Dear Freshwater Families,

After meeting with County Superintendent Chris Hartley and Senator McGuire today, Freshwater School has decided to close temporarily in response to the COVID-19 virus. This precautionary step is being taken to address social distancing and recommendations by the state, though to our knowledge there are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our county. This was a very difficult decision to make, and one that impacts our learning community greatly but the health and safety of our community is our first priority.

Freshwater School will be closed for the next two weeks from March 16th to March 27th at which time we will evaluate if we will reopen at that time or remain closed. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and update you as new information is received. We will not be offering Independent Study at this time, rather distance learning options will be made available by your child’s teacher beginning next Monday, March 23rd.

This is the plan for Freshwater School this week:

* Teachers will conduct parent conferences via teleconference at your scheduled conference time unless you email them to make other arrangements
* Distance Learning plans for each grade level will be developed and then shared with you by Monday, 3/23
* Drive up breakfast and lunch will be available for pickup between 9:00-9:30 in the parking lot for any families in need starting tomorrow
* Surveys will be sent out via email to better determine the needs of each family

We will continue to keep you updated via text, email, and through our website: [www.freshwatersd.org](http://www.freshwatersd.org)

Please contact the school office or email Mrs. Mintey if we need to update your phone number or email address.

Ultimately, safety is our top priority right now, so please take care of each other during this trying time. We understand the tremendous disruption that a school closure has on families and we are here to support you the best that we can. We have an amazing staff and tremendous parents, so I am confident that together we will get through this!

Thank you for your patience and support at this unprecedented time and please contact me via email if I can be of further assistance.

Warmly,

Si Talty, Superintendent, Freshwater School