



# EDINBURG CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Gilbert Garza, Jr., Interim Superintendent*

January 29, 2021

Dear Edinburg CISD Staff,

The spring semester is off to a great start! We continue to see an increase in the number of students selecting face-to-face instruction. Thank you so much to the teachers and staff who are welcoming these children onto their campuses. The spring semester will also mark a well-deserved promotion for one of our most dedicated employees – Assistant Superintendent for Support Services Dr. Mario H. Salinas. During a Special Called Board Meeting on Monday, January 25, 2021, our Board of Trustees named Dr. Salinas as the sole finalist for the superintendent position. He has served Edinburg CISD for over 30 years as a dedicated educator and a great leader. State law requires a 21-day waiting period before the Board can officially name Dr. Salinas as the Superintendent of Schools. I will be here until then to assist with the transition.

We understand the concerns regarding everyone's health and safety in our school community, which is why we are working with local and state health authorities to secure COVID-19 vaccines. During an Emergency Board Meeting on Monday, January 25, 2021, the Board unanimously approved the submission of our application with the Texas Department of State Health Services to be a direct provider of the COVID-19 vaccine to help the District's efforts to immunize all staff. I am excited to announce that the state has accepted our application! We are awaiting the arrival of the vaccines and will launch a district-wide immunization program as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we hosted our first-ever COVID-19 community vaccine clinic on Wednesday in partnership with the City of Edinburg and Hidalgo County. Our nurses administered 1,000 Moderna vaccine doses at the RVHS gym. Authorities from the Hidalgo County Health Department called our clinic one of the most successful, with approximately 250 people receiving vaccinations per hour. Thank you to our Health Services Department, Police Department, and other staff members for this well organized and executed event. This is what teamwork is all about, and I am very proud of everyone's hard work and dedication to the project. So far, over 1,000 ECISD employees have received their vaccinations. We encourage more of you to get inoculated through these types of vaccine clinics or your private physicians.

Next week, February 1-5, 2021, is National School Counseling Week. Join me as we celebrate the event that highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your principal, supervisor, or me. Please continue to wear masks, follow social distancing guidelines, and other safety measures as we move forward into the spring semester.

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*