Dear FUSD Families,

The health and safety of our FUSD family is our number one priority. Today, the Pinal County Health Department directed that San Tan Foothills High School would be temporarily closed beginning Monday, October 12, 2020 until Thursday, October 22 at the earliest. It is imperative to communicate to our FUSD community that the decision made by the Pinal County Health Department was made due to the number of students and staff that are required to self-quarantine and NOT the number of positive cases reported.

Following the decision made by the Pinal County Health Department, San Tan Foothills High School will remain closed for the duration of the quarantine period until Thursday, October 22, 2020. This date is subject to change based upon further advisement from Pinal County Health Department. FUSD recommends that you and your family monitor your health over the next fourteen (14) days and if you experience symptoms of COVID-19, to seek medical care.

➔ Fever
➔ Cough
➔ Sore Throat
➔ Body aches and/or headache
➔ Shortness of breath
➔ Loss of smell and taste

Contact Tracing: Once positive cases are reported to the school, the Pinal County Health Department is notified. The Pinal County Health Department then contacts the individual(s) who tested positive and confirms anyone they have been in close contact with or who may have been exposed. Through this process, it is important to understand that the Pinal County Health Department in coordination with FUSD will notify those individuals and provide direction and necessary safety precautions going forward. Once the District is notified of a confirmed case(s), we will follow the guidance of the health department regarding isolation and/or quarantine protocols.

Quarantine vs. Isolation:
Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. For COVID-19, this means staying home or in a private room with a private bathroom for 14 days after last contact with a person who has COVID-19. Whereas, isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
Close Contact: Close contact for COVID-19 is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

What do you do now?
All San Tan Foothills students will transition to the Distance Learning educational platform used during the first quarter of the school year beginning on Monday, October 12, 2020. School administration and faculty will communicate with parents and students to provide the necessary information and make this transition as seamless as possible.

Florence Unified School District #1 continues to follow CDC and Arizona Department of Health Services COVID-19 guidelines. All of our district schools practice enhanced cleaning, social distancing, hand washing, and the requirement of face masks. Per our established protocol, San Tan Foothills High School will be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. District administration remains in frequent contact with the Pinal County Public Health Department and will take whatever steps necessary to protect the health of our students and staff.

Our goal is to continue to provide in person instruction at all other schools in the District unless the Pinal County Health Department believes it prudent to transition to the Distance Learning platform.

Please remember that proper hygiene is paramount in preventing the spread of COVID-19.
1. Wash your hands often with soap and water.
2. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough and/or sneeze.
3. Stay home when possible.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
5. Wear a mask in public places and maintain safe-social distancing when possible (6 feet).
6. Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces.

Should you feel it necessary, FREE COVID-19 testing is available by appointment through the Pinal County Health Department [website](#) and offered at Poston Butte High School through *Embry Women’s Health*.

FUSD appreciates your understanding, patience and flexibility during this unprecedented time in our country. We acknowledge your concerns and want to assure our families that we will continue to follow the recommendations by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) as well as our state and county health officials as we attempt to navigate this pandemic together.