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Dear NUSD Community Member,

I continue to be so proud of and inspired by how our students, families, staff, partners and supporters are handling this intense and unprecedented time. Everyone is doing their best to make the most of a very challenging time.

We are providing more than 10,000 high quality meals a week. Our schools are safe and ready for students to return when the time is right and our learning continues, though in a very different model. Supports continue to be built out for our students in need. We have systems in place to support many of those students who are struggling with their learning and to check in with those who are not yet connecting digitally. We are learning and getting better every day. We could accomplish all we have without our incredibly talented and committed team.

We continue to field questions generated through our Ongoing Survey <https://bit.ly/NUSDSurvey>. We released a layered Frequently Asked Questions web page that you can access here <https://nusd.org/remote-learning/frequently-asked-questions/>. This resource was generated from questions received in a variety of ways including our surveys. We hope it helps as we navigate this challenging time. Please keep the questions coming.

I will address a couple of the questions below:

### **How are you supporting students with mental health challenges during the school shutdown?**

We are taking a multi-tiered approach to supporting our students who are experiencing mental health challenges. Our first line of defense in supporting students with their mental health is the classroom teacher. When teachers learn that students need supports beyond that which they can provide, we have additional resources. Restorative Practice staff are holding regular Zoom meetings that support students in making connections and engaging in academics. School district psychologists are supporting students with counseling and outreach. North Marin Community Services and Bay Area Community Resources, have shifted services to tele-health platforms and have picked up students on their caseload to continue counseling. District psychologists are developing a one-page resource for teachers to use if they notice students declining or in active crisis. This resource will suggest everything from general check-in questions to specific steps to take and people to notify if a student's wellbeing is of concern.

*Engage. Inspire. Empower.*

## On technology, is there any plan to upgrade chrome books?

NUSD purchased Chromebooks for every student in grades 3-12 through Measure G funds. We purchased Chromebooks because they are sturdy, allow students to access any web-based learning platform, have long battery life and are relatively inexpensive. NUSD follows Google's implementation model with the expectation that a well-cared for Chromebook will last five (5) years. Going forward, students will be issued new Chromebooks in grades 4 and 9, using the same Chromebook through its lifecycle. Third grade students will learn to care for a device with Chromebooks from graduated high school seniors.

## When will we hold graduations for our high schools?

We know this is an important celebration for most of our seniors and their families. Knowing this, we are scheduled to hold high school graduations as follows:

- Novato High School - August 7 at 5:00 PM
- San Marin High School - August 7 at 7:00 PM
- Marin Oaks High School - To be determined to best meet the needs of our graduates
- NOVA - To be determined to best meet the needs of our graduates

Please keep in mind we cannot guarantee these events will happen. If we are unable to hold graduations in this manner, we will work with the schools to determine the best way to honor this important occasion.

We continue to work on the timing for fifth and eighth grade promotions and will provide that information as soon as we can.

I want to thank each and every one of you, once again, for all you are doing during this tremendously challenging time.

Sincerely,

Kris Cosca