



HUGHES SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hughes Springs Independent School District
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Hughes Springs, Texas 75656
(903) 639-3800 • FAX (903) 639-2624

March 14, 2020
5:00 pm

HSISD Families –

The Cass County & Morris County superintendents met this morning to discuss and review all the information that has been made available to us by the CDC, DSHS, and TEA and to discuss the many challenges we face in regard to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We will continue to communicate and share information, so we can make the best decisions for the students of our counties.

Out of an abundance of caution and to give our staff adequate time to plan for the many unknowns ahead of us, I have decided to close the district for the week of March 16 – 20, 2020.

That means there will be no classes, athletic practices, UIL practices or events of any kind!

Currently, the plan is for school to resume on Monday, March 23, 2020.

During this next week, our staff will work to develop plans should we be ordered by the state to close for an extended period.

We have been advised by the state that should there be extended closures, we need to have a plan to offer instructional services to our students. Please understand that this is a complex matter in our rural area, as many students do not have readily available technology and internet access.

We also must plan for how to offer meals to students who may need them, should we have extended closures.

Also, at this time, the state has not offered us much leniency regarding the mandatory 75,600 minutes we are required to be in school during a school year.

So, it is a possibility that we will have to add days (or extend the hours of our school days) to our calendar to meet the mandatory minimum of 75,600 minutes.

Unfortunately, at this time, I have more questions than answers. I understand that you probably do as well. I am working hard to find those answers for us.

We are in an unprecedented situation for our country, our state, our counties and our district.

The situation is very fluid and will remain that way for some time.

What I can tell you is that our administrative team and our board are committed to the education, safety and health of our students. I promise you we will work tirelessly to make the best decisions and plans for our families and students.

The most important thing we can do is remain calm, clear headed and stick to factual information provided to us by the CDC, DSHS, State of Texas and TEA.

I have seen a lot of false information floating around out there, particularly on social media. A lot of this false information appears to be from legitimate sources – however, it is not.

Please be cognizant of what you share and information you spread.

The CDC, DSHS and TEA all have websites dedicated to information regarding COVID-19. Those are the sources you should trust.

I will release more information in due course, as plans are made and finalized. Please be patient; we are working diligently.

Sincerely,

Sarah Dildine
HSISD Superintendent

Note for HSISD Staff - Please watch your email as I will be sending out more information to you regarding work schedules for this next week. For those of you who do not have email, your immediate supervisor will be communicating with you.