March 18, 2020

Dear Silverton ISD Families and Community,

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your continued support and flexibility as we are faced with making very difficult decisions for the safety and well-being of our students, families, and staff during the spread of COVID-19.   
  
We are instituting measures beginning Monday, March 23rd to transition to a distance-learning platform for our students to help slow and hopefully prevent the spread of the virus in our community and district. As such, students will not report to school at the conclusion of Spring Break but will be asked to remain at home during normal school hours to work on instruction and lessons that will be provided in a multitude of formats. Staff will be reporting to school next week in small group rotations to plan and develop the processes that will be in place until it is determined that children and staff can safely return to school in the traditional setting.

**Phase 1: Transition – Monday, March 23rd through Friday, March 27th**

* Students can expect limited instruction and assignments during this time as we allow teachers to adequately prepare for Phase 2.
* An important exchange of information between students and faculty; i.e. breakfast/lunch needs, internet capabilities, Spring Break travel. Each household should expect a call from school personnel starting the week of Monday, March 23rd.
* Detailed distance learning instruction methods will be further explained by the end of the week.
* All student performance will continue to be documented/recorded.

**Phase 2: Implementation beginning Monday, March 30th**

* Teachers will begin delivering more in-depth instruction to our students.
* Increase of communication between student, parent, and teacher as we implement this learning model.

While we cannot know what the future holds at this time, we will continue to evaluate the efforts we are making and the progress of our students. We realize that this will create hardships for many in our community. This decision was not made lightly.

We will continue to keep our families informed during this transition. Please contact the school at 806-823-2476 if you have any questions.

Thank you again for your support. We hope to get back to a traditional setting as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Michelle Francis  
Superintendent, Silverton ISD