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D 2020 074

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending Executive Orders D 2020 007, D 2020 021, D 2020 035, and D 2020 041 Concerning Suspension of Normal In-Person Instruction at All Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools in the State of Colorado Until the End of the School Year Due to the Presence of COVID-19

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order extending Executive Orders D 2020 007, D 2020 021, D 2020 035, and D 2020 041 concerning suspension of normal in-person instruction due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado until the end of the scheduled 2019-2020 regular school year, at all public and private elementary and secondary schools in Colorado, including public preschools on public school campuses.

I. Background and Purpose

On March 5, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) public health laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) test result in Colorado. Since then, the number of confirmed cases has continued to climb, and there is community spread throughout the State. I verbally declared a disaster emergency on March 10, 2020, and on March 11, 2020, I issued the corresponding Executive Order D 2020 003, as amended by Executive Orders D 2020 018, D 2020 032, and D 2020 058. On March 25, 2020, I requested that the President of the United States declare a Major Disaster for the State of Colorado, pursuant to the Stafford Act. The President approved that request on March 28, 2020.

My administration, along with other State, local, and federal authorities, has taken a wide array of actions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, prevent further spread, and protect against overwhelming our health care resources.

On March 18, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 007 ordering all public and private elementary and secondary schools in Colorado, including public preschools on public school campuses, to suspend normal in-person instruction from March 23, 2020 to April 17, 2020, in an effort to decrease the spread of COVID-19.

On April 1, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 021, extending the suspension of normal in-person instruction until April 30, 2020.

On April 14, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 035, which promoted the provision of emergency child care for essential workers and temporarily suspended certain statutes to enable schools and districts to focus on instruction and student services.

On April 22, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 041, extending the suspension of normal in-person instruction until the end of the scheduled 2019-2020 regular school year.

This Executive Order extends Executive Orders D 2020 007, D 2020 021, D 2020 035, and D 2020 041 for an additional thirty (30) days.

II. Duration

Executive Order D 2020 007, as amended by Executive Orders D 2020 021, D 2020 035, and D 2020 041, and this Executive Order, shall expire thirty (30) days from May 21, 2020, unless extended further by Executive Order. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2020 007, as amended by Executive Orders D 2020 021, D 2020 035, and D 2020 041, shall remain in full force and effect as originally promulgated.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-first day of May, 2020

Jared Polis
Governor