

March 20, 2020

Dear Gilbert Public Schools Parents, Families and Staff,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our students, parents, staff and families as we all continue to navigate these unprecedented circumstances. As we all know, this is an evolving situation, and the district greatly appreciates the support of our community as we work to address questions and make decisions in the best interests of our students, staff, families, and the wider community.

**This afternoon, Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman announced the extension of school closures through April 10, 2020.**

At this time we are able to update our community on the following:

**Governing Board Resolution - Staff Compensation During Closures**

On Tuesday, March 17, the Gilbert Public Schools Governing Board authorized the Superintendent to continue regular payroll expenses for all employees during the closure.

**Remote Learning and Enrichment Resources**

Our goal as a district is to continue to support the education of our students, while working within the constraints of the current circumstances, and adhering to the guidance of state and national agencies. For the immediate duration of the closure, parents can find a wide-range of enrichment learning resources, K-12, at [www.gilbertschools.net/enrichmentresources](http://www.gilbertschools.net/enrichmentresources). In preparation for the potential of an extended school closure, the district has been planning for remote learning. **Remote learning will begin on Monday, March 30.** Parents, guardians, and students will receive communication from both the district and their schools/teachers with further details next week.

**How to Keep Up-to-date with Accurate Information**

We understand that our community has a lot of questions and we are working hard to provide answers as quickly as we are able to. I encourage you to continue to refer to [www.gilbertschools.net/alerts](http://www.gilbertschools.net/alerts) for the most up to date information, which we are adding to every day. I would also like to remind our community that the district website is the most accurate

source of information. There have been reports of inaccurate information circulating within the community, and I would like to encourage you to always refer to our website to confirm information, and please do not repost information from an unknown source.

Our GPS community is extremely special; this week alone we have witnessed incredible acts of support and kindness within our community, from our teachers, families, students, support staff and beyond. I am extremely grateful to be a part of this community, and I thank you for your ongoing patience and support.

Sincerely,

**Shane McCord, Ed.D.**

*Superintendent*

*Gilbert Public Schools*