



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Richard F. Cortez
County Judge

David L. Fuentes
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Ellie Torres
Commissioner, Precinct 4

**OFFICE OF
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RICHARD F. CORTEZ**

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

Hidalgo County Local Health Authority issues order for remote learning at all schools until after September 27, 2020

EDINBURG – Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Ivan Melendez, in his capacity as the Hidalgo County Local Health Authority, issued an order that all public and private schools, from grades pre-kindergarten through grade 12, will not re-open for in-campus instruction until after September 27, 2020. The order was signed and issued on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

As per the order, instruction may be provided through virtual, remote, or distance learning only. Administrators, teachers, and staff may conduct or facilitate the remote learning process, or other operations, while on-campus provided they follow all CDC guidelines including social distancing and wearing facial coverings at all times.

"I commend Dr. Melendez for putting the safety of our students, teachers and district staff first," said Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez. "As our numbers continue to rise, it is vital that we protect our children and our teachers. Until we can get a better handle on this virus we must continue to keep our distance from one another."

Schools will not be allowed to host any school-sponsored events and activities, such as clubs, sports, fairs, exhibitions, and academic or athletic competitions, until after on-campus instruction resumes. At least two weeks before resuming on-campus instruction, each school district must develop and submit a plan to parents and the public for their re-opening.

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Attachment: Signed order.

Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the over 800,000 residents of our county. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility. Follow our social media feed at www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/followus