



# *Mexico Public Schools*

March 17, 2020

Dear Mexico 59 Families,

The Mexico School District administration, along with health and government officials, continue to monitor the latest developments regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, there are no positive cases of the coronavirus in Audrain County. However, **to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff, Mexico 59 will not be in session beginning Friday, March 20 until Monday, April 13, 2020.** All school activities, including athletic and extracurricular practices and competitions, will be cancelled during this time.

We recognize the hardship this places on our families, and we thank you for your support and patience as we work through this process. Our schools serve as places of learning, but they are also sources of comfort, routine, support, and nutrition for children in our community. Decisions like this are tough to make as we also consider food insecurity and unsupervised youth. We hope this allows you time to make preparations. Please be mindful of the recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with regard to social distancing. The district recognizes that some families may take action prior to the closing of school by choosing to keep children home. We respect the rights of parents to make that decision and will honor that choice; we simply ask that you contact your child's school and let them know of your decision. Also remember as you are arranging care for your child(ren) that persons above the age of 60 and those with underlying health conditions are at high risk from COVID-19.

Our public schools are committed to the health and safety of students and staff. We are receiving frequent updates from the Audrain County Health Dept (ACHD), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). We will continue to share information with you as it becomes available. Email will be our primary communication method during this time. We appreciate your continued support and partnership of teaching, learning, and caring with Mexico 59! #MEX59TLC

Sincerely,

Zach Templeton, Superintendent