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December 11, 2020

Dear Milano ISD Parents, Guardians, and Students

In August when Milano ISD started the 2020-21 school year, we offered two options for instruction to our students, Asynchronous and Face-to-Face. This was done in an effort to combat concerns and the possible spread of COVID-19 during the pandemic. At that time, roughly 70% of our students and their families chose the on-campus/face-to-face instructional while the remaining 30% chose the Asynchronous/Remote Learning option. After a semester of instruction, roughly 90% of our students have returned to face-to-face learning while only 10% of our students are still Asynchronous.

The Milano ISD Board of Trustees, superintendent, administrators, and staff have carefully monitored and reviewed the academic and attendance data of those students receiving and participating in remote learning. We have concurred that the online remote learning option is not the most effective academic method of instruction for the majority of our students. Additionally, we have found that dual-instruction requirements placed on our teaching staff is not sustainable and suitable for the academic success of our students.

Given these facts, Milano ISD will suspend the option of Asynchronous/Remote Learning in the Spring semester and ask parents to prepare their students to return to school for face-to-face instruction on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

If you disagree with the remote learning cancellation, you may appeal this decision by:

1. **Submitting a medical exemption.** This exemption requires healthcare provider certification that your child or an individual in his/her household has a high-risk medical condition as defined by the Centers for Disease Control.
2. **Request a transition meeting.** If you request a transition meeting (which can be held virtually), you need to contact Dr. Luevanos at eluevanos@milanoisd.net to schedule a transition meeting. The meeting will occur within 3 days after you request it, and your child may continue to learn remotely until the meeting has been held. The transition meeting will be for non-medical reasons.

You will need to submit all documentation and or request for a transition meeting to Dr. Luevanos or send them via email to eluevanos@milanoisd.net by Thursday, January 7, 2021 by 5pm. The documentation will be reviewed and a transition meeting will be scheduled. The district appeals committee will make the determination if your child can remain asynchronous or return to face-to-face instruction.

Milano ISD will continue to offer remote asynchronous learning to any student who needs to be quarantined or isolated due to a positive COVID-19 test per doctor and or health department. We appreciate your support as we continue to work together to ensure a safe and productive school year.

Once again, thank you for your continued support during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Westbrook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Westbrook".

Robert Westbrook
Superintendent
Milano ISD