

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 – Parent Zoom Meeting Summary

1. Topics discussed:

- *state of the school shutdown
- *at-home instruction
- *the feeding program for students
- *statewide testing (STAAR)

- A. Update on the current status of the school shutdown. Late last week, the Governor announced that all school across the state to be shut down through April 3rd. At this time, the Governor has not provided any insight if that date will be extended. Our local officials will continue to work with state officials in deciding what is best for our local community and schools.

The UIL extended their suspension of UIL activities, practices and events. Those activities are scheduled to resume on May 4th. Yesterday afternoon, UIL announce that during the statewide school suspension, remote learning/coaching of UIL activities is allowed through electronic, video or teleconferencing type methods. We are currently trying to figure out what this actually means and looks like. But physical practices and activities are still suspended.

- B. Update on at-home Instruction: We have all been pushed into uncharted territories with COVID as it relates to providing at-home instruction for the masses. I would like to applaud our teachers for their efforts in jumping right in and getting things moving as soon as possible. Of course, things aren't perfect, but we are working hard each day to make quality instruction that is assessible to all students.

I know there are hurdles out there for us to overcome. I ask that you please keep in close communication with your child's teacher expressing what those specific hurdles look like for you. I have asked our staff to continue to communicate with you. We want to hear how things are going and how we can better provide for our students.

- C. Feeding Program: AISD began our feeding program yesterday morning. Meals are prepared for a Stop-N-Go pickup at the elementary campus. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. These times and location will be evaluated throughout the and will be adjusted if needed. It may be possible for additional sites for pickup to be established. I will have more on this early next week.

But in the meantime, the district is asking that all students needing a lunch provided, to please call the elementary office by 9:00 a.m. M-F. The office is open from 7:30 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. We want to make sure that we have prepared enough food.

- D. TESTING (STAAR): The Governor announced last week that he has waived all STAAR testing for this year. The US department of Education announced over the weekend that they too would waive all federal accountability of testing and would accept the waiver from the state. So what does that mean? It means that our students will not take a STAAR test this year. Any student in the SSI years, such as 5th & 8th grades, and all EOC graduation requirements will be assessed based on a holistic approach, by using the current data that we already have and a grade placement committee can decide whether or not the student met the criteria for the SSI year.

- E. In close, I want to say thank you to all of you for your efforts in not only fulfilling your responsibilities as a parent, but now the extra duty to ensure that your child is completing their daily assignments from home. I've seen some funny videos and comments from parents and their struggles of co-teaching from home. I understand that the struggle is real. But please know that we are here to assist you and your child in completing their assignments. Please email, call me, the campus principal's and/or your child's teacher. Currently both campuses are open during the day. We are however limiting access into the building but we are here to receive your call and be the support as we attempt to continue educating our students during this strange time that we are living in.