



Springs' Online OPEN Classroom a Success, Springs Food Service Increases Despite COVID-19 Shutdowns

TEMECULA, CA, April 14, 2020 – Springs Charter Schools' OPEN Classroom, a free public open classroom for students in grades K-12, has been a major success since it was launched in March due to the suspension of on-site classroom education in California's schools. In addition to Springs teachers, 150 teachers not employed by Springs have taken advantage of the curriculum, and 4,068 non-Springs have been using the curriculum as well. The students come from all over the U.S., and as far away as the United Kingdom, France, Australia, India, Japan, Canada, Poland and Afghanistan.

Participation in OPEN Classroom allows children to continue their education at home with daily lessons which are free and open to all, whether or not they are Springs students. Springs has curated from the many COVID-19 free resources to build online educational activities for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The high school activities are taken from excerpts of our Springs integrated curriculum. To access the curriculum, visit www.SpringsCS.org/OPEN-Classroom. The program will continue through the end of May, including live lessons, nearly to the end of the school year.

No enrollment is necessary; content is aligned with California state standards. Material has been created and is supported by credentialed teachers, with live classes taught by credentialed teachers four days per week. Weekly lesson plans with materials provided, including parent answer keys and resources. Subjects covered include math, science, language arts and reading.

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Springs Charter Schools' Food Service Increases Efforts Despite COVID-19 Shutdowns

TEMECULA, CA, April 14, 2020 – During the COVID-19 pandemic, Springs Charter Schools' Department of Nutrition Services has continued to provide breakfast and lunch service to families in hardship situations and expanded its service to supply meals to needy families from neighboring school districts during spring break, reported **Holly Hungerford Cocking**, Director of Nutrition Services. Springs is providing "grab-and-go" service at 11 sites in Riverside (at two sites), Temecula, Murrieta, Menifee, Perris, Corona, Hemet, San Jacinto, Vista and Rancho Cucamonga.

The meal service was able to continue after school sites were ordered closed, said Hungerford Cocking, but "we all had to make a drastic shift in our meal service programs very VERY quickly."

In addition to serving Springs students, Springs provided meals to students of nearby districts which had suspended service during spring break. Families arrive to pick up lunch and breakfast for the next day for every child in the household and take the food home to be eaten there.

Hungerford Cocking continued, "This health crisis caused a massive life change for everyone, and families that rely on school meals for their children were not prepared to suddenly have them at home full time. Factor in the loss of income or health and more families than ever may be struggling to make ends meet under increasingly scary circumstances. It's increasingly critical that we continue providing access to meals for children to keep our community healthy and resilient."

Media information: Holly Hungerford Cocking, holly.hungerfordcocking@springscs.org

Springs Charter Schools are tuition-free, public schools of choice serving more than 9,000 California school children and their parents. Many Springs parents choose to homeschool full-time, while others choose two to five days per week of a blended model that includes classroom instruction with home study. Springs serves students in student centers in the Counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Orange and Los Angeles. Springs Charter Schools' administrative offices are located at 27740 Jefferson Avenue, Temecula, CA 92590. Phone: (951) 252-8800. Website: www.springscharterschools.org.

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