



August 19, 2021

Dear Salt River Schools Families,

Today I made the decision to close Salt River Elementary School to students and visitors for a two-week period. You can read more about that decision, including virtual learning and drive-thru meal information, at [www.SaltRiverSchools.org](http://www.SaltRiverSchools.org) and click "COVID-19 Notices."

I am sending this message to you to address concerns that our other schools—the Early Childhood Education Center and the Accelerated Learning Academy—will also transition. They will, in fact, continue with in-person learning. We have two (2) active cases at the ECEC and no active cases at the ALA.

The decision to close SRES was not made lightly, nor was it made because of increasing COVID-19 case numbers at SRES. To date, SRES has a total of two (2) test-confirmed individuals with COVID-19. We know staff and students have been following our safety protocols. However, it was determined that one of these individuals may have had close contact with many classrooms; close contact is generally cause for quarantine. Out of an abundance of caution, the decision to transition SRES to virtual learning was made to allow impacted staff and students to isolate at home, get tested if they are experiencing symptoms, and help keep the spread of COVID-19 to a minimum. Transitioning to virtual learning for two weeks also means Public Works can do a deep clean of SRES.

The ECEC and ALA do not have any present COVID-19 exposure concerns. I believe the safety measures we've implemented across Salt River Schools, including SRES, have been working: Face masks are required for everyone, social distancing is practiced, and hand-washing/sanitizing is done throughout the day. Our learning areas are also disinfected multiple times throughout the day. Keeping our COVID numbers low is also a credit to the Community's strong prevention directives, including face masks requirements and vaccination promotions.

Safety is our top priority at Salt River Schools; just as important is providing students with the best education possible, and I believe we are more effective educators when students are taught in-person. Of course, I have the highest regard for our virtual learning experience, but our goal is always to build robust learning relationships with our students, which is tougher to do over the Internet.

Please help us keep our schools open by following all health and safety directives, and please keep your student home if they are presenting flu-like symptoms. If you have questions about COVID-19, its symptoms, and how to stay healthy, visit the COVID-19 Notice link at [www.SaltRiverSchools.org](http://www.SaltRiverSchools.org). **If you have specific questions about COVID-19 testing or vaccine options, please call the SRPMIC COVID-19 Hotline at 480-362-2603.**

Thank you.

Dr. Victoria Corlett  
Interim Acting Superintendent  
[Victoria.Corlett@saltriverschools.org](mailto:Victoria.Corlett@saltriverschools.org)