

TULOSO-MIDWAY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Melodie McClarren, Interim Superintendent

Dear Tulo-Midway Students, Parents, Community and Staff,

The beginning of every school year brings with it a range of emotions. Excitement, happiness, anxiety, and the sad realization that summer is coming to an end. This school year is no exception, however, our emotions are enhanced by the Coronavirus pandemic and all of the uncertainty that comes with the virus and its impact on all of us. I hope that in the face of this adversity, you have chosen to remain positive and full of hope that this is behind us shortly. It has been a long time since we have seen the smiling faces of our parents and students and all of us at Tulo-Midway want nothing more than to see our buildings full again and bustling with students learning to their full potential. Until our county is safe enough to do that, we hope that you understand our county leadership wants nothing more than to assure the safety of everyone associated with our schools.

Never before have I seen administrators and staff work so hard to provide for our students in a manner in which none of us are familiar. Schools have rolled out devices and hotspots to as many students as possible and we have ordered more. The nationwide demand for devices may make delivery time later than we'd like, but be assured we are doing all we can to get devices as soon as possible. Even TEA's Operation Connectivity cannot get devices out to schools until November but we are hoping with our suppliers we can do so much more quickly.

Teachers have done an amazing job in preparing for their students. Their online classes look wonderful and they have planned many great lessons which follow the Texas TEKS and our curriculum precisely. They have worked hard to provide lessons that will encourage students to be actively engaged in their learning. The most important thing you can do to assist us is to be certain your students interact each day with their teachers. If you do not have a device, please watch for Facetime or Zoom meetings that can take place on your phones. Your teachers will be in touch with your children one way or another. Though things are frustrating for all of us, Tulo-Midway parents and students have always been so positive and understanding and we know this will continue as we move forward. We know many of you have had life-changing events in your lives since the closure of school on March 13th. We have experienced those events in our lives, as well. We offer our understanding and compassion as you work through these hard times. We will do anything we can to assist you as we move forward.

As this school year begins for all of us, may we have Hope for a better future, Faith that we can all lift each other up to do the best for our children, Compassion for those who are struggling and above all, Love for everyone working hard to make this all work.

I am here to serve T-M in any way possible. Thank you for being a part of our incredible community.

With best regards,

Melodie McClarren
Interim Superintendent