October 26, 2020

RE: Important Information Regarding Remote Instruction

Dear Lytle ISD Families,

I would like to thank the faculty and staff of Lytle ISD for the exceptional work during the first 9 weeks of school. This has been a challenging experience to provide in person and remote instruction simultaneously and the teachers have excelled in their efforts. In addition to instruction, they have also monitored for the health and safety of students. I commend everyone for the extra efforts to sanitize and social distance while instructing.

Since August, the district has experienced twelve Covid-19 cases. We have four active cases at this time and the hope of zero active cases in two days. At that time, all students will have recovered. Please continue to practice safety and mitigation strategies to keep your family safe. We will continue to do our part here at school. For current information go to https://www.lytleisd.org/.

At the October 19, school board meeting the leadership team presented student performance data. The first nine weeks of instruction over 50% of the remote learners failed while only 15% of in-person learners failed. The second 9 weeks grading period 70% or about 1200 students are returning for in-person instruction. That leaves just over 500 students choosing remote instruction. At this rate, we will see about 250 students fail. This is unacceptable and these students will not be able to recover credit for the semester and perhaps the year. The educational gap between these students and the in-person students will widen and be difficult to overcome. Thus, the leadership team made the difficult decision to end remote instruction for failing remote learners. We believe this to be in the best interest of failing students. For these students in-person instruction is essential to their education and wellbeing. Students who are successful in remote instruction will continue. Any student that is required to isolate or quarantine due to Covid-19 will be a remote learner during that time.

If your child is failing during remote instruction your campus principal will be sending you a letter by Nov 2 indicating your child is required to attend school in person on Nov 9. If your child has a medically diagnosed condition that potentially makes this an unsafe route, please make an appointment with the campus principal to discuss your concerns.

For families who do not want their child(ren) to return to in-person instruction alternatives include utilizing the Texas Virtual Academy, transferring to another district or homeschool. If you choose one of these options, please be sure to withdraw your child(ren) from their current campus.

Thank you for your cooperation and support during this time.

Respectfully,

Michelle Carroll Smith
Superintendent
Lytle ISD