

June 22, 2020

Dear CFISD Employees and Community Members,

We are awaiting guidance from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on what will be required to return students to in-class instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. We expect this guidance to be released by TEA on Tuesday. Several months ago, Dr. Henry formed the Reopening CFISD Committee with representatives from a variety of departments. Beginning this week, the committee will also include students, teachers, and parents. This committee has been instrumental in developing operational procedures with health and safety protocols for reopening parts of the district to date while adhering to guidance provided by Gov. Abbott and TEA. The committee is working on scenarios for returning students to schools this fall, and also creating plans for virtual learning. We are also in the process of developing a survey that will provide the opportunity for parents and staff to provide input on the reopening of CFISD.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic that resulted in a loss of 52 instructional days that comprised 30 percent of the instructional calendar, TEA Commissioner Mike Morath suggested school districts consider modifying an instructional calendar that:

- minimizes disruptions;
- adjusts for learning loss;
- provides remediation;
- provides dedicated learning time focused on struggling students;
- helps minimize the “summer slide;” and
- includes extra days and weeks for make-up time due to the potential resurgence of COVID-19.

As a result, you may have heard that recently many school districts in the Houston area approved new calendars for the 2020-2021 school year. Last week, the CFISD Board of Trustees approved a [modified 2020-2021 calendar](#) which maintains the same start date (Aug. 24) and planned professional days/holidays but extends the instructional day 10 minutes for high schools and 15 minutes for elementary and middle schools ([2020-2021 school hours](#)). In addition, the calendar reserves make-up dates from June 1-30 in case of potential additional loss of instruction due to COVID-19.

We will continue to keep you updated as more information becomes available regarding the 2020-2021 school year. We are working diligently to anticipate the needs of our students, staff, and community to ensure the health and safety for all.

Sincerely,

CFISD Communication