

RISD Pandemic Update – March 20

To slow the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in our community, all in-person classes at Richardson ISD schools have been canceled indefinitely beginning March 23. This action follows advice from the Dallas County Health and Human Services department and is in the best long-term interest of our RISD community.

Latest updates include:

Social Distancing and Precautions are Critical

Yesterday, Dallas County Health and Human Services recommended that school districts prepare communities for the possibility of more confirmed cases of COVID-19 associated with schools. Information from DCHHS was included in RISD's March 19 update to provide context for parents as they think about any previous contact their children may have had with classmates or employees before spring break.

The information and guidance shared March 19 was in no way intended for parents to relax the very necessary social distancing guidance that health authorities continue to provide. While health authorities believe that people are most contagious while symptomatic, [the CDC also indicates that some spread might be possible before people begin showing symptoms.](#)

[Parents, students, and employees should continue to follow all recommended precautions, including placing distance between themselves and others.](#)

In addition, the closure of RISD schools includes the closure of playgrounds and outdoor facilities. Parents are discouraged from allowing children to use public playground equipment as a measure to encourage distancing and discourage exposure to high touch equipment.

Meal Service Locations Beginning Monday

Beginning Monday March 23, RISD Child Nutrition will be providing free to-go meals to students two times a day, Monday through Friday, at locations throughout RISD. Meals can be picked up at the locations via drive through or walk up. Pedestrians picking up meals will be encouraged to practice appropriate social distancing. Meals are available for any RISD student, regardless of free/reduced lunch eligibility.

The following locations will provide to-go breakfast meals M-F from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. and to-go lunch meals M-F from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Audelia Creek Elementary, 12600 Audelia Road, Dallas, 75243

Bukhair Elementary, 13900 Esperanza Road, Dallas, 75240

Forest Lane Academy, 9663 Forest Lane, Dallas, 75243

Hamilton Park Pacesetter Magnet, 8301 Towns Lane, Dallas, 75243

Mark Twain Elementary, 1200 Larkspur Drive, Richardson, 75081

Merriman Park Elementary, 7101 Winedale Drive, Dallas, 75231

Northrich Elementary, 1301 Custer Road, Richardson, 75080

O. Henry Elementary, 4100 Tynes Drive, Garland, 75042
Richardson High School, 1250 W. Belt Line Road, Richardson 75080
RISD Academy, 13630 Coit Road, Dallas, 75240
Stults Road Elementary, 8700 Stults Road, Dallas, 75243
Thurgood Marshall Elementary, 9666 Ferris Branch Blvd., Dallas, 75243
Wallace Elementary, 9921 Kirkhaven Drive, Dallas, 75238
Westwood Junior High, 7630 Arapaho Road, Dallas, 75248

(Note that based on social distancing recommendations and the ability to provide a sustainable model, RISD is adopting a pick up model for meal distribution instead of a delivery model.)

Parents and employees can expect frequent email messages with updates, and stakeholders can visit www.risd.org/cv19 for more information.