



Tuesday, April 14

Dear Hippo Nation Parents:

Schools Closed Through May 3

- By executive order of the Governor of Texas, **Hutto ISD has suspended normal operations and closed facilities through May 3.** The Governor is expected to address school closure at his press conference on Wednesday, April 15. We will know if May 4 is still the anticipated date to return to school or if we will continue with closure. **Hutto ISD will follow the Governor's order.**
- Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell extended the "Stay Home Stay Safe" order until 11:59 p.m. April 30, 2020.

Williamson County COVID-19 Update

The total number of cases in Williamson County as of Tuesday morning is now 124, with 13 of those being in Hutto.

Communications

[LINK TO OUR CRISIS COMMUNICATION PAGE](#)

- Our regular parent e-mail messages will now only be sent on Tuesdays.

Events

- Virtual Table Talk with the Superintendent - this Thursday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 pm (Join Zoom)
Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/8842010962?pwd=WW5xcm9rTEkxZTIsMWkrSVNvcEhvdz09>
Meeting ID: 884 201 0962
Password: HuttoPride
- STEMNation has been canceled (originally scheduled for May 14).
- HHS graduation is still scheduled for May 27. In the event it has to be postponed, HHS has reserved the HEB Center in Cedar Park for June 20 and July 18 as alternative dates.

Instructional Support

[LINK TO OUR LEARN@HOME RESOURCE PAGE](#)

- **Message from Dr. Robert Sormani, Assistant Superintendent of School Support: Flexibility:** Students have flexibility completing assignments as their schedules permit. We have also begun adjusting the amount of assignments that have been sent home to be in line with our **recommended schedules**. If you or your child are feeling overwhelmed by what is being asked of you, please reach out to your teacher and/or principal. We rely on your feedback to help us adjust, and we are more than willing to adjust to individual situations.

Grading

[LINK TO GRADING DURING COVID SHUTDOWN](#)

- Last Thursday, the Hutto ISD School Board approved a district grading policy. This policy is our way of valuing the learning going on at home while acknowledging the challenges teachers and students and parents face during these unprecedented times. Please use the link above to read in more detail and the rationale behind the decision making. Some highlights of that policy include:
 - The spring semester will not count for high school class rank and GPA.
 - Middle school and high school students will receive a grade for the 5th six-weeks based on their grades as of March 13 (last day before spring break). Teachers have the option of raising the grade of a failing student if they feel the grade is not an accurate assessment of the student's academic standing.
 - Students will receive a pass, incomplete, or fail on assignments. Students will only get a failing grade if a teacher and administrator have worked with the family to accommodate their individual situation and the student continues to make no reasonable attempt at completing assignments.
 - Teachers will continue to work with parents to provide as much flexibility as possible in light of each family's unique set of circumstances.

Meals for Students

[LINK TO INFO REGARDING MEAL SERVICE](#)

- **NEW:** Friday meal distribution will now include a Saturday meal.
- Please review the link above for meal distribution schedules and locations and for TDA guidelines regarding requirements for proof of school children or children not in school. The link also includes menus and heating instructions.

Health and Safety

[LINK TO COUNSELING AND OTHER HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES](#)

- We have gathered contact information on community resources if you have a family member or know of someone having a mental health crisis. They are contained within this link [Community Resources during COVID-19](#)

Technology

LINK FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT CHAT

- Technical Support chat is available for parents/students Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.
- For Spanish Technical Support:
Please call 512-759-4770. A Spanish speaker will provide translation for the parent and online tech support person. **Please do not call this number unless you are needing Spanish assistance.**
- Chromebooks:
For any Chromebook issues, please use the technical support chat link referenced above. Anyone still in need of a Chromebook can schedule a pick-up time by utilizing the tech chat line.
- Spectrum is offering free access to internet and WiFi for 60-days for new Pre-K to 12, college student and teacher households who don't currently have internet or WiFi service. Details can be found at: <https://www.spectrum.net/support/internet/covid-19-internet-offer-students/>
Please contact Spectrum directly. Hutto ISD technology does not offer tech support for this service, and this is not a product of the district.
- Altice (the parent company of Suddenlink) is offering their "Altice Advantage Internet" service for free for 60 days for households with K-12 and/or college students who may be displaced due to school closures and who do not currently have home internet access. Details can be found at: <https://www.alticeadvantageinternet.com/>
Please contact Altice/Suddenlink directly. Hutto ISD technology does not offer tech support for this service, and this is not a product of the district.
- This is a link to [an article about Internet providers offering wifi specials and other opportunities during the pandemic.](#)

Transfer Requests

TRANSFER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

- For non-employee children, this process has been placed on hold until schools open again. If the state government orders schools closed for the rest of the year, we will communicate a different process for accepting transfers. We want your children to stay! You may access and download the transfer application at the link above.

Pre-K and Kinder Registration

- All Pre-K and Kinder registration dates have been canceled for the month of April.

Austin Area Job Opportunities

- We understand many of our parents may be facing job losses or cutbacks. The Austin Chamber has a website of Austin area companies who have opportunities: <https://www.austinchamber.com/blog/austin-job-opportunities-covid-19>

Questions

If you have questions about anything not found in our communications or website, please address them to coronavirus@huttoisd.net. We will respond to them as we are able.