

# *INDIAN INSIDER*

**March 31, 2020**

## **Students, Staff & Parents**

We want to share our gratitude to our students, staff, and parents for their patience and understanding as we have navigated through uncharted waters these past two weeks. In this “Indian Insider” publication we would like to share **What Went Well** during these challenging times in a digital and remote environment in Santa Fe ISD.

- When we began our digital learning journey, more than 272 teachers and staff started this journey with renewed enthusiasm, determination and a shared purpose of creating the best possible educational experience for all students.
- Beginning March 23, 2020, several learning options were provided for all of our students for at-home learning. Through the use of digital learning platforms and sites like Canvas and smore, roughly 7800 hours of education was delivered to the students of SFISD. Additional support has been provided through paper and pencil work for a variety of other learners, as well. Along with the assistance of our technology team, student computers were distributed by our campuses on Thursday, March 26, 2020. Around 900 students needed this technology and we worked diligently to provide what they needed. Students with diverse learning needs are being supported by our Special Services team. They are working tirelessly to ensure student work be accommodated to meet their learning needs within the home. Our entire staff has worked relentlessly in order to provide engaging and valuable educational experiences for each child, while at home. We are so appreciative and grateful to our SFISD staff who commit themselves daily to go above and beyond for our children in sharing their expertise, their energy and their hearts with our families during this time.
- We also witnessed the professionalism and commitment of our office staff, who answered parent phone calls, guided them to the information they needed, and distributed learning packets. Employees across the district are committed to serving our students as we work toward a successful school year for all!
- SFISD Counselors have been reaching out to students and their families offering emotional support throughout these stressful days. They have been distributing communication through campus newsletters to offer their services by phone. If you need for a campus counselor to contact you, please go to the campus page and contact your counselor through email. Please click this link [SFISD Counseling Connection](#) for additional information regarding resources for social/emotional support.
- Our campus nurses have been available for parents needing to pick up their child's

medication.

- The SFISD Technology Services Team is available for staff, students and parents Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 6:00 pm. Just as eLearning is new to the students, there will also be a learning curve for teachers and staff over the next few weeks. Our staff looks forward to supporting you and your child’s needs as we move forward with this transitional learning. Email **[techhelpdesk@sfisd.org](mailto:techhelpdesk@sfisd.org)** for technology questions OR submit your question via the form below. You should hear back from a campus technician within 2 hours. You can also visit our Technology Services FAQ page for common issues.
  - [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=u5\\_1CvaYHE-GJQZxmALgiX6beUEh9ZtDijXcr\\_Emc0hUQzIOUExBSVNRTDJMM0dCSUU4Wk9QR0c1My4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=u5_1CvaYHE-GJQZxmALgiX6beUEh9ZtDijXcr_Emc0hUQzIOUExBSVNRTDJMM0dCSUU4Wk9QR0c1My4u)
- Our Santa Fe ISD Police Department has been instrumental in continuing to secure the interior and perimeter of our schools during the school day. They have worked diligently to ensure the smooth and safe flow of traffic at all of our campuses during the dissemination of meals, learning packets and library books.
- Our “YUM” nutrition employees served 300 students Grab & Go meals under the Federal Meal Program for qualifying students beginning March 16, 2020 providing necessary nourishment for our students. Our students cannot focus on learning if they are hungry, so in order to reach more students, on Monday, March 30, 2020, our “Yum” Nutrition Services Department, along with our Transportation Department, will begin delivering meals to 1,023 qualifying students ensuring these students nutritional needs are met. They will deliver to over 600 households and will be delivering 5 breakfast meals and 5 lunch meals to each student.
- Our maintenance and custodial staff have continued to ensure that our campuses and district facilities are clean and sanitized. Our maintenance and facilities staff members have provided custodial and maintenance services to more than 1,031,979 square feet of building space. As recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), performing routine environmental cleaning will safely disinfect school facilities. Santa Fe ISD's custodial staff will continue to clean the schools throughout the school closure disinfecting all common touched areas including doorknobs, computers, desks, shared devices, faucets, and light switches. In addition, these same cleaning protocols were applied to all transportation vehicles. We will continue to perform these cleaning activities throughout the COVID-19 outbreak. The District will be utilizing an electrostatic misting machine to apply microscopic disinfectant at each campus weekly in addition to routine cleaning procedures. The District custodial staff will continue to follow CDC and Galveston County Health Department guidelines on deep cleaning of schools. We continue to stay in contact with our cleaning supply partners on how best to utilize their products to ensure long term disinfecting of our facilities.

SFISD joined with regional school districts to close all District facilities through April 10, 2020, in an effort to support the nation's need to diminish the curve of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our

district leadership continues to remain vigilant in accessing information, direction and guidance from reliable sources such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local and state agencies. We will continue to communicate updates on our website, social media channels, School Messenger and Skyward email system as decisions are made regarding the District's facility closure.

We are thankful to our parents who have partnered with our dedicated team of educators to support our children through these challenging and unprecedented events. We ask for your continued patience, support and understanding as we continue to make every effort to attend to the educational needs of your children.

Have a restful and safe week!



*Our Community. Our Legacy.*  
**OUR FUTURE.**