

July 28, 2020

BISD Families,

With careful consideration, Brazosport ISD has modified our *Back-to-School* plan for students choosing the **At School** learning option. After receiving input from our staff, the Texas Education Agency and local health officials, our plan has changed slightly to allow for a safer transition back into school.

We miss our students dearly, and know how much they need to be in school. I, as a parent and an educator, understand and have great empathy for the disruption caused to students and families when schools are not open. We want to ensure that we are bringing our students back to school in as safe of an environment as possible, and that our staff are as safe as possible, too. This school year all BISD staff will be required to learn and prepare new safety and health protocols never before implemented in schools. Each student choosing the **At School** learning option will be required to learn and follow new health and safety campus procedures.

The revised *Back-to-School* plan for our **At School** learners will allow more time to ensure these safety measures are ready. It will also allow us to phase students into the campuses in much smaller groups to teach the new procedures. Also, this plan allows each student and parent to become familiar with at home virtual learning. With the virus still among us, there is a likelihood that students may be using the at home learning platform sometime during the school year.

Students choosing the **At Home** learning option will continue to start school on August 19, 2020. **At School** learning students will also be online, at home, August 19th through August 28th. Beginning Monday, August 31st to Thursday, September 3rd, **At School** students will transition into campuses in smaller groups to learn campus health and safety procedures. On Friday September 4th, all BISD students will be learning from home, again. **At School** learning on campus for all BISD students who chose that option will be fully implemented on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Bus transportation will be provided for students choosing the **At School** learning option during the August 31st-September 3rd student phase into campus days. All BISD campuses will have meals available for **At School** students AND curbside meal pickup for students choosing the **At Home** learning option beginning August 19, 2020.

Athletic and fine arts organizations will continue to follow the University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules and regulations for participation, practice and performance. All other school groups and extracurricular organizations will follow their campus instructions and guidelines. **At Home** students will be allowed to participate in all UIL activities.

We realize that we have students who receive special education services for whom virtual instruction would not be appropriate and/or who are not able to receive all of their special education services in a virtual environment. For these students who meet eligibility considerations, there will be an option to be instructed at school prior to the dates the District will resume face to face instruction. All special education students will be having an ARD or Amendment to address their special education service needs and to review how their plan will be met in the virtual environment. Parents will be a part of the decision making committee, and will be able to review considerations for virtual or face to face service needs for their child. BISD's Special Services Department will be contacting the parents of these students in the upcoming days.

For families who have chosen the **At Home** learning option for their student(s), school will start on August 19, 2020. The deadline to register for **At Home** learning is August 4, 2020, so that we may assign teachers to these students. If you wish to change your selection from the **At Home** learning option to the **At School** learning option, please contact Lauren Smith lauren.smith@brazosportisd.net (979) 730-7024 or Sonia Kang sonia.kang@brazosportisd.net (979) 730-7022.

There are still many unknowns regarding this novel coronavirus. We know that the uncertainties can cause anxiety, frustration and a range of emotions for students, parents and BISD staff. Please know that we are working diligently to provide all of our students a quality education, while also remaining as safe as possible during this pandemic. Thank you again for your continued patience and understanding. We are looking forward to seeing our students.

Be Safe! Everyday is a gift.

Danny Massey
Superintendent of Schools
Brazosport ISD

The mission of Brazosport ISD is to graduate each student to be future ready!

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