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March 13, 2020

Dear St. HOPE Public Schools and Community Members:

I hope that you are doing well. I know this is a very challenging and concerning time for us as an entire community. There is so much information flooding us at every moment about COVID-19 and it is hard to sort through it all and it is easy to feel overwhelmed and uncertain about what is forthcoming. Up to this point, we at St. HOPE, have been in constant communication and collaboration with other expert entities including the Sacramento County Public Health Department (SCPH), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Sacramento County Office of Education. Our goal has been to stay informed and make the best decision each and every day. I understand that the work and collaboration that we have been doing on a daily basis as it relates to COVID-19 has been almost invisible to each of you. Please know that we have taken this situation seriously and dedicated significant time each day to reassessing the situation and making daily decisions based-off the new information. There is nothing more important to us than the health and well-being of our entire St. HOPE community.

At this point, we are only three school days away from our pre-scheduled Spring Break. **While we still have no known instances of a St. HOPE student or staff person who have tested positive for COVID-19 we want to be overly cautious in prioritizing the health and wellness of our entire St. HOPE community. Therefore we have made the decision to close our schools from Monday, March 16th through Monday, March 30th.** This will mean that we will postpone our end of quarter assessments and will not be mailing out Quarter 3 report cards at this time. Prior to Monday, March 30th we will update you on any potential extension of the school closure period.

We will remain open for serving school meals from Monday, March 16th to Wednesday, March 18th. We will have meal service open from 11:00am-12:30pm at Sacramento Charter High School. These meals will be packaged and ready for pick-up.

We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more information and as we implement any additional next steps. Please continue to check here for updates- <https://www.sthope.org/post/covid-19>.

Sincerely,

Kari Wehrly