

Dear EMS ISD Students and Families,

Starting Monday, March 23, EMS ISD teachers will begin distance learning activities to keep students on track with their learning and connected with their teachers and classmates. I want to commend our teachers, instructional staff, technology personnel, and others who have moved mountains to create a strong distance learning plan for all grade levels in such a short amount of time. They have been working tirelessly for you.

This first week of distance learning is designed as review and enrichment of concepts previously taught. The activities consist of varied learning approaches, including digital and non-digital options. For most grade levels, the week is structured so that students have choices on which activities to complete. For others, such as advanced high school courses and career and technology classes, there may be specific lessons. Either way, your teachers will be contacting you (if they haven't already) with details and expectations.

Our expectation is that all of our students continue to learn and grow academically during this time of distance learning. Your partnership with teachers will play an important role in helping our students maintain a high level of academic success now and into the future.

A new distance learning microsite, www.emsisd.com/emsdistancelearning, has been created on the EMS ISD website to keep parents informed of instructional expectations for their child(ren). The information on this site is to give families an overview of the next week's learning and serve as a resource throughout the week. It does not replace direct contact and instructions from teachers.

The distance learning microsite will be updated at 5 pm every Sunday with the next week's learning goals for as long as the distance learning plan is in effect. Here are a few additional items to remember as we move to distance learning:

- For technology troubleshooting during distance learning, please contact the EMS ISD Help Desk at 817-847-2990. The Help Desk will take calls from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm weekdays.
- The best way to access applications available to students and staff is through Single Sign On, <https://sso.ems-isd.net/>.
- Teachers for students grades Pre-K through 12 will communicate through parents via email and Remind messages.
- Students grades 6-12 have district-issued email accounts they can use to communicate with their teachers. The format is STUDENTID@s.ems-isd.net and the password is the same as their Canvas login. If parents do not want their child(ren) to have a district email account, please contact the EMS ISD Help Desk to opt out.
- Teachers will communicate directly the method(s) students will use to submit and share completed activities.

While our physical buildings currently remain closed through April 3, our teachers and district personnel stand ready and willing to serve you. We understand how challenging this whole situation is for everyone involved. We appreciate all the support and encouragement that has been shared with us, and we thank you for your partnership in the continued education of your children. Please know we are in this together and we will work to support each EMS ISD student and parent.

Please continue to follow our [information hub](#) for updates and communications.

Sincerely,

Jim F. Chadwell, Ed.D.
Superintendent