



---

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE • CREATING THE FUTURE

October 30, 2020

To: Calallen ISD Parents/Guardians  
Greater Northwest Community

From: Dr. Arturo Almendarez  
Superintendent of Schools

The current 2020-2021 school year is moving forward despite the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has presented in our personal lives, as well as in the educational realm. Calallen ISD Administration and staff planned fervently under the guidance of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to balance the obligation to resume daily instruction for our students, while also prioritizing the need to ensure their health and safety. The instructional timeline provided all students with virtual learning opportunities that began on August 19, 2020 and incorporated transitional face-to-face arrivals at campuses that followed on September 8, 2020.

At the initial offering for students to return for face-to-face instruction in early September, 55% of students returned to District classrooms. Since that time and to date, I am pleased to announce parents/guardians have made decisions returning 77% of our students back to the traditional, face-to-face classroom environment across our various campuses. The success Calallen ISD is experiencing providing for a safe, healthy environment for our students is attributed to the mindful diligence parents, District staff and students have exhibited in closely adhering to health protocols, safe distancing measures, hand sanitizing opportunities and disinfecting regimens at our facilities. Due to these measures, as of today Calallen ISD has fortunately reported only 5 lab confirmed, positive COVID-19 cases of the 3,071 students enrolled in face-to-face instruction.

While even one positive case is too many, I am extremely proud of the widespread community efforts that are the foundation for the success the District and community is experiencing in dealing with this unfortunate pandemic. We must all continue to work together to ensure that we are vigilant in maintaining a healthy, educational environment. Be assured Calallen ISD will continue to monitor this ever-evolving situation and will make timely decisions based on data and our commitment to the best interests of students and staff, while upholding our pledge to educational excellence.