

December 2, 2020

To the Parents and Guardians of Lefors ISD Students,

Notice: Suspension of Voluntary Virtual Remote Learning

Since the beginning of school, the administration has been reviewing student academic performance and attendance data on all of our students in the LISD. Unfortunately, large portions of voluntary virtual learners are not fulfilling the expectations for academic engagement and attendance as clarified in the student handbook. Several of our virtual learners are not making the academic progress necessary to be promoted to the next grade. We have attempted to work closely with all of the virtual learners to remove barriers such as internet connectivity, devices, and at home learning strategies. We believe it is in the best interest of students to return to in-person, on campus instruction as soon as possible.

Please know that the decision to end voluntary options was not taken lightly. After much deliberation, I have decided to suspend voluntary virtual learning options for students in the LISD with only a few exceptions. The exceptions include those students who receive a positive COVID-19 test result, are quarantined due to exposure risks, have documented medical reasons, or meet other specific and unique criteria.

Beginning Tuesday, January 5, 2021, Lefors ISD will end voluntary virtual instruction and expect all students who selected this option who do not meet the exceptions to return to in-person instruction as soon as possible. Should you have questions or want to inquire on special circumstances, please contact Mrs. Porter. Students and staff have been and will continue to follow all COVID-19 safety guidelines established in the Back to School Plan, including wearing masks during the school day and school-sponsored events and activities. Our data indicate that our efforts to minimize the exposure to and spread of the COVID-19 virus are working. We feel that it is a safe and academically sound decision to encourage students to return to on-campus learning.

We recognize and respect that some parents and students may prefer a different option. We are not mandating that your family return to school. We suggest that you make a decision that is right for you and your student(s). If you plan to unenroll your child, please make arrangements with Mrs. Porter to return all district-owned technology and resources. Should you choose to pursue alternative means of education for your student, below is a partial list of available educational possibilities that meet compulsory education laws:

- Come to school for in-person, on-campus learning
- Withdraw your child to homeschool (a signed form is required for this)
- Transfer your child to another district offering voluntary virtual instruction
- Utilize the Texas Virtual Academy or another online school program (public or private)

We genuinely hope that you choose to return to in-person, on-campus learning. We will continue to monitor our data and the situation and will make modifications as necessary for future decisions. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate these unprecedented situations for our students, staff, and our families. The Lefors ISD and the Board of Trustees are committed to our mission of producing learners who are compassionate, competent, confident, and future-ready!

Sincerely,

Kelley Porter, Superintendent