



June 10, 2020

Once again I would like to thank you, parents, students, staff, and community, for all of your hard work in helping us finish out this crazy 19-20 school year. It is one that I am sure we will all never forget! We are so proud of the class of 2020 and thankful that we were able to send them off with a graduation ceremony. Thank you to all of those involved in helping us accomplish that.

With the close of 19-20, I hope that everyone gets rested for another successful year to come. There is still work that must be done to prepare for what is still an uncertain time in front of us. Our prayer is to have all of our students and staff back on campus and all of the busyness of school going full tilt, but we are very aware of what is happening in society and with this pandemic. That being said, we must be prepared to educate the 1,700 students of Rains ISD in a manner that prepares them for life after Rains ISD but also keeps them safe.

We have received many questions about summer school, summer camps, UIL activities, and back to school. We would like to answer a few of those questions here.

1. **How will Rains ISD be handling summer instruction?** All summer instruction will be done online or with packets being sent to the student. With the guidance provided by the Texas Education Agency and the plans that must be made to be fully prepared for the 20-21 school year, we felt this would be the safest avenue for staff and students.
2. **Will Rains ISD/Rains ISD employees be hosting any summer camps?** At this time, per TEA and UIL guidance, we will not host any of our normal summer camps. There is always the possibility that this could change throughout the summer. Please be watching our social media pages for updates on these.
3. **Are school facilities open?** School facilities are only being used in conjunction with UIL-approved activities and in preparation for instruction for the fall of 20-21.
4. **When will school start for the 20-21 school year?** We have adopted a calendar that has Rains ISD students starting school on August 13th. That being said, we are supposed to be getting guidance from TEA in the upcoming week about the fall.
5. **What will the fall look like?** As mentioned earlier, our goal is always to have all of our students back on campus. One change that will take place this year is that our school board has approved a purchase of Chromebooks so that each K-12 student will have a device checked out to them when school starts. This will help with transitions we will have to make throughout the school year when we experience “disruptions in learning” caused by COVID-19. When planning for screening and sanitizing, we may need to extend our school day a little. ***Please note, we are still in conversation as to how some things will work.***

As always, I must remind you that this is the information that we have today. As we get continuing guidance from TEA, UIL, and the state, this may change.

Jennifer Johnson, Supt. Rains ISD