



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY
PACIFIC REGION
UNIT 35007
APO AP 96376-5007**

March 31, 2020

Dear Pacific East and Pacific South families and employees,

I know you have many questions regarding the reopening of our school facilities to students. The Department of Defense Education Activity Pacific region, in coordination with U.S. Forces Japan, will continue to monitor the environment and reopen schools when it is safe and appropriate to do so. Due to the current health protection conditions in our communities, we will not be able to resume our normal operations on April 13.

Teachers will continue to provide meaningful virtual instruction to students until we are able to reopen our school buildings. Please know that our goal is to make sure students meet the required standards to move on to the next grade level and for seniors to graduate as scheduled, whether that accomplishment is celebrated in person or virtually.

While our teachers continue to provide instruction online, district leaders are working closely with local custodial service providers to ensure schools are cleaned and disinfected according to CDC recommendations. We've modified contracts so that all schools receive a thorough cleaning during the closure, which would not have been possible while students are in the buildings. This cleaning will include the sanitation of surfaces frequently touched by students and employees such as doorknobs and light switches. We are also working to ensure that our schools have the equipment and supplies they need to reopen, such as hand soap and disinfectant surface cleaners.

Families, I thank you for your support as we provide our students with continuity in education through this virtual setting. Please reach out to your child's teacher or principal if you have any questions, concerns, or access issues.

We look forward to welcoming our students back into our classrooms and will be prepared to open as soon as we can do so safely.

Sincerely,

//Signed//

Lois Rapp
Director for Student Excellence
DoDEA Pacific