

April 1, 2020

Dear University of Texas Charter School System Families and Friends,

Given the executive order posted March 31, 2020 by the governor of Texas and the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19, **The University of Texas Charter School System** will extend the suspension of normal district operations and all 24 of its campuses until **Monday, May 4, 2020** in an effort support our nation's need to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. Our health officials report that cases are continuing to spread in the state, and an increase in confirmed cases in all of our counties seems likely. Suspending operations for this length of time will allow us to determine, in coordination with local health officials, whether the virus is continuing to have community spread or whether it has been contained.

All of our campuses have remote/distant learning in place. I want to thank you all for your flexibility and understanding as we continue to improve this effort. Please continue to work with your campus principal as we will provide ongoing instruction and support to our students until the end of this school year. We are also working hard to ensure our high school students are earning credits and our seniors will graduate. I know that this is not easy, and the public health nature of this situation has added another layer of difficulty for everyone. Please know we are all working hard every day to stay solutions focused for our students.

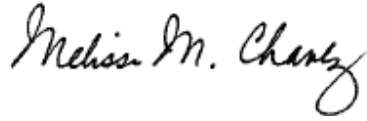
In an effort to support the public health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has outlined the need for all communities to implement a social distancing protocol. We want to reiterate a request to our broader community to take the following reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of the illness:

- Don't shake hands
- Wash your hands regularly
- Practice social distancing: maintain distance of 6 feet (approximately 2 meters) from others when possible.
- If you are moving around in the community, don't congregate in groups
- For those who have traveled to areas with known COVID-19 cases – both inside and outside of the country – we ask that you self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms. Students who have traveled should plan to stay home for two weeks after arriving home. Please contact your campus to let them know, and this will be considered an excused absence.
- If you suspect you have [symptoms of COVID-19](#), call your health care provider for medical advice.
- Keep children at home if he/she feels ill, even if you think it is just a cold
- Do not leave the house if you are ill, except to access medical care

This is a quickly changing situation and we will continue to monitor information, assess conditions throughout the week, and will provide weekly updates via our website and email.

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we ensure that all members of the community stay safe.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa M. Chavez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa M. Chavez, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President and Superintendent
The University of Texas Charter School System
The University of Texas at Austin