on assignments that are past due, so to include them in the 4th quarter grading system.

When instruction resumes on April 14th, parents please continue to record any sick days in Genesis. If students are having difficulties and falling behind, teachers and counselors are being asked to copy parents on informational emails sent to students. Therefore, please verify that we have your current email address in both the Genesis and Honeywell systems.

Thank you for your patience and support throughout these difficult times and enjoy the beauties of spring.

Best regards,

Chrys Harttraft, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools