

April 9, 2020

Dear UT Elementary School Families:

It is with a heavy heart that we write today to let you know that our campus building will remain closed for an indefinite period of time, as part of the city's ongoing efforts to slow the spread of the COVID-19. This means we will not be having our staff and students back on campus for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year. Please know that our teachers and staff are very sad that our school year has ended in this way, but as you all know it cannot be helped.

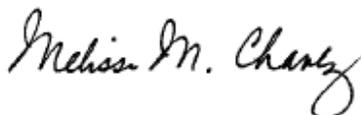
The teachers and staff have prepared school lessons, activities and resources for your child. Google classroom is the main platform for remote learning instruction. All students have been provided a secure @utexaselementary.org domain ID and password that will link them to their classrooms. When logged in, students will find assignments from teachers and special areas. Library, health, and counseling services are included. We have also developed an instructional channel on YouTube. Resources and additional information is available on the UT Elementary website's [Distance Learning Resources](#) page.

We are working diligently to meet the needs of all of our students as much as possible during this unusual situation including students with an (IEP) Individual Education Program and English learners. Expect to receive regular contact from an interventionist and/or special education teacher to provide added instructional support. We know that remote learning is not the same as interacting in person with our students in classrooms; however, we are prepared to continue to provide enriching lessons and activities during this very challenging time. Please communicate with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about the instructional activities or support for your student.

The University of Texas Elementary School's entire staff is heartbroken that our school year has ended this way, particularly for our 5th graders who will not be able to participate in a face-to-face advancement ceremony. However, please know we are making plans to create a virtual ceremony on May 19th and students will receive the Little Longhorn sashes we have provided every year. We appreciate your patience as we make plans and details will be sent to all 5th grade families in the next few weeks.

The health and safety of our students, staff and their families is our number one priority. We will continue to work closely with public health officials and the City of Austin to make the best decisions for our school communities. We will continue to use Class Dojo and email to provide essential information and updates regarding next school year. If you have any questions or concerns please email the school at ut.elementary@austin.utexas.edu.

Warmest regards,



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



Nicole Whetstone, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent and Executive Principal
The University of Texas Charter School System
The University of Texas at Austin