



MARTINSVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Creating Responsible, Effective Adults Through Education

Dear MISD Families and Staff,

Due to the increased trend of lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 and individuals with COVID-19 symptoms and out of an abundance of caution to break the incubation cycle of the virus, Martinsville ISD will *be closed* beginning IMMEDIATELY and extending through the Labor Day Holiday on Monday, September 6, 2021. This will include ALL extra-curricular events and practices. This will allow us to deep-clean the campus while we are closed and to be sure that individuals infected with the virus are not on campus when they are contagious. School will resume on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. We believe this action to be in the best interest and safety of our faculty, staff, and students, which is our top priority.

The Delta variant is more infectious and is leading to increased transmissibility when compared to other variants, even in vaccinated individuals.

In keeping with MISD's practices to respond to COVID-19, we are notifying all families that 6 students who were lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 were present on our campus, among our 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th grade, on August 24-25, 2021. Due to privacy requirements, we will not be releasing the names of the individuals or details that may identify him or her.

Total Active Cases at MISD (lab confirmed to have COVID-19) – 20
2 staff and 18 students.

Moreover, we are at a 20% percent reduction in average daily attendance rate for this time of the school year. We understand the gravity of this situation and have not taken action lightly. The decision to close will undoubtedly be an inconvenience for many, but the safety of our students, faculty, and staff and our potential to prevent future closures must take precedence in these times.

At this time, we do not anticipate having to adjust our instructional calendar because of the number of days built into the calendar, as well as available waiver days.

We encourage anyone in the Martinsville ISD community who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, to please contact our school nurse Joni Chandler at jchandler@martinsvilleisd.com or call her at 936 564 3455.

Sincerely,

David Simmons, Ph.D.

Superintendent