



# FMCV Newsletter

## First Mesa Consolidated Villages

Volume 1, No. 2  
April 20, 2020

### First Mesa Consolidated Villages

#### •VILLAGE ENTRANCE RESTRICTIONS:

Visitors, Non-Residents, Non-Tribal Members

#### •REMAIN-AT-HOME:

Help Stop the Spread of the Coronavirus.

#### •RESTRICT TRAVEL:

Essential travel only

#### •SOCIAL DISTANCING:

Keep distance at 6' apart

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## Village Members Test Positive for Coronavirus

The First Mesa Consolidated Villages (FMCV) was informed on April 16 that two of its village members had tested positive for the novel coronavirus. Patients have been hospitalized and are reported to be doing better. No further information is available.

On April 17, a family member of another confirmed individual contacted FMCV requesting assistance for the person who will move

to First Mesa to self-quarantine (patient is from First Mesa but resides at another location).

IHS reported on April 17, that the number of confirmed cases at Hopi Health Care Center had increased to 25.

“It is deeply concerning that the virus is now in our community,” said FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney. “It is critical that everyone

takes this seriously and adhere to the *Visitor Entrance Restrictions, the Remain-At-Home and Travel Restriction Orders* by FMCV leadership. We need to remain vigilant for the safety and protection of our families. If you must go out, remember to practice social distancing. **Gatherings at the Youth Basketball Court must cease immediately as well as Bingos in homes!**”

## Local Schools Revert to Remote Learning

With only weeks remaining in the 2019-2020 school year, schools across the nation were mandated to shut down due to the coronavirus pandemic. Local Hopi Schools have also closed for the remainder of the school year.

“Given the current COVID19 crisis,” the US Dept. of Education Director sent a letter to the BIE Director, “waiving BIE’s Title I Responsibilities of Assessment and Accountability for the 2019-2020 school year.”

Although Campuses have

closed, the First Mesa Elementary School (FMES), Keams Canyon Elementary School (KCES) and Hopi Jr. Sr. High School (HJSHS) will continue academic instruction via remote learning. Schools are operating with limited staff to carry out essential functions of extended learning.

**Polacca Head Start** is closed for the remainder of the school Year.

**FMES** has issued Home work assignments, requiring students to study at home and turn in weekly

assignments (Page 3).

**KCES** has implemented on-line distance learning and working weekly with parents (Page 3).

**HJSHS** has also implemented on-line distance learning and will use several web-based programs for instruction (Page 4).



## FREE Wi-Fi Available to Students at FMCV Community Building

For the past two weeks, NAU technicians have been installing eduroam antennas around the State to bring free wireless internet to K–12/College students for on-line classes.

Eduroam antennas were installed at the FMCV community center, Hopi High School, Tewa Village and the Peace Academic Institution on the Hopi Reservation. Students can now access the Wi-Fi in the parking lots, for their classes. **PASSWORD: HEDStudent**

On April 1, FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney called a tele-conference meeting with NAU to see how they could assist upgrading the system at the Community Building for students to drive-up and access internet in the parking lot.

April 9, Gov. Doug Ducey, also, announced the need for Wi-Fi access in rural communities for on-line classes. Hotspots across the State were identified; including FMCV, Hopi High School, Tewa Village and Peace Academy.

“With the remoteness and limited infrastructure at Hopi, more bandwidth and upgrades are critical to meet the growing demand for on-line learning,” said Sidney. “NAU and NPC receive signal for their Video and tele-conference classes through the tower on Antelope Mesa. The system is in dire need of upgrades and fiber optics to provide fast, reliable and clear connection. The FMCV leadership supports internet and on-line learning as the new norm or learning and approves use of its physical & natural resources on Antelope Mesa.”

*Today academics and students are highly mobile and education is no longer limited to a physical classroom or lab.*

**FMCV Community Building  
FREE Parking Lot Wi-Fi  
Password: HEDStudent**



**FREE TUTORING**  
available for k-12 student  
on-line classes.  
Call FMCV for scheduling.  
**Tutors: Daniel Lim, Chan Lim**  
former HHS graduates

## First Mesa Elementary School

According to information posted on the First Mesa Elementary School website, FMES will be closed for the remainder of the school year.

“In closing our school, this also closes out the 2019-2020 Academic School year. FMES will provide

assignments online or through paper based educational resources, which will be mailed to all students up until May 8, 2020. Parents should contact teachers for further instructions.”

A drop off location for homework assignments has been set up out-

side the building. Drops offs are available Mon-Wed 10am to 12:30pm. Parents are reminded to communicate with teachers to ensure homework is received

For information, call the school at 928-737-2581 Mon-Thurs, 10am to 2pm. FMES is closed on Fridays.

