

TO: Community of Inyo County  
FROM: Barry Simpson / Inyo County Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 and public school closure status  
DATE: March 16, 2020 (11:00 am)

At this moment, we still have no reports of anyone in Inyo County having tested positive for COVID-19 but that could change at any given moment. In the event that a student or school staff member is reported to have tested positive, the public health department will immediately report it to the school district superintendents.

Currently, all district superintendents and I have been in constant communication and each district, in conjunction with their staff and school board, have made decisions regarding school closure. I think it needs to be stressed, each school district is unique and each may have different abilities in providing services to students safely. School closure is a local decision and I commend each of the district superintendents and their respective school boards for their dedication and hardwork during this stressful time.

Here is the most recent update for our school community:

Round Valley School - School is canceled as of March 16th and will resume March 30th.

Bishop Unified - School is canceled as of March 16th and will resume March 30th.

Big Pine Unified - School remains open on early release schedule March 16th-20th. Spring Break March 23rd-27th.

Owens Valley - School will be canceled as of March 17th and will resume March 31st.

Lone Pine Unified - School will be canceled as of March 17th and will resume March 31st. Spring break moved to March 23-27 from April 13-17.

Death Valley Unified - School remains open. No closures at this time.

Jill Kinmont Boothe School - School is canceled as of March 16th and will resume March 30th.

*\*\*\* Current school closures include Spring Break March 23rd-27th \*\*\**

We will continue to review closure decisions and continue to communicate with the community on this issue. Again, please remember healthy children are at a low risk for serious side effects of this virus. The concern is children with the virus passing it onto others in the high risk category. For this reason, and in an abundance of caution, some of our districts have decided to limit that risk by closing schools. We appreciate your cooperation during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Barry D. Simpson  
Inyo County Superintendent of Schools