

Friday, September 18, 2020

Dear Hudson ISD Parents,

Good morning. In an effort to remain transparent and keep you aware of school happenings, I am providing the following very important information. Please do not disregard reading this notice in its entirety. Have a wonderful Friday and a great weekend.

**COVID-19 Update:**

As of today, Hudson ISD has 2268 students enrolled in On-Campus instruction. Of these numbers, we currently have five (5) students that are under self-isolation due to receiving a positive COVID-19 test. This is only 0.2% of students we are serving on campus. However, due to close-contact tracing, we have about 115 students/staff that are being quarantined and not allowed to return until after the incubation period has expired.

While it is always uncertain as to where individuals may have contracted the virus, nearly all of our cases seem to be linked to family relationships. Most have reported family members that were previously positive.

Your help is needed. In many of our cases, students came to school symptomatic. While we do not wish to assume that any symptom experienced is COVID, several of these cases were students that were in contact at some point with a family member who had been diagnosed previously. Regardless of the quarantine periods, additional precaution should be made. Please do not send students to school that are ill or experiencing multiple symptoms. If you have any questions regarding symptoms or illnesses, please contact Shalana Hyde, HISD Director of Nursing, at 936-875-9207. Failure to follow proper guidance leads to multiple individuals unnecessarily having to quarantine.

**Hudson Athletics/UII Concerns:**

Some of you are aware that UII mandates that spectators at events strictly adhere to face-mask mandates and social distancing. The league has hinted that noncompliance could lead to bans on spectators attending games or outright cancellation of sports altogether. While we all may have our personal opinions regarding required mitigation measures, failure to comply with requirements could be detrimental to our student programs. We are asking that everyone take personal responsibility when attending games for the sake of our players, if for no other reason. It is all of our responsibility to model appropriate behavior and support the efforts to mitigate COVID-19 at school events.

**Remote Learning:**

We currently have 19% of students in Remote Learning (Asynchronous Instruction). This percentage does not include the number of students out for 'temporary remote instruction' due to quarantine. Of this 19%, **there is a substantial number of students failing one or more courses**. It is imperative that you check grades within Family Access (Skyward), not through the learning platform, to obtain the current grades of

students. With proper support and parent supervision, many of our students are performing very well. However, we must continue to emphasize that if remote learning is not working for your family, we encourage you to consider returning to on-campus instruction. This can be done at any time. The requirement to wait the entire 9-week period was lifted previously, as parents were asked to contact the campus principals for guidance. I am very concerned about the number of students that are experiencing 'COVID Slide' in regards to academics. Please contact your child's campus directly with any questions/concerns that you may be experiencing.

As we continue to fight through this battle of COVID-19, we must all work together for the sake of our children. We must provide mitigation measures, comply with current legal policies, and offer remote instruction for the entirety of the school year. However, we must also be mindful to properly balance health considerations with academic expectations. This is a difficult time for everyone. We hope and pray that this situation is short-lived. Thanks again and God bless you all.

Donny Webb, Superintendent  
Hudson ISD