

September 4, 2020

Thank you for your dedication and support over the first 12 days of learning. As we transition to In-Person and Choice Remote learning on September 8, several resources have been created to provide families with information on what to expect.

## Self-Screenings

All students, staff, and visitors are required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to any EMS ISD campus or facility. Please make sure to screen your child each day for any of the <a href="COVID-19">COVID-19</a> symptoms and contact your school nurse with questions.

Weekly self-screening reminders for EMS ISD parents/guardians and staff will begin Monday, September 7, and will continue on the day before the first day of classes each week. Please note that if you opt out of receiving these email messages, it will also opt you out of receiving other District email messaging possibly including, but not limited to, emergency notifications.

### **In-Person Learning**

EMS ISD staff have been working hard to prepare for students' return to campus. Procedures for transportation, mealtime, classroom instruction, campus cleaning, and more have been refined to ensure students are learning in the safest possible environment. Several short videos have been created to share highlights of these procedures. Watch to learn more

As students come to campus each school day for face-to-face instruction, the district will uphold enhanced health safety measures and continue strict cleaning and disinfecting protocols. Please review the Helpful Reminders for In-Person Learning below to help your child prepare to return to campus. Please also visit our Reconnect 2020 website to learn more about COVID symptoms and self-screenings, reporting a COVID case to the district, and other specifics.

- Helpful Reminders Elementary (ver en español)
- Helpful Reminders Secondary (ver en español)
- COVID Identification Flowchart
- COVID Symptoms
- Required Visitor Screening Process

### **Choice Remote Learning**

Learning and activities will continue online for those families who have previously chosen to remain in Choice Remote Learning. Teachers will be adjusting to having in-person and remote learners, so please continue to stay connected during class times as much as possible. Additional Helpful Reminders for Choice Remote Learning are provided to help your child continue his/her success in the remote environment:

- Helpful Reminders Elementary (ver en español)
- Helpful Reminders Secondary (ver en español)



# **Transportation**

GoldStar and the EMS ISD Transportation Department have been working diligently to prepare for this school year and have implemented specific protocols to provide additional cleaning and disinfecting of our bus fleet in response to COVID-19. These include wearing masks, disinfecting between each route, and reducing the number of riders per seat to no more than two when necessary. The full list of bus protocols is available under the Transportation tab on our Reconnect 2020 website.

GoldStar and the Transportation department also have added more resources to support questions and information needed by bus rider families for the start of school. Additional staff will be available to answer phone calls and address questions. For non-urgent questions, parents also can use a new form in the online Let's Talk portal to reach GoldStar personnel. All calls/Let's Talk messages received by 3 pm will be returned same-day and all others will receive a response the following day. We are working diligently to serve and support our bus riders and their families.

#### **Meal Services**

Breakfast and lunch will continue to be offered for both in-person and remote learners by our Child Nutrition Services department. Please see the linked information below regarding processes for the 2020-2021 school year.

- In-Person Meal Service (ver en español)
- Remote Meal Service (ver en español)

## **Reconnect 2020 Website Updates**

We have updated the Reconnect 2020 website to focus on In-Person and Choice Remote learning resources. Additional scenarios have been outlined to provide clarity for COVID responses and reporting, as well as updates to health safety protocols. The district also offers a site-by-site COVID tracking tool for each campus/facility. The site identifies new reports each day as well as active cases and number of recovered cases. The site will be updated weekdays at 5 pm and is designed to provide our community with a real-time overview of the COVID impact in our District.

Please continue to check email and social media, and visit the <u>Reconnect 2020</u> website for updates. Best wishes for a restful Labor Day weekend and we look forward to seeing your child either online or in-person on September 8!