



Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma
CHAIRMAN

Clark W. Tenakhongva
VICE-CHAIRMAN

Tony Dearman, Director
Bureau of Indian Education
1849 C Street N.W.
MS4657-MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240

April 1, 2020

Dear Mr. Dearman,

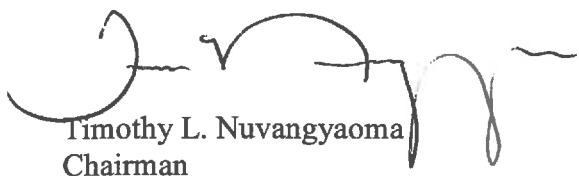
In concurrence with the attached letter from the Chief School Administrators from each of the seven (7) schools on the Hopi Reservation as well as the Director of Hopi Head Start, Childcare and Early Intervention Programs, we write to inform you of the collective decision of Hopi Leadership to extend the closure of our Tribally Controlled Schools through the end of the Academic Year and to suspend the school nutrition programs indefinitely.

This decision was made in consideration of the information provided to the Hopi Tribe from federal agencies and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which predict COVID-19 cases will reach an apex during the month of April and likely extend well into the proceeding months.


Given this projection, to continue with in-person academic instruction and the community nutrition programs, in this precarious atmosphere, would unnecessarily endanger the public health and welfare of our residents, both young and old. Therefore, in an effort to prioritize the Health and safety of our students, parents, staff and stakeholders we have taken what we feel are crucial and necessary precautionary measures.

We are counting on your assistance and support during these uncertain times. Should you have any questions please contact the Office of the Chairman at 928-734-3102 or The Office of the Vice-Chairman at 928-734-3113.

Kwakwhá



Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma
Chairman



Clark W. Tenakhongva
Vice-Chairman

March 30, 2020

Dear Hopi Families:

Effective Monday, March 30, 2020, all Seven School and Early Childhood Education Programs Offices and buildings on the Hopi Reservation will be closed for the remainder of the academic school year.

It is our hope that this letter finds both parents and students well, and in the comfort of your homes as we all adhere to the "Stay at Home" Executive Order #002-2020 that was recently issued by the Hopi Tribal Government. Just as this executive order was issued in the interest of protecting the public health and overall welfare of the Hopi and Tewa People, as well as those residing on the Hopi Reservation, we, too, believe that at this crucial time, we must take responsibility for the health and wellbeing of our students and stakeholders. Therefore, effective Monday, March 30, 2020, the lunch nutrition program shall be cancelled. This will prevent the risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus, which is sweeping across the nation.

The Hopi Tribe, through its Emergency Response Team (HERT) has established an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which residents can contact for the latest information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and any other questions one may have regarding operations, food and water distribution as well as permissible activities for the duration of the Executive Order.

As Hopi School's, we will continue to meet and share any school related information that we receive from the BIE, the State, the County or the Hopi Tribal Government regarding the COVID-19 virus in one collectively written letter. Information will be disseminated through Facebook, US Mail, and the school's usual method(s) of communication.

REINFORCED LEARNING: With the support of the Tribal Council, in closing our Schools this also closes out the Academic School year. Students final Report Card will be based upon all grades earned by the end of School Year 2019-20 Third Quarter. Your child will be promoted to or retained in this report card as noted within the comments. For our Seniors, Hopi High School will be meeting on the graduation requirements and will provide more information at a later date.

However, each school will continue to provide their educational resources as determined by each school's roll -out date. Furthermore, we will continue to support our enthusiastic teachers in continuing what they have established in terms of learning opportunities. In the meantime, we encourage all families to take advantage of this time spent together with your children to work together to find new and creative ways to build and ensure growth within your home. Thank you all so very much for your cooperation in this critical time.

Each of you is essential to the school's mission — and never more so than in this intense and difficult time.

Askwali, Kwakwha, Kuna'a, Kunda, Ahéhee'

