



October 8, 2020

Re: Suspension of Remote Online Learning for Alto ISD

Dear Alto ISD Families,

As we come to the close of our first nine weeks of school, the end of the 1st quarter, we have invested many hours reflecting on the effectiveness of our remote online learning model. Currently the remote learners make up over 17% of the district's total student enrollment. We have collected data on student progress, daily student engagement, and attendance. Overwhelmingly, the remote learners have been out of compliance with our Asynchronous Learning Plan in the areas of attendance and daily engagement. The data also shows 60% of all remote learners are failing one or more classes. In addition, almost ninety percent of our remote learners meet the "at risk" criteria by the Texas Education Agency. Not only are we fighting the COVID slide of regression in all students from last spring, but now we are also battling the continued regression in our remote learners. This data is alarming, and as a district we feel action must be taken immediately in order to provide intervention and an equal education for all students enrolled at Alto ISD.

At this time, it is in the best interest of ALL of our students to suspend the remote online learning option for Alto ISD. As of Friday, October 16th, the close of the 1st quarter, the remote online learning option will be suspended for all students. All students enrolled with Alto ISD will be required to report to their campus on Monday, October 19, 2020, the first day of the 2nd quarter, for traditional on-campus instruction. The only exception is for those students who are told to quarantine by their doctor, the Cherokee County Health Department, or the district nurse. Documentation will need to be turned in to Nurse Kim Holmes.

Although we believe wholeheartedly that traditional on-campus instruction is the best learning environment for our students, we are aware and completely understand that there are certain situations where on-campus learning is not what is best for your child(ren). In that case, below you will find options for deciding the best path forward for your family and your child(ren).

Options that will fulfil the compulsory education laws include:

- Withdraw your child(ren) and request transfer status from any other public school or TEA accredited charter school who accepts remote online transfers
- Withdraw your child(ren) to engage in homeschool education
- Withdraw your child(ren) and enroll in an online school:
Texas Virtual School Network: K-12 Online (k12.com) – virtual public school in Texas
- Withdraw your child(ren) and enroll in a private school that offers a remote online option

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we continue to work through these uncertain times in public education across our nation. The Administration of AISD, along with Board of Trustees, would also like to thank the teachers and staff for all their efforts over the past weeks to make the absolute best of a very tough situation, and the students for proving their strength and resilience once again.

Sincerely,

Kelly West
Alto ISD Superintendent

*Remote learners will be mailed additional information and instructions.