

July 14, 2020

MISD Staff and Families,

What a great week. While I continued to reach out to various stakeholders within the community by phone (over 100 staff members, parents, and community leaders so far), I was able to continue listening and learning at the “meet and greets,” including two with our employees. I really appreciated the time with so many dedicated members of the Montgomery ISD family. I was able to share why I’m so excited for this opportunity and some of my initial learnings about the district and then take questions and exchange ideas. As you would imagine, there were many questions about the district’s reopening plans, as well as educators sharing why they love working in MISD. Again, I appreciate everyone who was able to attend, and for wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Both employee “meet and greets” were recorded and posted on the Montgomery ISD YouTube channel for anyone who wants to watch.

I also valued being part of Dr. Ann Dixon’s meeting with principals and senior staff regarding reopening plans. There was excellent collaboration and a thoughtful exchange of ideas. Everyone is focused on making sure that student and staff health and safety are the absolute highest priorities. The goal is to announce reopening plans very soon.

My week ended speaking at the Chamber luncheon. I was very grateful to Shannan Reid, head of the chamber, for not only inviting me to the event, but also to make education the focus of the meeting. It was truly special to have the business community pledge their continued support for MISD.

Between all of these meetings, I also got to meet with each board member. When I am asked about what drew me to MISD, there are so many amazing things I can cite, but the opportunity to work with this board is extremely high on this list. They all care about the district and its employees. They have provided clear direction to me: balance the budget; find ways to increase employee pay so we are a leader in the region; and, work collaboratively to lead MISD to become THE premier school district in Texas. These are excellent goals for any superintendent, and after meeting with so many employees and community members, ones that I know we can, and will, achieve together.

Regards,

Heath