



BONHAM INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 7, 2020

Warrior Family and Community,

It's hard to believe the month of July has already arrived. I hope you and your family have been able to enjoy a safe and restful summer so far. The beginning of the new school year is just over 40 days away and I know our community is eager to learn more about our plans for returning this August.

The 2019-2020 school year ended in a fashion that no one could have predicted. Bonham ISD is so proud of our faculty, staff, students and families as everyone pulled together to finish the year strong with flexibility, grace and learning.

The 2020-2021 school year is quickly approaching and it goes without saying that this year will look different than what we are all accustomed to. The challenges that upended our spring are still present, and like the spring, BISD staff and families will rise to meet them as we move into the fall.

In order to meet the learning, health and safety needs of the Bonham ISD community while also adhering to guidance from the Texas Education Agency, BISD is planning for two methods of instruction. I want to take a moment and provide you with a broad-level overview of your options for returning to school in August. We will be sharing more detailed information about how the two modes of instruction will look as more information is learned in the coming weeks. My goal is that you have the information to make a fully informed decision about how your child/children will be most successful in their education.

Option 1: In-School Instruction

- Learning in the school buildings, following the regular instructional schedule
- Modified social distancing guidelines based on feasibility and community spread
- Daily screening for adults and students
- Increased attention to personal health and safety measures
- Parent partnerships in monitoring health and keeping students/staff HOME when sick
- Increased attention to cleaning, including more frequent sanitizing of the buildings
- Extra-curricular activity participation

Option 2: Remote Instruction

- 100% online instruction and digital learning at home during school hours
- Daily attendance logins, student/teacher interactions and progress required
- Daily assignments required for credit/course completion
- Must have reliable internet
- No extra-curricular activity participation

The Texas Education Agency has mandated more precise and rigorous guidelines than what we experienced in the spring concerning remote instruction – 2020-2021 remote instruction will look vastly different and will have the same rigorous requirements as in-school instruction. Attendance rules, instruction provided and grading policies for remote instruction will be the same as in-person instruction. BISD recommends, if possible, that PreK – 2nd grade students be on campus for face-to-face instruction due to the remote instruction requirements.

Whichever of the above options is chosen for any particular student is completely a parental choice. We will be sending out a commitment form for families to fill out regarding the method of instruction you will be selecting for your child/children for the start of the school year. Be looking for this at the end of July / beginning of August.

The health and safety of our students and staff is and will remain a priority at Bonham ISD. Our current plans are subject to change as this is a very fluid situation and new guidelines can be released from the state at any time. Bonham ISD is committed to the education and well-being of all our staff and students! Together, we can make the 2020-2021 school year, although unusual, a very successful year for our BISD community.

Sincerely,



Kelly Trompler

Superintendent, Bonham ISD