



Dear Pleasanton ISD families,

Before and during spring break, Pleasanton ISD has continued to actively monitor developments regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) in conjunction with local and state public health officials and Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

With the declaration of a public health emergency by the City of San Antonio regarding social distancing for groups larger than 500 and the alert from the World Health Organization designating COVID-19 as a pandemic, we understand that proactive measures are superior to reactive measures in terms of controlling the number of new cases.

Therefore, because of the rapidly evolving nature of this situation and out of an abundance of caution, Pleasanton ISD is joining other San Antonio area districts to close schools the week of March 16 – 20 to help prevent exposure to students, staff and the community.

We do not make this decision lightly. I fully realize it presents significant difficulties to working parents who have young, school-aged children. But we are hopeful that these measures will better ensure the long-term health and safety of children, staff, and the larger community. We will work with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) regarding whether the canceled days will need to be made up.

Additionally, all extracurricular activities, practices and athletic events are suspended while we are closed.

We are exploring opportunities with our Child Nutrition department regarding the possibility of food distribution during the closure and will share more information later if this is a possibility.

We will also take this week to further clean schools and buses and resupply custodial and nursing supplies.

The coronavirus is thought to be spread via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge you to speak to your child about the following prevention measures:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.

As you know, this is a rapidly-developing issue. We will remain in close communication with local and state health authorities and will provide updates to our community. Thank you for your support of Pleasanton ISD schools.

Dr. Matthew Mann

Superintendent