

From the Office of Superintendent Nora Gutierrez

Daily Updates from the Tolleson Union High School District This is the place to come to get the latest information on what's going on in the Tolleson Union High School District

• Cox Communication is providing free Internet service to our families via their Connect2Compete program. TUHSD wants to thank its corporate partners for stepping up to help our families during this time of need.

Connect2Compete Low-Cost, Home Internet Program Expanded in Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)



- The Curriculum and Instruction Team, led by Dr. Michele Wilson, has been doing an awesome job. All staff have taken on additional duties and stepped up to get the work done throughout the school closures. Everyone is doing their absolute best and it has been a collaborative effort.
- Our school principals continue to work with their teaching and learning staff on an ongoing basis to guarantee that learning opportunities are being provided to all of our students. Thank you principals and your hard working staff for making all of this happen for our wonderful students!
- The TUHSD Governing Board passed a resolution at the board meeting on Tuesday. The resolution makes it clear that the Superintendent has the authority to close schools if

needed. It also acknowledges that the Superintendent has the authority to keep schools closed and staff members paid through the end of the school year if needed.



TOLLESON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214 OF MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA

GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION - COVID-19

WHEREAS, Arizona's Governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction have ordered the State-wide closure of schools through at least April 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Tolleson Union High School District No. 214 of Maricopa County, Arizona ("District") has the authority to close schools in an emergency pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B), Governing Board Policy EBCD, "Weather-related and Emergency Closings" and Governing Board Policy ID, "School Day" and related Administrative Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds as that it is in the best interest of the District and its community to close the schools and to carry out the actions listed below to prevent the spread of a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds that it is in the best interest of the District and serves a public purpose to continue to pay its employees for the time period of the school closure in order to maintain order in the community, reduce employee tumover, allow employees to care for the needs of their families, meet its contractual obligations and increase morale for District employees during a time of national and state emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved by the Governing Board of Tolleson Union High School District No. 214 of Maricopa County, Arizona that:

- Section 1. The Governing Board authorizes the closure of all schools and programs through at least Friday, April 10, 2020, prior to which time the Governing Board shall convene again to reassess the matter, unless the District has received direction from the federal or state government that removes the decision from the Governing Board's discretion.
- Section 2. The Superintendent is authorized to extend the dates of school closure if necessary, consistent with Governing Board Policies EBCD and ID. In such a case, the Superintendent will so notify the Governing Board pending the opportunity for the Governing Board to convene a Governing Board meeting.
- Section 3. The Superintendent is authorized to continue regular payroll expenses for all permanent (non-temporary) employees. All employees shall be expected to perform work during the school closures, as assigned by the Superintendent, either on site, at home or as otherwise assigned; those not required to work on-site shall remain on call and available to report to work as needed. 12-Month Hourly Employees are assigned to work from home during the school closures. Employees will receive their full pay in accordance with their work agreement. All other Hourly Employees (less than 12-months) are placed on paid holiday until school resumes or they reach the end of their work calendar, whichever comes first. An employee in this category that is deemed essential and necessary to the operations of the district during the school closures shall receive pay for hours worked in addition to their holiday pay. Overtime will be paid only when an hourly employee is required to physically work more than 40 hours per week in accordance with Fair Labor Standards Act. The Superintendent is authorized to modify payroll as necessary to comply with State or Federal laws that may be passed in response to COVID-19.
- Section 4. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent to work with local and state authorities to meet minimum state requirements of instruction and to create a corresponding change to the school calendar if necessary.
- Section 5. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute all requisite documents to apply to the Arizona Department of Education for excuse of students from school attendance because of school closure pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B).
- Section 6. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute any further documentation to effectuate this resolution, including but not limited to any requisite notices required by the Arizona Department of Education or local/state health authorities.

This Resolution was passed and adopted by the Governing Board at a properly noticed regular Governing Board meeting held on March 24, 2020. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Governing Board President to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Governing Board.

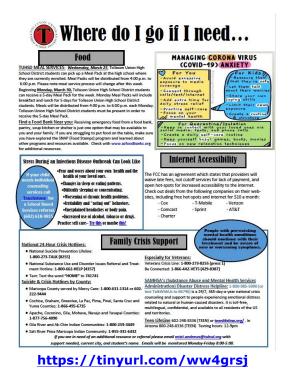
Corina Madruga

Corina Madruga, Governing Board President

- After conducting a survey on student technology needs in the TUHSD community, the District was able to respond to those needs by providing 2,000 computers directly to students. It's just another way that the Tolleson Union High School District is supporting its students as they learn from home.
- Our Food and Nutrition Department served 1,512 students with meal packs on the first day of distribution. That equates to 9,072 grab and go meals served, with each pack containing 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches plus snacks.



 TUHSD has a resource flyer that was sent to parents recently that included updated meal pack information. A Spanish version of the same flyer has been sent. Both flyers were posted on social media and the website.





https://tinyurl.com/wjcqglw

- The State of Arizona has a new website called Arizona Together. It's a great resource during this time of the COVID-19 crisis. Check out the link here: <u>https://arizonatogether.org/</u>
- During the COVID-19 Coronavirus crisis, the guiding principle of the Tolleson Union High School District is that **all students and staff will be held harmless.** We will continue with this philosophy throughout this pandemic and as long as our schools are closed.

That's it for today. Please check back tomorrow for our latest Daily Updates.

