



# Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

**DISTRICT STATUS: LEVEL 3**

Dear STISD Families,

We continue to work in conjunction with local and federal authorities, as well as our sister school districts to actively monitor the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). As always, the safety of our students, staff and families remains our top priority, and we will act appropriately to keep us all safe.

In response to developments throughout the tri-county region we serve, STISD has moved from **LEVEL 2** and is now operating at **LEVEL 3** as detailed in the chart below. We will make adjustments to this chart as we deem appropriate and as the situation calls for. This situation continues to evolve and may at times require us to make decisions quickly in the best interest of our district community. We ask for your continued patience as we move forward with our efforts to continue instruction and the serving of meals to our community while working to ensure the health and safety of all those involved.

| <b>LEVEL 1</b><br>(Actively Monitoring - No reported cases in Cameron, Willacy, or Hidalgo Counties)   | <b>LEVEL 2</b><br>(Cases in either Cameron, Willacy, or Hidalgo Counties, but not within STISD community)   | <b>LEVEL 3</b><br>(Confirmed cases amongst students, staff or STISD community)   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More frequent cleaning of common areas including door hardware, bus seats, etc.</li> <li>- Educate students, staff and families on respiratory etiquette and universal precautions</li> <li>- Continue to monitor attendance and communicate with Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy County Health Departments</li> <li>- Communicate to families to keep sick children home. STISD will strictly enforce 24-hour fever policy</li> <li>- Communicate to staff to stay home if sick</li> <li>- Cancel school-sponsored out of state travel for students and staff for remainder of the year</li> <li>- Suspend school-sponsored travel out of the valley for students and staff until further notice</li> <li>- Review Infectious Disease Plan</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Includes all Level I actions</li> <li>- Increase cleaning efforts to include scheduled hand washing for students</li> <li>- Limit all unnecessary travel</li> <li>- Limit large gatherings to only essential events or postpone essential events</li> <li>- Limit/restrict outside visitors/guests</li> <li>- Restrict outside food deliveries to facilities</li> <li>- Implement social distancing, as appropriate</li> <li>- Increase frequency of communication with local and federal health agencies</li> <li>- Review attendance policies and guidelines</li> <li>- Review contingency and continuation plans</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Includes all Level I and Level II actions</li> <li>- Close campuses, feeder areas or entire school district in consultation with Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy County Health Departments</li> <li>- Cancel building rentals and all school events (athletics, fine arts, etc.)</li> <li>- Cancel all school-related and staff travel</li> <li>- In the event of campus closures, communicate to families the extent of closures and length</li> <li>- In the event of campus closures, communicate to essential staff to report to duty to maintain services.</li> <li>- Perform a deep cleaning to all areas</li> <li>- Announce and Implement instructional continuation plans for core areas</li> <li>- Implement redesigned meal service for students</li> </ul> |

Health officials are recommending that local communities and schools should take the same basic preventative measures to protect against COVID-19, like you would for the cold and flu:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick and do not return to work or school
- Cover your coughs or sneezes with a tissue (not your hands)
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Currently Cameron, Hidalgo & Willacy County Public Health Departments continue to keep us informed regarding the immediate threat to our community. We will continue to take appropriate measures to ensure everyone's health and safety.

We encourage you to get your information from credible sources. The Texas Department of State Health Services has a webpage with updates, key messages, frequently asked questions, travel advisories, and more at: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/>. Should you need specific information about COVID-19 for STISD, [please click here](#).