

## 03/25/2020 Special Meeting Supporting Document

### Background:

In February 2020, initial concerns about the spread of Coronavirus/COVID-19 became reality. With focus and dedication, SVCS Board called a special meeting on March 4, 2020 to discuss communications and plans already made or in process in the event the school needed to close. Frequent communications were made with parents/guardians as the school remained open and observed district-wide closures in both Elk Grove and Natomas. On March 13, 2020, the decision was made to close the school and migrate to on-line learning through April 13, 2020. On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a state-wide Executive Order to shelter in place except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure services.

Today is March 25, 2020 and in just three weeks our daily routines have been transformed. As the Executive Order does not specify an end date, it is appropriate to plan for maintaining online learning for the next several weeks and, possibly, for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss options and recommendations for continued operations within the requirements and guidance available as of today.

### 1. Approval of School Closure and Funding Certification by the Principal

On March 13, Governor Newsom Signed the Executive Order Ensuring State Funding for Schools Even in Event of Physical Closure. The order provides that even if schools close temporarily because of COVID-19, school districts must:

- Continue delivering high-quality educational opportunities to students through other options, distance learning and independent study;
- Safely provide school meals through the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option, consistent with the requirements of the California Department of Education and U.S. Department of Agriculture;
- To the extent practicable, arrange for supervision for students during ordinary school hours
- Continue to pay employees.

SB 117 further supports the Executive Order to continue employee pay as reasonable anticipates as if No Closure.

The State is guaranteeing funding and payment for the rest of the 2019-20 school year based on reported and certified attendance/ADA from July 1, 2019 – Feb. 29, 2020. The school is working with teachers and students to resolve any outstanding independent study and be ready for the Principal to certify the data when the State releases the required form.

The action for consideration is for the Board to approve the continued school closure, except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure services, until the shelter-in-place order is lifted.

### 2. Approval of Online Instruction including Professional Boundaries

Our teaching staff have risen to the occasion and are providing online instruction. The Principal has communicated with all staff about Professional Boundaries and maintaining Social Distancing.

Professional Boundaries include awareness of appropriate attire and background objects that may be visible when using webcams. For instance, dress code is still applicable.

The action for consideration by the Board is to approve the use of online instruction during the shelter-in-place order and to expect all staff to adhere to professional boundaries.

### 3. Approval of Employment and Payroll under Executive Order and SB 117

The recommendation, based on our understanding of the Executive Order and SB 117, is no layoffs for the remainder of the shelter-in-place order. We are expected to keep paying employees and vendors because the State is continuing our full funding during this time. To the extent possible, we are finding opportunities for hourly staff to support online learning, deliver supplies to teachers and scholars, and possibly prepare and deliver meals, etc.

There is no action needed at this time based on the directives from the Governor and Legislature. The Board can direct staff to contact legal counsel for additional discussion or to ask for legal presence during the April meeting.

#### Resources:

Governor's Executive Orders: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/category/executive-orders/>

SB 117: [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200SB117](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB117)

Presidential Guidance: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/coronavirus-guidelines-america/>