



Magnolia Union Elementary School District

4502 Casey Road
Brawley, CA 92227

3-13-20

Dear Magnolia Parents/Guardians:

The national situation involving the Corona Virus 19 (COVID 19) is rapidly developing. Attached please find the latest information we received yesterday from the Center for Disease Control and the California Department of Health regarding COVID19. We ask that you please review the following information in regards to Magnolia Elementary:

Perfect Attendance Awards: Effective today the perfect attendance incentive program is suspended. If it is not reinstated prior to the end of school in June, those students with perfect attendance as of this morning will receive their perfect attendance award at the conclusion of the year. If your child is sick, please keep him or her at home.

Assemblies: The district will not convene student assemblies until further notice.

Field Trips: The district will not conduct student field trips until further notice.

Picnic: The school picnic scheduled for Tuesday, March 17 is canceled.

School Closure: We will continue to operate on regular schedule at the present time. The state of California and the Imperial County Health Department are not recommending school closures in Imperial County currently. Should school closures be recommended, the district will provide you with more information on when and how that will occur.

We will continue to do everything we can to keep your children safe. If you have any questions please contact the district office.

Sincerely,

Blaine R. Smith
Supt/Principal



To protect public health and slow the rate of transmission of COVID-19, gatherings as described below should be postponed or canceled across the state of California for at least the remainder of the month of March.

The California Department of Public Health finds the following:

- Large gatherings that include 250 people or more should be postponed or canceled. This includes gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and professional, college, and school sporting events.
- Smaller gatherings held in venues that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person should be postponed or canceled. This includes gatherings in crowded auditoriums, rooms or other venues.
- Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people. This includes gatherings such as those at retirement facilities, assisted living facilities, developmental homes, and support groups for people with health conditions.
- A “gathering” is any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space.

This applies to all non-essential professional, social, and community gatherings regardless of their sponsor. Gatherings that do not meet the aforementioned criteria should only be conducted when they are essential—that is, if the activity is essential and could not be postponed or achieved without gathering, meaning that some other means of communication could not be used to conduct the essential function.

What will this achieve?

The timely implementation of aggressive strategies that create social distance and those that reduce close contact of people not regularly together, including limiting gatherings, has proven effective in prior pandemics at delaying rates of transmission and reducing illness and death.

By decreasing the prevalence of disease across California we will:

- Reduce the number of Californians who contract COVID-19 before an effective treatment or vaccine is available.
- Protect those most likely to experience severe symptoms, such as older Californians and those with underlying chronic conditions.
- Preserve and protect our health care delivery system, including our health care workforce, so they can care for the least healthy individuals in the community for any medical condition, not just COVID-19.
- Minimize the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 over the long run.

How long will these limitations apply?

This guidance will remain in place at least through the month of March. As with all guidance that relates to COVID-19 response, authorities will revisit this guidance on a regular basis to evaluate the continued public health need for it and to evaluate if any elements need to be changed. To stay informed, continue to monitor this link:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx>

What is Social Distancing and how is it achieved?

Social distancing is a practice recommended by public health officials to stop or slow down the spread of contagious diseases. It requires the creation of physical space between individuals who may spread certain infectious diseases. The key is to minimize the number of gatherings as much as possible and to achieve space between individuals when events or activities cannot be modified, postponed, or canceled.

Although the Department expects most events with more than 250 attendees to be postponed or canceled, we emphasize that the venue space does matter. Achieving space between individuals of approximately six feet is advisable. Additionally, there is a particular focus on creating space between individuals who have come together on a one-time or rare basis and who have very different travel patterns such as those coming from multiple countries, states or counties.