



EDMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Empowering all students to succeed in a changing society

March 23, 2020

Dear EPS Parents and Guardians,

This afternoon, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Joy Hofmeister said during a conference call with school administrators that she plans to propose to the state Board of Education at its March 25 meeting to close public school buildings through the remainder of the school year and continue education with distance learning in an effort to safeguard the health of all Oklahomans.

We understand that this news, while not entirely unexpected, is devastating to learn but is made in the best interest of public health. Please know that we share your apprehension and anxiety. Our first concern must continue to be the health and welfare of our families, employees, and community. Beyond that, our thoughts naturally turn to loss: of instruction; of connection; of memories, yet to be made (especially for our high school seniors).

We know there are many questions still yet to be addressed - delivery of instruction, grades, and graduations to name a few. We will be able to better address these questions following Wednesday's state Board of Education meeting. Please know that we will do everything within our power to ensure that the redesign of the rest of the school year goes smoothly and provides the resources parents, students and staff need to be successful.

This COVID-19 pandemic is historical and unprecedented, but we are resilient and we will get through this together. Please send questions to our dedicated email Covid19@edmondschools.net and we will make every effort to answer them in future communications.

Be safe, follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, and State and County Health Departments, and know how much we appreciate your patience and understanding at this time.

Sincerely,

Bret Towne

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