April 10, 2020

Dear Staff,

I am sure you have heard of and read Governor Whitmer’s order to stay home and stay safe, Executive Order 2020-21 (COVID-19). We strongly encourage you to follow the guidelines within the order. We are also sharing and identifying those positions that are critical to maintain minimum basic operations.

For purposes of the governor’s order 2020-21(COVID-19) and based on Section 4, subsection B:

4. No person or entity shall operate a business or conduct operations that require workers to leave their homes or places of residence except to the extent that those workers are necessary to sustain or protect life or to conduct minimum basic operations.

(a) For purposes of this order, workers who are necessary to sustain or protect life are defined as “critical infrastructure workers,” as described in sections 8 and 9.

(b) For purposes of this order, workers who are necessary to conduct minimum basic operations are those whose in-person presence is strictly necessary to allow the business or operation to maintain the value of inventory and equipment, care for animals, ensure security, process transactions (including payroll and employee benefits), or facilitate the ability of other workers to work remotely.

Businesses and operations must determine which of their workers are necessary to conduct minimum basic operations and inform such workers of that designation. Businesses and operations must make such designations in writing, whether by electronic message, public website, or other appropriate means. Such designations, however, may be made orally until March 31, 2020 at 11:59 pm.

We find it necessary to identify and designate: Administrators, Central Office Human Resources and Finance Staff, Pupil Accounting and Communication Services, Food Service Workers, Teachers, Technology Staff, Mail Room Staff, Maintenance and Custodians, as “Critical Infrastructure workers.” In addition, in order to ensure that our food distribution to students is adequately staffed and to maintain safe operations, we are designating our Food Service Workers for daily food preparation, and other Transportation Workers and GISD staff on a rotational basis. Each day, beginning April 6, approximately 8 Transportation Workers and 8 other GISD employees will be designated - on a rotating basis - to transport and distribute food at identified distribution sites. Presently, we anticipate that each day, approximately 24 staff will be assigned to food distribution. Over the course of each week, for the balance of the mandated closure, approximately 88 staff will be engaged in food distribution. The Transportation Workers and other GISD staff assigned to food distribution, will be notified by phone or email, ideally one week in advance of their rotational assignment.
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We understand there are concerns that you may have, however, we believe we are taking every safety precaution necessary to provide a secure and safe environment while we allow for food distribution.

We will update these designations, on our website, as needed; please visit the website on a regular basis for relevant information. Our buildings will remain closed for access to employees, consistent with the Governor’s Executive Orders, until further notice. We encourage you to stay safe and follow our Governor’s orders.

I want to assure you we will get through this together.

Dr. Lisa Hagel
Superintendent