

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 13, 2020

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE FOR TO'HAJIILEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

TO'HAJIILEE, NEW MEXICO – The To'hajiilee Community School Board of Education Board of Directors and the Chief School Administrator announce the temporary closure of the To'hajiilee Community School for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade and for all Early Childhood Education Programs (FACE and Pre-K) starting Monday, March 16, 2020. The closure will resume for three weeks and may be extended based on further information received from the Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center, Inc., Navajo Nation Department of Health, New Mexico Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control.

New Mexico Governor Michell Lujan-Grisham, the New Mexico Public Education Department and the New Mexico Department of Health on Thursday announced that New Mexico K-12 public schools will close for three weeks beginning Monday, March 16, in response to the ongoing international novel coronavirus pandemic.

Diné Department of Education stated non-BIE Navajo community schools are autonomous in their decisions to respond during this time. The Navajo Nation Board of Education has expressed similar concerns and supports school closures by resolution at an emergency meeting called this afternoon. To'hajiilee Community School is a border town within proximity to Albuquerque, New Mexico where at least five cases have been confirmed.

To'hajiilee Community School will be providing a grab and go lunch for all enrolled students. Student lunches will be delivered to each home by the Bus Driver that provides transportation to and from school for each student. For students at the East Navajo Housing Area, the buses will be positioned at a central location. Each Driver and Assistant will have a sign out sheet for students to acknowledge receipt for their lunch. Anticipate delivery between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

The Lunch delivery schedule will be in effect from March 16, 2020 through March 27, 2020. March 30, 2020 through April 3, 2020 is the scheduled Spring Break. The school will remain closed at this time and no food services will be available.

Updates will be made available as they are received by the school. The Business Office, School Administrator's Office, Maintenance Department, and Kitchen will be open during the school closure.

All athletics and other events will be cancelled during this time.

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