



## **TUESDAY E-FOLDER – November 17, 2020**

Dear Travis Families and Community,

As we near the Thanksgiving holidays, I want to share my immense gratitude with you all. The last few weeks and months have been an extraordinary challenge. Your patience, positive energy, engagement, and support – whether virtually, face-to-face, or both – has been a beacon. When you combine that with the adaptability, grit, heart, and exceptional efforts of our teachers and support staff, our office staff and administrators, our custodians and food service staff – you do not just survive, you thrive.

While we continue to learn, grow, and evolve leading this enormous enterprise, I am proud of what we have accomplished so far and look forward to the time ahead.

I give thanks for a faculty and staff that is second to none ... and a school community of families that is supportive and incredible in every way. Through it all, you're doing a good job: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkDNp4ATCso>.

Happy Thanksgiving and best wishes for a safe, joyful, and restful vacation.

Sincerely,  
Tom Day, Principal

**Here are items to note for the Week of November 16-20, 2020:**

### **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS**

There will be no school (virtual or in-person) next week, **Nov. 23-27**. School will resume on **Monday, Nov. 30**.

### **JOIN THE TRAVIS PTA TODAY!**

By joining the Travis PTA for \$6.50, you are not only supporting great programs and events, but you're also gaining a voice within the school, the state, and beyond. At the school level, only members may vote on issues related to programs, events, and budget priorities. Travis PTA membership automatically includes state and national PTA memberships, so you have access to their advocacy efforts and resources as well. For more information, fun videos, and a signup link, click here: [PTA MembershipFlyer 2020-2021.pdf](#).

### **COVID-19 SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

**Harris County Public Health** will host a **Zoom training session** for parents on **COVID-19 Safety During the Holidays** this **Thursday, Nov. 19 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** This session will provide guidance to families on protecting themselves and others during the upcoming holiday season. The training will cover how to spend quality time safely and responsibly with loved ones while keeping everyone happy and healthy. Presenters will also provide a high-level overview of other health-related services and resources specific to families. The session will conclude with the opportunity for parents to ask any questions related to holiday

safety or COVID-19 in general. To register, click here: <https://bit.ly/3ks9PE4>. Event flyer: [COVID-19 Safety Parent Learning Session Flyer.pdf](#).

### **ARTSONIA ONLINE ART PORTFOLIO**

We are excited to offer a way for families to be in the know with what our Travis artists are up to this year! Artsonia allows for you to get a glimpse of what we are doing in the classroom, comment on your student's artwork, and share with your family. It's a great way to share all the amazing artwork your children have been hard at work on the past few weeks. For our virtual students, this is an optional way to submit your artwork. You can add to your portfolios from home! To submit artwork from home, students will access our class portal (please see flyer for instructions: [Artsonia QR Code Access.pdf](#)). Families can also add additional artwork that your student makes at home on their own time to keep it in one place. Mrs. Q has created online art portfolios for each student using Artsonia. Emails have gone out from Artsonia to each family with directions on how to complete their account. Please email me ([Danielle.Quinones@houstonisd.org](mailto:Danielle.Quinones@houstonisd.org)) if you have any questions concerning Artsonia or have not received an email to set up your student's account. [You can check out our Artsonia page here!](#) – Mrs. Q (Summer Quinones)

### **TEMPORARY CHANGES FROM IN-PERSON TO VIRTUAL LEARNING**

We have recently been asked: *Can a student engaging in face-to-face learning temporarily move to virtual learning for a day or two to accommodate short-term family circumstances?* (Such as being out of town or for attending appointments) It is a fair inquiry and one we have grappled with. While we sympathize, we have discovered that short-term virtual roster additions are very difficult to manage from an attendance-tracking, grading, assignments-management, and instructional standpoint for our teachers, who already have so much they are balancing each day.

Requests for a temporary placement change from in-school learning to virtual learning (during the middle of a six-week grading period) will be granted only in these cases:

- Due to an extended absence necessitated for self-isolation or quarantine per COVID-19 procedural guidelines
- Due to an extended absence of 3 consecutive days or more that would be deemed 'Excused' per the Travis Elementary Reopening Policies and Procedures (page 7) found [HERE](#).

In those cases when your child must miss school, Travis will follow regular absence reporting procedure, students will be provided with makeup work, and teachers will ensure that students are provided support to make up for lost learning. Thank you for your understanding! Please communicate with me if you have any questions. – Tom Day

### **ADDITIONAL HELP WITH THE HISD CONNECT PARENT PORTAL**

Over the last few weeks, we know you have been inundated with requests to complete HISD and Travis forms and documents – some of them in paper form, others online on the HISD Connect Parent Portal. We appreciate your patience and help with all of it! As we are all at varying levels of understanding completing these tasks online, HISD has created how-to videos for navigating these various pieces. Please see below and view as needed. Thanks so much!

#### **How-To Videos for HISD Connect – Parent Portal:**

1. [Getting Started with HISD Connect Parent Portal](#) – How to create your account and associate your student's information.
2. [Completing Forms in HISD Connect Parent Portal](#) – How to navigate to and complete forms after you are logged in to Parent Portal
3. [Student Verification in HISD Connect Parent Portal](#) – How to complete the Student Verification steps after you are logged in to Parent Portal.

4. [HISD Connect Parent Portal: A Complete Guide](#) – How to create your account, associate your students information, complete forms and complete Student Verification in Parent Portal.

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Below are links to additional flyers/letters for this week:

- [Lost Forest Tennis HOLIDAY CAMPS 20-21.pdf](#)

Thanks again!