

Dear Wall ISD Staff,

The COVID-19 outbreak has proven to be one of the most unpredictable situations many of us have ever experienced. As a district, we have been working diligently to find a solution that continues to serve our students' educational needs while keeping our community safe. As you can imagine, the uncertainty of this situation is keeping all of us on our toes.

District administrators have been in constant contact with Region XV, TEA, and health officials. Statewide, Superintendents are meeting daily with the Commissioner of Education via Zoom. The guidance provided from these meetings has prompted a decision to continue to keep our school closed through Friday, March 27, 2020.

The Commissioner of Education and Governor Abbot have been extremely wise and gracious during this crisis in giving each district discretion in making decisions for their school. However, if we are to continue to receive state funding, we must continue to serve the educational needs of our students in some capacity. Campus principals have been in contact with many of you regarding a plan to provide instruction to our students remotely during our closure. Upon reporting to school on Thursday, March 19, 2020, contingency planning will be our focus.

Please understand that your health, along with the health of our students, is our top priority. As we work to implement plans for our students' educational needs, I urge you to be vigilant in protecting your own health. The surveys regarding your health and travel have been extremely helpful. Please continue to monitor your health and communicate to your campus principal if you have concerns regarding your return to school. As we return as staff on Thursday, please go to www.cdc.gov to review safety precautions we can take in protecting ourselves against infection.

This is an unprecedented time, not only in my educational career but also in my lifetime. In order to get through this crisis and return to some sense of normalcy, it will take all of us working together as a school community. There are certainly no right or wrong answers, with the only constant being that this is an ever-changing situation. That being said, the information I am sending you today will likely be different tomorrow.

Through this week, I will continue to meet with Region XV Superintendents and the Commissioner of Education. I will update you all as more information becomes available.

Please keep our school, community, state, and nation in your prayers.

God Bless,

Russell