

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

March 16, 2020



Dear Montgomery ISD Family

I apologize for interrupting your spring break, but I have some important news to share. **Out of an abundance of caution and to slow the spread of the coronavirus and safeguard the well-being of our students and staff, Montgomery ISD is suspending normal operations until Monday, April 13, 2020, with a plan to reevaluate on April 6th.** During this three week period, all Montgomery ISD facilities will be closed for instruction and all other functions until further notice, including UIL events, athletics, rentals, field trips, after school programs, and other campus activities. MISD will continue to operate at Level 3 as detailed below.

Montgomery ISD continues to work closely with our local health department, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Texas Education Agency, School Board, and the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to monitor the rapidly evolving Coronavirus pandemic. The Board of Trustees will hold an emergency meeting tomorrow to take important actions to help the District continue operations during the closure. The Board will consider taking action to benefit students and staff including:

- Appropriate funds to ensure our schools are ready to reopen, including additional deep cleaning
- Consider any state waivers necessary for student attendance and food service for eligible students
- Take action to make sure employees continue to be paid during closure

The closure provides time to assess the situation, respond to ever changing developments and evaluate the approach for the coming weeks. In the coming days, we will be announcing plans to provide at home instructional services for all students while schools are closed. We hope these actions will instill calm and confidence in the Montgomery ISD community, thus alleviating some of the anxieties families have felt concerning the health of their children attending school. If necessary, additional District communications related to COVID-19 will be via major media, School Messenger, District social media, and the District website.

Sincerely,

Dr. Beau Rees
Superintendent of Schools

MISD Level 1: No reported cases in the area	MISD Level 2: Cases in region, but not in local area	MISD Level 3: Reported local cases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor attendance and communicate with Montgomery County Health Department • Communicate to parents to keep sick children home • Communicate to staff to stay home if sick • Review Business Continuation Plan and Pandemic Plans; Begin daily departmental briefings for communication updates • Review National Incident Management System (incident command), Multihazard Emergency Operations Procedures, and Parent-Child Reunification Plans • Communicate online and to campuses the precautions to avoid spreading COVID-19 • Frequently clean common areas including door hardware, bus seats, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor attendance and communicate with Montgomery County Health Department • Communicate to parents to keep sick children home • Communicate to staff to stay home if sick • Develop contingency plans and review Business Continuation Plan • Potentially limit all unnecessary travel • Potentially limit large gatherings to only essential events or consider postponing essential events • Potentially limit/restrict outside visitors and guests • Potentially restrict outside food deliveries to facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider closing campuses, feeder areas, entire district in consultation with the Montgomery County Health Department • Communicate to parents the extent of closures, length, and school work accommodations • In the event of campus closures, communicate to staff which staff members are to report to duty to maintain services • Cancel all school events and building rentals • Cancel all travel • Cancel all events • Clean all areas

