

Hurricane Harvey Skyward e-mail sent 9/1/17

Dear Pearland ISD Families:

We hope this message finds you safe and sound. We know that many of our Pearland ISD families and employees were affected by the storm and flooding, with some losing their homes or other property.

All Pearland ISD campuses will resume school according to our regular schedule on Tuesday, Sept. 5. (Monday, Sept. 4 remains a Labor Day holiday for students and employees.) All employees will report to duty the same day. Please note: It is likely there will be a high volume of traffic similar to the first day of school.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

All bus routes will run according to the regular schedule, but might be delayed due to traffic. However, if you live in Clear Creek Estates or Twin Creek Woods subdivisions, buses will pick up students where your street meets Knapp Road. If you live in the Twin Wood subdivision, bus pickup will be where your street meets Old Alvin Road. If you live north of Brookside, buses will pick up students on Brookside Road.

FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

To offer additional support for our students and their families, we will provide free breakfast and lunch for all affected Pearland ISD students during the month of September. This offer applies only to regular cafeteria meals (and does NOT include a la carte items). We know that many parents have not been able to work, which impacts household budgets.

MINIMAL ISSUES AT PEARLAND ISD FACILITIES

We've received many questions from parents, employees and community members about the state of our schools and facilities. Overall, the district endured Harvey very well and we do not have any remaining water issues and any minor issues have already been resolved. Our maintenance and custodial staffs have worked diligently to ensure our campuses are ready to welcome everyone back next Tuesday.

STUDENT EMOTIONAL NEEDS

It is difficult to predict the emotional impact of a major disaster on children and returning to a normal school schedule will probably offer some level of comfort for many students. However, we recommend that parents visit the following links:

For a good basic summary of how parents can help their children heal:

<http://www.nctsn.org/products/after-crisis-helping-young-children-heal>

For a more detailed breakdown of the warning signs:

http://www.redcross.org/images/MEDIA_CustomProductCatalog/m14740413_Helping_children_cope_with_disaster_-_English.pdf

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NEED ASSISTANCE?

Pearland ISD has compiled a list of resources to assist families. Please visit: <http://www.pearlandisd.org/Page/15175>.

If you need assistance, the following places are also distribution centers for various items:

PTA Swap Shop/Community Closet

Located behind PJH West in the brown building across from PACE Center. Enter from Old Alvin Rd., turn into driveway leading to PACE Center and building is straight ahead. Look for the Swap Shop banner.

Open Tuesday, Sept. 5, 9 am – 8 pm

Items available: new underwear/socks, dress code tops/bottoms, shoes, backpacks, outerwear and more. Download the [Swap Shop flyer](#).

Crossroads Church

3350 Manvel Road, Pearland, TX 77584

Open 10 am – 2 pm, daily until further notice

Items available: non-perishable food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, baby items, gift cards and bottled water

Pearland Neighborhood Center

2335 N. Texas Avenue, Pearland, TX 77581

281-485-1987

Open 9 am – 5 pm, Mon - Fri

Items available: non-perishable food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, baby items

HURRICANE MAKE-UP DAYS

The Texas Education Agency has already contacted school districts in counties affected by the storm regarding missed instructional days. We will have the opportunity to request a missed instruction day waiver and all indications are that waivers will be approved for days missed from Aug. 25-Sept. 1. Once the district's waiver is approved, we will not have to make up the missed days.

INSTRUCTION

Missing six instructional days means over a week of the curriculum was missed and that information must be covered during the remainder of the school year. However, in an effort to ease students back into the school year, we are asking teachers to assign less homework than normal for the next week.

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BACK TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Elementary and Junior High Meet Your Teacher Nights were canceled because of the storm. Those may be rescheduled in the coming weeks and principals will be in contact with parents soon to share updated information.

UIL/ATHLETIC EVENTS

Many districts are not able to resume school next week, which could impact previously scheduled athletics events. Pearland ISD coaches will be in contact with players and parents regarding whether or not practices or games will take place as scheduled. Sports fans can always keep track of events by visiting the Athletics website at www.pearlandisd.org/athletics.

PEARLAND ISD GIFT CARD DRIVE

So many people have asked how they can help. Pearland ISD is having a gift card drive for students and their families, as well as employees, who have been affected by the storm and flooding.

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 5, you can drop off or mail gift card donations at the Virgil Gant Education Support Center (1928 N. Main, Pearland, TX, 77581). For more information, please contact Communications Coordinator Lexi Marshall at marshalla@pearlandisd.org.

We have so many wonderful organizations in Pearland where students, families and employees can receive food, clothing, school supplies and more. If you need information for any of these, visit the Pearland ISD Community Resources list: http://pearlandisd.org/cms/lib/TX01918186/Centricity/Domain/540/Resource_List_2016-2017_Update_5_25_17.pdf

SPECIAL THANKS

We want to say a special thanks to our Maintenance and Operations team, who leapt to action once the storm had passed and made sure our schools and facilities were ready for students to return. It is also a testament to the dedication of our employees with so many of them helping others in a number of ways during and after the storm – bus drivers using buses to transport Pearland residents to area shelters, a number of employees volunteering endless hours at the temporary PHS shelter, coaches and busloads of student athletes to help with clean-up efforts, employees helping their colleagues with clean-up at their homes – the stories are endless! We are so proud of Team Pearland ISD!

We look forward to seeing all students and staff as school resumes on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Please let us know how we can assist you.

Thank you,
Kim Hocott
Executive Director of Communications