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April 17, 2020

Weslaco ISD (WISD) Family,

We hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and well. Earlier today, Governor Abbott issued a new Executive Order closing schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year. In response to questions, the Texas Education Agency issued guidance on the Governor's decision. According to the Texas Education Agency, while the Executive Order "continues the closure of school buildings for in-person classroom attendance for the rest of the school year, it in no way ends at-home instructional support for Texas's millions of students."

In the last four weeks, our amazing teachers, principals, and all staff members have worked differently to ensure that our students continue to receive a quality educational program at home with the support of technology and instructional packets. This daily instructional support will continue for the remainder of the year. It is of utmost importance that our students continue to learn, connect, read, and succeed. Our students are the future, and we are wholeheartedly committed to their learning and life-time success.

Similarly, our wonderful nutrition services staff will continue to provide meal services on Mondays and Wednesdays at several school sites. We encourage you to continue to look for information about any future changes on our social media and/or website.

To our families of the Class of 2020 (and our seniors if you are reading this letter), please know that we love and value graduation. One of the most memorable events of the year, graduation marks the successful end of many years of hard work and the proud commemoration of achievements attained over the years. It is affectionately known as a rite of passage--the commencement of a new way of life in higher education, the workforce, or military. While Governor Abbott shared that further guidance on graduations is pending, please know that in the event that graduation cannot take place in May our high school principals and district leaders have worked together to schedule summer graduation dates in June and July. A flyer announcing the alternate graduation dates will be on social media and our website.

We know that this pandemic has placed increasing demands on you and your family. Remember that we are in this together. We too are learning every step of the way and encourage you to reach out to us--our campus and district administrators--if any assistance is needed.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, district leaders, and me, thank you for your understanding, support, and hard work during this unprecedented time. We miss you, and we miss all our students. Until we are together again, please continue to be healthy, safe, and WISD Strong.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Canales, Ph.D.