



Menard ISD's top priority for our school and community is the safety and health of our students, staff, and community members. Over the past couple of weeks, there have been growing concerns about the spread of the COVID-19 or coronavirus. We are continuing to monitor the situation with guidance from multiple sources including but not limited to the State Department of Health Services, Texas Education Agency, UIL, our Education Service Center, and emergency management coordinator. We will continue with our communication with them through direct calls and conference calls. Please understand that this situation is changing quickly so as things change we will make decision based on the safety of everyone involved.

At this time, we are not canceling school. However, should circumstances change or local health officials advise differently, then we will keep parents and community informed through our district communication and local media.

Menard ISD has taken steps over spring break to disinfect and clean the schools. We will continue with regular cleaning to keep surfaces disinfected.

Upon returning from spring break, Menard ISD will be asking for help from students and parents. Staff and/or students do not need to go to school if they are **running fever** or have run fever been running fever. Even though we have no cases at this time, we need to be vigilant in the safety of our school and community. If during spring break you traveled to a Level 3 travel advisory country, you are requested to alert the district. Families should also self-report if they have been in contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. If you have symptoms (fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath) similar to those described for COVID-19, contact a medical professional and follow instructions. The following website has information on prevention and other information.

<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>

DSHS recommends these everyday actions to help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus, including COVID-19:

- Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.
- If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and then throw the tissue away.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

When new information becomes available, we will share with our parents, families, and communities. We will stay in contact with state agencies to make any further decisions based on current conditions. Please be aware this could last for several months and that as time goes we could be adjusting our school calendar to accommodate for student safety and state compliance.