



Hughes Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 20, 2020

Mustang Family –

The Hughes Springs Independent School District understands the magnitude and the importance of a back to school plan and how it affects all our families.

Our staff is continuously working to develop plans that center around two objectives:

- 1) focusing on the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and community, and
- 2) providing a rigorous and inspiring education to ALL students while also addressing their social and emotional needs.

After weighing the benefits and drawbacks of on-campus instruction and virtual instruction, we believe on-campus instruction is the very best option to address the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students.

We also understand why some parents are hesitant to send their child to school and we understand the concerns they may have as well.

With that said, we will offer on-campus instruction to all students and virtual instruction in grades 3rd – 12th only.

We will not be offering a virtual instruction option for grades Pre-Kindergarten – 2nd.

Early childhood education is about so much more than academics; it is also about the social and emotional skills those students learn in the classroom. Those critical early years form the necessary foundation children need to become lifelong learners. Without the proper foundation, students will struggle for the rest of their academic lives.

Effective reading instruction should be teacher-directed and include the use of modeling, thinking aloud, questioning, summarizing, and other techniques that promote active

construction of literacy. These critical components of early childhood education simply cannot be replicated in a virtual environment.

On-campus instruction also provides the schedule, boundaries, expectations, and interactions that young children so desperately need.

We certainly respect the right of parents to make educational decisions for their child and understand they may choose to homeschool or choose another virtual school in lieu of sending their Pre-Kindergartener, Kindergartener, 1st Grader or 2nd Grader to HSISD for on-campus instruction.

In the coming weeks we will be releasing a large amount of information to our families. We will post notices on social media and send emails when information is posted to the new “Back to School” page on our website, www.hsisd.net.

We ask for you to review all the information we release; it is vital to our shared success.

Please feel free to contact our campus principals with any questions you may have.

Please know that the decisions we have made regarding the 2020-2021 school year have not come lightly.

We appreciate the outstanding support and cooperation of our students, staff, and community during this unprecedented time.

It’s a great day to be alive, and a Mustang!

Sincerely,

Sarah Dildine	Van Hall	Billy Willis	Robyn Shelton
Superintendent	Board President	Board Vice President	Board Secretary
Phillip Chapman	Scott Nelson	Deanna Putman	Robert Johnson
Board Member	Board Member	Board Member	Board Member