



EDINBURG CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

411 N. 8TH Ave.
EDINBURG, TX 78541
PHONE: (956) 289-2300 FAX: (956) 386-0915

Gilbert Garza, Jr., Interim Superintendent

August 28, 2020

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Dear Edinburg CISD Staff,

The momentum is up, and I can feel the excitement in the air as we get ready to welcome back our students on Monday for the first day of school! It was thrilling this week to see all of our teachers and staff back. And they didn't waste any time, getting right back into the swing of things. Our teachers and support staff jumped onto their computers and straight into professional development, attending over 150 training sessions this week. They learned new ways to effectively use Google Classroom, how to integrate the latest technology tools into their virtual classes, and how to incorporate videos and activities into their daily instruction for remote learning. Great job, everyone, and let's keep the positive energy flowing!

I am sure by now most of you have heard about the great news announced during the Regular Board Meeting on August 25, 2020. Our Board of Trustees approved the budget for the 2020-2021 school year. The proposed budget included a 2% pay raise for employees. However, Board Members doubled the amount and unanimously authorized a \$2,000 salary increase for teachers and a 4% increase in pay from their midpoint salary for all other employees. The Board also granted 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. On a side note for those of you who live within our District, the property tax rate will also remain unchanged for taxpayers. We want to truly thank our Board Members for authorizing the salary increases during these challenging times.

A reminder that our Curbside Meal Pickup Program will 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. Also, our Technology Call Center is up and operational. I want to thank all of our tech experts for assisting numerous staff, students, and parents this week. To reach the call center, call (956) 289-2325 Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

I appreciate everyone working so hard these past few months. If we've learned anything from this experience, it's to keep plans flexible and to stay connected. I want to remind our teachers to be empathetic this week as we welcome our students. For many of these children, this is the first time that they have communicated with someone outside of their homes since Spring Break. Students may exhibit signs of anxiety or nervousness. Therefore, your patience and support are appreciated. We will continue to provide you with updated information, so I ask that you stay connected with us via emails, social media, and our district website. Contact your campus principal, your supervisor, or me if you have any questions or need further information.

Thanks to all of you, we are ready to provide our students with high-quality instructional learning that families have come to expect from us for generations.

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