



"What We Do Here Shapes the World"

Office of the Superintendent

March 19, 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your patience as we work through these trying times toward creating a safe learning environment that safeguards the health and well-being of our students and our Los Fresnos CISD community. I am inspired by the resolve and overwhelming interest expressed by so many of our teachers who have reached out with ideas and resources that can be used to provide instructional supports for students while they are at home. It is clear that our teachers work with a moral imperative and a clear understanding of the importance of sustaining instruction for those we serve.

After careful consideration of the most recent information provided during daily briefings by Commissioner Morath at TEA and Cameron County officials, Los Fresnos CISD determined the best course of action is to activate Level of 3 our response plan. I want to be clear that the activation of Level 3 is not due to having a confirmed case in our District or in the community. This is a precautionary measure implemented out of an abundance of caution.

I also want to inform you that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott took statewide action Thursday declaring a disaster and ordering **schools**, bars, clubs and gyms to close and for restaurants to offer only "to go" service. Gov. Abbott said Texans should gather in groups of no more than 10 people and that they should avoid large crowds.

Governor Abbott's declaration goes into effect at midnight Friday and will remain in effect until Friday, April 3. The governor stated the declaration may be extended depending on need.

The closure of the facilities does not mean that we do not deliver instruction and meals for students. District staff is working diligently to provide a mechanism that allows students to learn from home. To this end, Los Fresnos CISD staff will utilize the week of March 23-27 to create high-tech and low-tech lessons that students can work on during this extended period of school closure. We anticipate that we will be ready to begin in home instructional support for students on Monday, March 30. We will provide more information about this exciting new opportunity for learning next week.

Los Fresnos CISD will begin dispensing meals for children on Monday, March 23 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at every campus in the District. The curbside service will provide breakfast and lunch and procedures have been established to exercise social distancing in the process. Details of this program will be provided on our website and through social media platforms. We will continue to keep you informed of any developments or changes in course of action.

Respectfully,

Gonzalo Salazar, Ed. D.