



# EDINBURG CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Gilbert Garza, Jr., Interim Superintendent*

August 21, 2020

Dear Edinburg CISD Staff,

The first day of school is just around the corner. The excitement is starting to build as we welcome back our teachers and staff next week. I wanted to provide you with some updates as we move forward with the opening of our schools. We thank the Board of Trustees for their support and guidance through four meetings this week.

An Emergency Board Meeting was held on August 18, 2020, and our Board approved a \$5,000,000 allocation to purchase additional computing devices for students and staff. Accordingly, the District continues to buy devices as they become available. In the meantime, we are distributing devices and hotspots to students in preparation for their first day of remote learning on August 31, 2020. Parents have been advised to contact their campus principal if they need a device.

A Town Hall Meeting/Board Workshop was also held on August 18, 2020, and the Curriculum and Instruction Department and the Technology Department presented the District's Instructional Continuity Plan for Asynchronous Instruction. Team members presented in great detail the aspects of the remote learning plan for students in the fall. Additionally, many of the questions and concerns submitted by parents and the school community were answered during the presentation. Edinburg CISD will submit the Instructional Continuity Plan for Asynchronous Instruction to the Texas Education Agency for approval, and we will post the plan on our website.

On August 19, 2020, the Facilities Committee Meeting convened, and the administration provided updates on construction projects throughout the District. Some of the projects discussed included the cafeteria addition at South Middle School, relocation of the Edinburg Academy, and the construction of additional secured fencing and gates at all elementary schools. Thank you to the Board Members for their continued commitment to the improvement and safety of our facilities.

A Board Workshop was held on August 20, 2020, to review voluntary insurance benefits that will be available to all employees during the upcoming open enrollment period. Board members also discussed the budget for the 2020-2021 school year. The proposed budget includes salary raises, a \$500 mid-year stipend for all eligible employees, and an additional annual insurance contribution of \$480 for each employee to strengthen the District's health fund in offsetting the increase to health care costs. The property tax rate will also remain unchanged for taxpayers within our District.

As we get ready to welcome back students, I want to remind all employees about our dress code and our expectations for everyone while working at home or school. Teachers and staff must dress professionally or with a school spirit shirt while conducting school business.

Finally, thank you to everyone who helped make our "Back to School Drive-Thru" a success this week. We saw many students and parents excited to pick up their school supplies, textbooks, and educational essentials. Also, a reminder that our Curbside Meal Program will pause for a week and resume on the first day of school on August 31, 2020. Only registered Edinburg CISD students will be eligible to receive a breakfast and a lunch.

Again, thank you for being a part of our wonderful Edinburg CISD family. Contact your campus principal, your supervisor, or me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Garza, Jr.  
Interim Superintendent

### Nondiscrimination Statement

It is the policy of Edinburg CISD not to discriminate on the basis of gender, age, handicap, religion, race, color, or national origin in its educational programs.  
Es poliza del Distrito Escolar de Edinburg el no discriminar por razones con base en genero, edad, religion, raza, color origen nacional, ni discapacidad dentro de sus programas educacionales.

*Communicate and Connect with All Stakeholders*



*Excel in Academics and Ensure Equal Access*

*Innovate Through Technology*



*Secure a Safe Learning Environment*



*Develop and Retain Highly Qualified Staff*