



"THE DISTRICT"

Donna Independent School District

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Feb. 24, 2021

Dear Donna ISD Community,

It has no doubt been tough these past few days for the entire state of Texas including the Rio Grande Valley. There were many reports of people left without water and power and families having to find ways to stay warm during the frigid temperatures. Our hope is that you were able to weather the storm and stay safe.

As you know, this predicament forced many school districts including Donna ISD to close the week of Feb. 15-19th. We based our decision to shut down on many factors. The temperatures had dipped below the freezing mark and several of our campuses and facilities had lost electricity and endured broken pipes. Some of our own Donna ISD families were also left in the dark and without water for several days. We knew the right thing to do was to cancel classes for the safety of our students and staff.

On this note, we would like to thank all of our employees who braved the cold conditions to inspect our buildings and make the necessary repairs so that we could return to our regular schedules this week. We would also like to thank our Child Nutrition and Transportation staff who did an incredible job distributing meals to our students last Thursday and Friday. They served over 32,000 meals over the course of both days. We sincerely appreciate their dedication and hard work.

We would also like to inform you that we are back to offering virtual and face-to-face instruction this week. We are excited to see our students interacting again with our teachers and staff.

As you know, we missed five days of student instruction during a year when we have already lost so much time. While we are thankful that TEA allowed us to submit a waiver to cover those days, we know that there is much intervention and remediation that needs to occur to reduce the learning losses. Our staff will work collaboratively with our students and parents to address those needs.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we tackle these obstacles and continue to help our students succeed academically.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hafedh Azaiez
Donna ISD Superintendent

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