Good afternoon,

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.

I wanted to share a few updates about the reopening plan for Bush Elementary. As you know, HISD has determined the first six weeks of instruction will be virtual for all students and the start of school was pushed back to **Tuesday, September 8**. Attached is the new 2020 - 2021 HISD calendar for virtual and, hopefully in October, face to face instruction too. Please note the new last day of virtual and/or face to face instruction for students is **Friday, June 11**.

In addition to the new 2020 – 2021 school year calendar, HISD has made a few more changes for this school year:

- The elementary school day will be 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Elementary students are going to a 6 week grading period. Previously, we were on a 9 week grading cycle and elementary schools were adjusted to be the same as middle and high schools.
- No specific school uniform policy for the 2020 – 2021 school year. However, when students return for face to face instruction there will be dress guidelines about the type of clothes that are appropriate to wear at school. This will be shared in October or before our face to face return. Students will be welcome to follow the old dress code/uniform policy with specific colored shirts and bottoms if parents so desire.
- Parents will be able to complete and submit the first day paperwork online instead of the previous big, manilla envelope with many papers that needed to be completed and returned.

HISD has created a parent course about virtual learning in HISD. Please take the course. HISD will have online parent/student tech support available when the school year starts. If you haven’t already, please click the link and take the course:  [https://www.houstonisd.org/Parentcourse](https://www.houstonisd.org/Parentcourse)  The course is available in four languages.

HISD will be responsible for sending out and collecting the information about continuing virtual or face to face instruction for your children. I’ve heard this email could go out as early as August 24. Our school secretary and I are the only 12-month employees and continue to divide our time between remote and at Bush work times. All other staff members and teachers do not report back to work until Monday, August 24. The HISD Parent Connect/Parent Portal will be available starting August 31. It has been down as HISD switched over to a new student data management system over the summer.

I will provide more updates next week as I’ll share when teachers will call and welcome families, the virtual Ice Cream Social date, and the Parents’ Nights dates. As our interim Superintendent, Dr. Lathan states, this is the “Year of Flexibility”. We’re all going through uncharted waters and are doing our best to meet the needs of students, families, the faculty, and staff of Bush Elementary while following all safety and health guidelines.

Bush Elementary is “Wild about Learning” whether virtual or face to face!

Best regards,

Theresa Rose

Principal, Bush ES