State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-012

ORDER DIRECTING THE CLOSURE OF ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR

On March 11, 2020, I issued an Order declaring a public health emergency due to the spread of the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") in New Mexico. See Order Declaring A State of Public Health Emergency and Invoking the Powers Provided by the All Hazard Emergency Management Act and the Emergency Licensing Act, Executive Order 2020-004.

Through that Order, I invoked the full measure of my authority under, inter alia, the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 12-10-1 through 12-10-10, and the Public Health Emergency Response Act, NMSA 1978, 12-10A-1 through 12-10A-19. Id. That Order remains in effect and is incorporated by reference herein.

On March 13, 2020, I issued an Order directing the Secretary of Education to close all public schools beginning on March 16, 2020 and extending through at least April 6, 2020 as a necessary response to that public health emergency. See Order Directing the Closure of All Public Schools until April 6, 2020, Executive Order 2020-005.

In the intervening weeks, confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 have increased daily in New Mexico and throughout the United States. It is anticipated that some of the social distancing measures adopted by our State, including school closures, will continue to be an important tool in mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic here in New Mexico in the coming months.

Now, for the reasons stated above and in my previous Orders, and given the existence of a current and pending public health emergency due to the continuing spread of COVID-19 in our State, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, hereby order and direct:

1. All New Mexico public schools shall remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 Academic Year due to the public health emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-004.

2. The Secretary of Education, pursuant to the governing and management authority over all public schools granted to him in NMSA 1978, Section 22-2-1, is hereby directed to exercise all necessary authority to effectuate this Order, and to provide students with alternate learning opportunities to the greatest extent practicable.

This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the Governor rescinds it.

ATTEST:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2020

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Michelle Lujan Grisham

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR