MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS PAUSES FACE-TO-FACE (F2F) LEARNING AND IS TRANSITIONING TO FULL REMOTE LEARNING THROUGH END OF 1ST SEMESTER
(Note: This does not affect students currently in Virtual learning.)

One thing has remained constant during the 2020-21 school year …
Midland PS highest priority is the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff!

As we all know, the number of COVID cases in our state, country and community are steadily rising.

As MPS continues to look at the COVID numbers and the trajectory specifically in our region, we believe it is in the best interest of our District’s students and staff to pause F2F learning and move to full remote learning through the end of 1st semester.

**November 23, 24, 25, 30 2020 through January 18, 2021**
(Note: November 25 is 1/2 day — AM only instruction)

From Thanksgiving week through the end of the 1st semester, MPS is taking a PAUSE in F2F learning during the remaining school days of 1st semester and moving to District-wide remote learning

Rationale:

⇒ Filling F2F classroom vacancies with guest teachers while instructional staff are in quarantine is becoming problematic. With the number of students and staff quarantined, it is becoming more challenging to provide the consistent, high-quality teaching and learning experiences our teachers are known for providing students.

⇒ MPS Student/Staff/Family COVID-19 concern and social-emotional unease and fear are becoming widely apparent.

**January 19, 2021**

⇒ It is the District’s full intent for MPS Face-to-Face students to return to their home school for in-person teaching/learning 2nd semester of 2020-21.

⇒ The District strongly recommends that all F2F students and staff quarantine for 14 days prior to returning on January 19. We believe this will give our students a better chance to remain in F2F learning and allow COVID positive cases and close contacts a greater chance to remain under control.

Since last spring the MPS team has been planning for possible future remote learning situations, and we have a well-defined plan to support our transition to remote learning. **Next week you will receive more information from your child’s school regarding the specific learning schedule, meal pick-up dates, sports and extracurricular activities, and other important details to ensure your child's success in remote learning.**

The message we continue to hear from health department officials is that schools are not the transmitters/spreaders of the disease. The disease is being spread in communities and homes, however, as we have all seen from the recent MPS close contact quarantined numbers, our schools are being affected. We are hopeful this MPS F2F PAUSE will get us through the holidays. When we return to F2F for 2nd semester on January 19, we must ALL remain vigilant to keep the COVID spread at bay. Thank you staff, students and families for your trust and support.

Michael E. Sharrow, Superintendent of Schools

* During these remote learning days, MPS staff and students will use CANVAS to teach/learn remotely using their MPS-issued Chromebook.

**During these days, all students will connect via CANVAS. Your child’s school will provide connectivity details next week.**

(CANVAS is the learning management system MPS purchased last summer for remote learning.)