

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”) Pandemic is causing widespread human and economic impacts to Poudre School District R-1 (“Poudre School District”) located in Larimer County, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Pandemic is causing a public health emergency in Poudre School District by generating multiple disruptions and impacts on healthcare infrastructure and continuity of Poudre School District that may cause delays or interrupt capacity to deliver necessary services; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency and signed an executive order on March 11, 2020 as a safeguard against the further spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, a local emergency in the unincorporated area of Larimer County was declared; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Poudre School District announced plans for a short-term closure of schools to include the Spring Break period of March 16, 2020 through March 20, 2020, plus an additional one week period, through March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020 Governor Polis signed an executive order suspending normal in-person instruction in all public and private elementary and secondary schools in Colorado, from March 23, 2020 to April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interests of public health and safety to rapidly address community spread of the COVID-19 virus and subsequent cascading impacts such as economic distress, and would further protect the health and safety of the public, to declare an emergency in Poudre School District; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic are likely to be far in excess of Poudre School District’s available resources; and

WHEREAS, declaration of a local disaster emergency will assist and permit access to local emergency funds, Federal and State assistance, adjustments to policies, procedures, and ordinances to ensure the public’s health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent, as chief executive officer of Poudre School District, is authorized to unilaterally declare a local disaster pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. There is hereby declared to be a local disaster emergency in Poudre School District, to wit, the occurrence of imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or

property, resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage.

2. The effect of this Declaration shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.
3. This Declaration shall be effective upon the date and time given below, and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless rescinded or extended by the Poudre School District Board of Education prior to expiration.
4. True copies of this Declaration shall be promptly filed with the Larimer County Clerk and Recorder and the Colorado Division of Emergency Management, and shall be given prompt and general publicity.

Signed and effective this 20th day of March, 2020, at 6:24 p.m.

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Smyser". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sandra Smyser
Superintendent of Schools