



Dear IDEA Travis Parents,

Like schools across the country, we are closely monitoring the evolving pandemic and the impact it will have on next school year. We are grateful for the insights our families have shared and have consulted experts including the Center for Disease Control, Texas Education Agency and local health departments.

With safety and student success at the forefront of our planning, we are pleased to share latest details about our new school year, Strong Start 2020:

IDEA'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL will remain August 11. IDEA has opted to keep our academic calendar as previously shared and in the event an intersessional break is needed, we will add additional days to the end of the school year.

As students return to school on August 11, families will have the following options: **RECEIVE INSTRUCTION ONLINE or PARTICIPATE IN IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION.**

We know many of you shared your feedback in preliminary conversations, but now that we will offer two learning paths, we need to hear from you once more. Over the next three weeks, IDEA Travis staff will contact you to learn your child's school attendance preference. Please keep an eye out for a call from our incredible team!

For those families who will join us physically, or those who are undecided, we hope you will be pleased to hear how IDEA has increased its safety precautions to protect students and staff while in our care. We are implementing strong safety precautions because we believe in the benefits of classroom in-person instruction. Understanding that this option may not be ideal for all families, we will offer learning online.

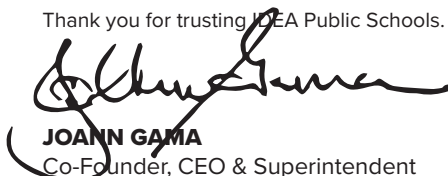
Starting in August:

- ▶ IDEA will have expanded safeguards for drop-off and pick-up times, including multiple locations to minimize congestion.
 - ▶ Transportation will continue to be offered by MISD for students living in the Travis attendance zone, but we strongly recommend parents pick up and drop off as this is the safest way to get to and from school.
- ▶ Students and staff will have temperature checks upon entering the campus.
- ▶ Students will have to stop by a hand hygiene station before entering the campus.
- ▶ Students will be asked to wear masks when in common areas.
- ▶ All adults will wear masks when in common areas.
- ▶ Teachers will wear masks when delivering individual instruction, but may remove them during whole class instruction.
- ▶ While in classrooms:
 - ▶ Classrooms will be limited to small groups as designated by CDC Guidelines
 - ▶ Students will have plexiglass desk guards, this allow students to remove masks while in classrooms, if they choose to
 - ▶ Students will eat all meals in the classroom
 - ▶ Students will not rotate classes
 - ▶ Multiple hand hygiene breaks will be built into the day

Lastly, as we work to prepare our scholars for the workforce of the future, IDEA Public Schools is pleased to announce we are strengthening our commitment to support students on the path to and through college by providing **PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES TO ALL SCHOLARS** enrolled at IDEA grades Pre-K through 12. This includes Chromebook tablets or laptops for students to keep with them at no cost to families. We believe this increased access to technology will provide continuity of learning during this period of uncertainty.

Please stay tuned to IDEA's Back to School webpage ideapublicschools.org/back2school2020 and IDEA's national Facebook Page fb.com/ideapublicschools for reminders.

Thank you for trusting IDEA Public Schools.



JOANN GAMA
Co-Founder, CEO & Superintendent