

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD extends districtwide closure due to extension of COVID-19 guidelines

March 31, 2020 – With the federal government extending social distancing guidelines through the end of April, the Houston Independent School District will **remain closed, providing online instruction until further notice.**

In addition to the federal guidelines, this decision comes in response to the new executive order by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Tuesday to close all Texas schools until May 4. During this time, we will continue remote learning.

“We are dealing with an unprecedented crisis, and the safety of our students and staff is our top priority,” Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. “We’re working diligently to ensure our students have the support they need to continue their learning at home until normal district operations resume. I urge parents and students to take advantage of the resources provided and reach out to us for support when they need it.”

Until traditional classroom instruction resumes, the district has launched [HISD @ H.O.M.E.](#) (Home-based Online Mobile Education), a distance learning plan to ensure students’ academic and non-academic needs are met as the district remains closed due to COVID-19 precautions.

Additionally, [HISD @ H.O.M.E. TV](#) provides instructional videos from 9-11 a.m. Monday through Friday. The videos include lessons from teachers and teacher development specialists in several subject areas, including math, science, reading and writing, social studies, and fine arts. The videos can also be watched on U-Verse Channel 99 and Comcast Channel 18.

The district is exploring options to resume operations of food distribution sites for our families in partnership with the Houston Food Bank. Once details are finalized, we will send out that information.

During this time, students, parents, and staff are urged to remain vigilant in their efforts to stay healthy.

For updates and information, please visit HoustonISD.org/HealthAlerts.

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The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States, with 280 schools and more than 209,772 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

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