Dear EMS ISD Families,

Today during a noon press conference, Governor Greg Abbott announced a Public Health Disaster in Texas due to COVID-19 – the first of its kind in the state since 1901. As part of the order, he announced that all schools will be closed through April 3 to help prevent the spread of disease. All school-sponsored events and activities will be canceled during this time period as well.

EMS ISD joins other districts across the state in complying with the declaration and extending our current closure through April 3, at which time state and health department officials will reassess the situation. The Governor's announcement included further closures and restrictions statewide, but did not institute a shelter-in-place directive. All critical essential services will continue and domestic travel is still allowed.

We urge our EMS ISD families to practice social distancing and do your part to help combat the spread of COVID-19. We will be posting a copy of the Public Health Disaster Declaration directly to our information hub at <u>www.emsisd.com/coronavirus</u>.

The University Interscholastic League has also notified public schools today that UIL games and contests will resume no earlier than Monday, May 4. Districts will receive further guidance regarding practices and rehearsals depending on the reopen date for public schools.

We will continue to monitor guidance from the state and will share information with you as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

EMS ISD Leadership