



**Dear MISD Employees and Families,**

### **Our community, city, state and nation on hold**

The extended closure for all public schools in Texas as required by Governor Abbott's Executive Order affirms that our city, state and nation have still not reached the apex of this awful virus. Its impact continues to be beyond anything we have ever seen or experienced before.

Our sustained closure affirms that all the things we love to do together as families, friends, neighbors and community members are still on hold. It affirms that our families will continue to face the challenges of trying to maintain normalcy and livelihoods, while also sustaining learning and well-being for their children.

### **Together, finding new ways**

It also affirms that the collaborative spirit and collective greatness we value so much in MISD is alive and well, and that together we are figuring it out! While we continue to post resources for our students, and our teachers continue to connect with students in new ways, there are many important decisions to be made. Our aim is to minimize the short- and long-term impact of this health crisis on our children's learning, their social and emotional well-being, their academic records and their school experiences.

Each week, we must work together to help our children be successful. The packets and/or digital instruction that are provided for home based instruction is a challenge. However, for our students to be successful, we must work together. The teachers are here to help so please reach out to them by Remind, email, zoom, or any other way that they have listed in their letters. In order for our students to be promoted or gain credit, they must be completing the work so teachers can check progress. Teachers will be reaching out to you if they see the child is not grasping a concept. Together, we can help our students!

### **Class of 2020**

Today, we have made the difficult decision to cancel/postpone proms and events that were scheduled during the month of April, but we have not yet made decisions about events in May. Additionally, we have not yet cancelled graduation ceremonies. At the same time, we are considering creative and meaningful ways to celebrate the Class of 2020 should circumstances require us to do so. This is a very special time for these students, and despite what is happening around us, it is important to celebrate our seniors and their accomplishments.

### **Don't expect perfection**

Please know that while sustained home based learning and keeping our kids reading, is critically important, nothing is more important right now than sustaining your health and well-being. Don't expect perfection from yourself, your children, or the school. This is new territory for us all, and for parents, this can be a trying time. Look for the wins and celebrate them!

**Stay informed and follow guidelines**

Please continue to monitor and abide by the guidelines of our public health and government officials. We can only continue to do so if everyone maintains social distancing as recommended by the CDC.

**MISD services**

We hope you will continue to take advantage of our Grab and Go Meals service on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:30-12:30 at the elementary/junior high.

I believe in our kids. I believe in our educators. I believe in our community, and I believe in you. Thanks for continuing to believe in us, too!

Sincerely,

**Amy Bannowsky**  
**Menard ISD Superintendent**