## Keams Canyon Elementary School

With the closure of schools, Keams Canyon Elementary School continues to provide guidance and instructional support for their students and parents. We initially began our first week of instruction with paper packets and information on how to access our online learning platforms that had already been established in our daily instruction at school. Unfortunately, we made the decision to discontinue the paper packets and solely utilize the online learning platforms. This decision was determined based on the stay at home orders through the Hopi Tribe as well as information from the CDC and length of time the Coronavirus remains on contact surfaces. Although this was a difficult decision to make, the safety and welfare of our students and staff were of utmost importance!

We recognize the frustrations and limitations this has placed on numerous families. Teachers have continuously reached out to their families to provide the necessary support in accessing the sites, walking them through the lessons, and most importantly, giving the social/emotional support through these uncertain times. Many parents had raised anxiety because they had limited technology to support their child with distance learning. Teachers reassured parents to do the best they can with what they have. If they were unable to access the online sites, students were not penalized but rather were given alternatives in learning.

Teachers and support staff have been attending weekly Zoom meetings and share their insights, concerns, and celebrations of distance learning. As instructional staff, we have experienced the same frustrations with the technology infrastructure within our communities which makes accessing the sites limited during peak hours throughout the day. Understanding the limita-

tions of our stakeholders, it was determined that we needed to change the approach to distance learning. Teachers began phasing their daily lessons to two online learning platforms and more focus on the social/emotional well-being of our students and their families. As an AVID school, students have made personal connections with our monthly cultural values which we didn't want to lose sight of; therefore, we are encouraging our families to become healthy physically, emotionally, and spiritually! In response to this shift in learning, many parents were grateful!

Keams Canyon Elementary School is among thousands of schools in rural areas nationwide that are working to make improvements in technology that supports virtual learning. To prepare for the unknown, we are beginning with our teachers and supporting them by providing professional development to help them become technologically developed to support students in a virtual learning environment. We cannot change the infrastructure immediately, however, we can bring change to our instructional staff. Providing the necessary tools to empower our teachers and support staff is our need at this time. We do see this as an opportunity for growth locally, tribally, and nationally!

Keams Canyon Elementary School encourages everyone to follow our local leadership directives by remaining at home, following sanitization procedures, and seeking immediate medical attention if you are experiencing Covid19 symptoms. To our KCES families and students, we miss you!

Questions may be directed to the principal, Mr. Gary Polacca at (928) 738-2385.

Thank You.

Kim Thomas, Lead Teacher

## Food Shopping Vouchers Available For Elderly 65+ and Disabled Individuals

During this emergency crisis, First Mesa Consolidated Villages (FMCV) has partnered with Hopi Traders in Keams Canyon to issue food vouchers to the Elderly 65+ and to the disabled. Vouchers can be used to purchase individual food needs.

The food voucher fund was made possible through the generous donations of Mike Sweat of United Rain LLC and Marriott Hotels CEO.

Mike Sweat of United Rain, LLC., contacted Ivan Sidney, FMCV Administrator, stating he wanted to make a donation to FMCV to help during this emergency crisis.

"I am the founder of the organization and have established good relationships with people in First Mesa," said Sweat. "We have been making annual Christmas donations to First Mesa for the past 25 years and recently to Shungpovy Village."

Sidney also received a phone call from Marriott Hotels CEO stating he wanted to give to FMCV.

"This was a surprising call since FMCV did not ask for any emergency donations. I informed him that all Hopi Tribe emergency donations go to HERT. However, he clarified that this donation was for FMCV."

Earlier in March, Sidney was also visited by the First Mesa Church Board at the request of Sr. Pastor Taeil Lim, informing him they also wanted to make a donation to the FMCV Emergency Plan of Action.

In all instances, the traditional leadership had to approve acceptance of the donations, as FMCV Does Not Solicit monetary assistance.

**Elderly Coordinators and Church organizations are encouraged to submit names of individuals to the FMCV Office, as soon as possible.**

## Impacts of Distant Learning on Early Childhood Education

"The value of school isn't just reading textbooks and doing homework, but in learning how to be a person: socializing, making friends and playing with classmates, celebrating playground victories and learning to accept disappointments.

For kids with unstable home lives, going to school also offers affection and support from trustworthy authority figures and friends, as well as being provided with hot meals or

respite from abuse. Research has found that even in situations where distance learning is well planned, it doesn't produce nearly the same results as in-person instruction in a formal school setting.

Parents/grandparents are expected to work and supervise lessons and unfamiliar with the curriculum. Outcomes can be significant.



## Hopi Jr. Sr High School Implements On-line Learning

In preparation for on-line learning, HJSHS surveyed students to see how many students had home internet and computers and laptops.

HJSHS then assigned 400 laptops to students, who did not have computers, to be used for on-line

classes. Passwords for hot spots were also issued.

Instructions and curriculum for HJSHS Distant Learning Program is available on the Hopi Jr. Sr. High School web page.

Several web-based programs will be used by HJSHS including the Gali-

leo Program which most students have used for assessments and testing and are familiar with the program. Other programs that will be used are Moodle, Zoom and Skype Video Conferencing, Virtual Classroom, Google Classroom and other Web-stream programs.



## Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I am Daniel Lim from Polacca. I graduated from Hopi High School in 2017, and currently a junior at Dartmouth College. I am writing to share my project proposal with you and the Hopi community members.

I wish to start an online reading group, lead by myself and few other college students, for motivated middle and high school students on the Hopi Reservation. Students willing to participate in the reading group will submit a short application, and if selected, be assigned to a group leader. Group leaders will be academically strong undergraduate students or recent graduates, and be in charge of posting assignments, feedback and facilitating discussions for the respective group. Group leaders will present students with challenging materials for reading, but the workload should be relatively light. As flexible and casual the reading

groups may be, students should also be committed, to avoid lagging group dynamic.

This project will be helpful for students on the Hopi Reservation. As I know from my own educational experience in Hopi, a lot of talented, motivated, and intellectual students can achieve more with proper attention, opportunity, and encouragement.

Project Achievement Goals:

1. Help Hopi students become stronger readers and writers. Reading and writing are extremely important components to performing well on college admissions tests and in college.
2. Connect Hopi students with successful college students. Group leaders will provide academic feedback, and act as mentors for student academic endeavors and college admissions.
3. Challenge students to see that college is a dream they can

achieve. Through the program, students and leaders establish trusting friendships and students are able to feel that pursuing higher education is a realistic option.

As of now, I hope the program can run at least to the end of this year's summer, but depending on the turnout, we may plan to continue for an extended period of time.

There will be No Cost to the student; however, group leaders will need to purchase physical or digital books for the students. If any institutions, organizations, or individuals are willing to donate to the Project, they may contact me at: [gun.lim.21@dartmouth.edu](mailto:gun.lim.21@dartmouth.edu)

If this program is launched, it will be a great opportunity for motivated students. I hope to return with more information in the near future.

Thank you for your time,  
Daniel Lim

First Mesa  
Consolidated Village  
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Louella Furcap  
928-737-2670

## THIS IS YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

If you would like  
to share news  
with the  
community,  
please send to  
FMCV, Attn:  
Newsletter

During this time  
of Social  
Distancing we  
will accept Shout  
Outs - birthdays  
& congratulations

*Happy  
Birthday  
Wunu!*

*Happy  
Anniversary  
Mr & Mrs  
Furcap!*

## The Thirteenth Chick Children Obey Your Parents

The bright, blue sky and warm sunshine should have made Tommy feel like running and jumping for joy, but Tommy was not feeling very happy at the time being away from his friends. With that frown on his face, you would have known he was not a happy boy.

Tommy and his brother and sister were visiting at their grandparents' farm house where there were so many places to play and many interesting things to do.

A few minutes earlier, Grandmother had said, "Tommy, you will have to stay home today because you did not come to dinner when you were called. Your brother and sister are going to take a ride into town today with Grandpa to buy a few things. When you learn to obey, you will not have to be punished."

Now Tommy was sorry that he had not obeyed when Grandma had called him. How he wished he could be riding in the truck going to town with Grandpa. As brother and sister climbed into the truck, Tommy ran and hid behind the old wood shed, because he did not want to see the happy smiles on his brother and sister's faces.

Tommy sat behind the old shed and wanted to blame Grandma for not allowing him to ride into town with Grandpa, but he knew, that would not be fair. He knew it was his own fault that he had to be punished.

The frown did not leave his face until a mother hen and her thirteen baby chicks came around the shed and stopped near him. "She is a good mother," said Tommy to himself as he watched the hen and her little balls of yellow fluff. He liked to hear their tiny "peep-peep" and mother hen's "cluck-cluck."

Tommy counted the chicks again but there was only twelve in sight. He looked around to see where the thirteenth chick had gone.

At that moment the mother hen began clucking sharply. Twelve little balls of yellow fluff scurried to her. The next instant there was not a single baby chick in sight. They were safely hidden under their mother's wings.

But where was the thirteenth baby chick? Tommy looked around again. Suddenly a shadow moved slowly over the shed. He looked up quickly and saw a huge hawk circling in the sky. Just as the hawk swooped down swiftly, Tommy jumped to his feet! Where was the thirteenth chick?

Tommy quickly ran toward a big rock a few yards away, when he heard a tiny "peep-peep." Had the baby chick seen the hawk? Had it heard the mother hen's warning cluck? Tommy didn't know, but the poor little fluff ball was huddled close to the ground.

Tommy quickly picked up the chick and cuddled it in his two warm hands, as he glanced up to see where the hawk was. Afraid of the boy, no doubt, and seeing that its prey was no longer in sight, the hawk was circling again.

Tommy carried the chick back to the softly clucking mother hen and placed it carefully down on the ground and watched it quickly disappear among its mother's soft feathers.

"Little chick," said Tommy "you almost got into bad trouble by not obeying your mother! I guess you need to learn the same bible verse, "Children obey your parents!" Next time I don't want to obey, I will say, "Tommy, remember the thirteenth chick."