## GALENA PARK

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

14705 Woodforest Boulevard ~ Houston, Texas 77015 ~ 832-386-1000 ~ www.galenaparkisd.com

July 22, 2020

Dear Galena Park I.S.D. Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you and your families in continued good health.

Galena Park I.S.D. has made the decision to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year until September 8, 2020. Early College High School and all Dual Credit students will receive separate communication concerning their start dates.

While it is our intent to remain committed to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines of offering face-to-face instruction, we will take the necessary precautions to mitigate the spread of illness within our community and keep our students, staff and their families safe by following the recommendations from Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and provide all instruction remotely for the first four weeks of school.

We have created a visual tool to describe district operations at each level of COVID-19 response required to keep our students, staff, and community safe. The chart is included as an attachment to this letter. Currently, our city and community are at the RED level, so our school district operations are aligned to this response level. It is our hope and expectation that, as a community, we will improve to the Yellow Moderate Response Level by early October. This is the target level we would like before Galena Park I.S.D. begins transitioning to face-to-face instruction for our families who are selecting that option. Only time will tell, but we want to ensure a safe environment for students, staff and the community while offering face-to-face instruction.

In addition to the information provided on our Reopening school page on the Galena Park I.S.D. website, we will be mailing Remote Learning guidelines and expectations to all families. Parents and students, please familiarize yourself with these guidelines and expectations, as some of them might look very different than in the spring.

It is very important for students to complete and submit all assignments. Grades will count and attendance will be taken daily. Students are required to participate in instructional activities each day in order to be marked present.

Students who are working remotely in Galena Park I.S.D. <u>are</u> eligible to participate in extracurricular and UIL activities as long as other requirements, such as attendance and grades, are met. Our UIL-sponsored activity coaches and directors will communicate their current program participation guidelines and schedule changes directly to participating students and their parents.

Galena Park I.S.D.'s Returning Student Verification online process began on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, and will end this Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. The New Student Enrollment, also an online process to be completed by parents, will begin on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Parents will still be asked to select between face-to-face instruction and 100% remote learning for each of their children who attend GPISD schools. While we are all starting school remotely, your selection will allow the District and individual campuses to create school safety and instructional plans which consider the number of students expected to participate on campus when we open for face-to-face instruction.

Please check our school district website's Reopening Schools 2020 page for information about our Technology distribution schedule changes, Remote Learning plans and other support GPISD will be providing to our students and families.

I urge you to continue following the recommendations given by our local and state authorities to curb the spread of COVID-19. The sooner this virus is contained, the sooner we can begin providing face-to-face opportunities for our students.

We appreciate your patience and support, and I look forward to welcoming all of our students back to school virtually on September 8<sup>th</sup>!

Be safe,

John C. Moore, Ed.D.

The C. More

Superintendent of Schools