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April 7, 2020

Dear Sutter County Education Community,

Last week the Governor announced doubt that schools would be returning this school year. While we hope this is not the case, we will be working hard daily to provide distance learning for each and every student. Our hope is that we will be able to return before the end of the school year, but we will put the safety of our students, staff and community first. During this time, school districts will continue to provide meals for our students and families who rely on this crucial service. We will continue to work with our districts to ensure that we are doing what is in the best interest of Sutter County students.

Our students' learning and our teachers' instruction is not ending, though campuses remain physically closed. Every day of instruction matters, no matter whether it takes place in a classroom or at the kitchen table. There is no question this puts an even bigger burden on families at a time when anxiety is already high. Asking parents and caregivers to take on the daunting task of supporting learning experiences, while continuing with their own work responsibilities, adds even more stress to everyday home life. However, all Sutter County school districts as well as SCSOS Special Education staff are working diligently to ensure that all students continue to receive a high quality education either through work packets or distance learning.

The state will provide guidance on grading and graduation requirements for school districts. It is important that these issues are addressed as soon as possible to assist students and families, as well as our school districts, who have been wrestling with these and many other questions. Again, we continue to work together for solutions and will continue to update you with information.

Schools still play a vital role in our communities. That much will not change in these ever-changing days.

We will continue to provide updates as often as warranted in these fast-changing days. Please refer to your school districts' websites as well as the SCSOS website at www.sutter.k12.ca.us for the most updated information.

Sincerely,

Tom Reusser,
Sutter County Superintendent of Schools