



September 19, 2008

Dear Key Communicators:

Due to issues caused by Hurricane Ike, CFISD will remain closed for students through Monday, September 22. All employees will report to work on Monday in preparation for students on Tuesday, September 23.

The primary reason the district has extended its closing for students is lack of power or power-related issues—such as no air-conditioning—at seven of our 78 campuses. In addition, three of the district's 18 support facilities—the Instructional Support Center among them—are without power.

We are hopeful that the seven campuses currently without power will be back online soon given CenterPoint Energy's exceptional track record since Hurricane Ike left all 96 campuses and district facilities without power early Saturday morning.

The district has remediated damage since Saturday. Primary issues include lack of power, water quality verification from each of more than 40 Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs), water/sewer service, carpet removal, building access, canopy removal, data/voice communication service, HVAC and roofs. Other projects that will continue after staff and students are back at schools are canopy replacement, carpet replacement, fencing repairs, mowing and signage.

Fortunately, our food service department has secured tens of thousands of bottles of water so the small number of schools that may be on a "boil water" order from their MUDs will have safe drinking water. In these circumstances, the drinking fountains and faucets will be turned off and hand-sanitizer stations will be utilized. If you would like to read more about the hand-sanitizer stations that were donated to the district this summer, please read the back-to-school issue of *Inside Cypress-Fairbanks ISD* that is currently posted on [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net).

We ask that the Cy-Fair community be cautious as we put more than 700 buses back on the road soon. Everyone needs to be especially attentive where traffic lights are inoperable. These are now four-way stops that cause delays. Parents are encouraged to plan ahead and anticipate some delays in bus routes due to the effects of these lights that are not functioning.

Regarding football and volleyball games, please see the following:

- All middle school games have been canceled for the week of September 22-26.
- High school in-season sports will start practice when school resumes next week.
- Varsity football games canceled due to the hurricane will not be rescheduled.
- Regular season, varsity football games begin again September 26 as scheduled.
- Varsity volleyball teams will continue playing their regular schedules and will play make-up games next week.
- For more information, go to [www.cfid.net](http://www.cfid.net).

Thank you for your support in helping us work toward getting more than 100,000 students back to school and 13,000 employees back to work. The Cy-Fair community has deep-rooted traditions of working together and Hurricane Ike hasn't changed that. As we weather this storm, don't forget what you learned in kindergarten—be kind, wait your turn, and share.