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 A special message from Superintendent of Schools Millard House II

Dear HISD Community:

As part of my commitment to keeping our students and staff safe, I would like to update you on a new measure that I will be implementing. In addition to providing our quarantined students with the opportunity to participate in temporary virtual instruction, I have decided to launch a virtual academy for some of our most vulnerable students.

For our students too young to be vaccinated (age 11 and under) who have a compromised immune system, the district will be providing the option of participating in virtual instruction for the fall semester beginning Monday, August 30. While the State will not provide funding for this instruction, the district will leverage ESSER relief funds to cover the costs. The virtual academy will be taught by dedicated central staff so that campus teachers can focus on instructing students who are participating in-person.

More details around eligibility and the process to apply for this option will be available on the [district's website](#) on **Friday, August 20 at 6 p.m.** Parents of eligible students will need to submit an online form and submit medical documentation to their campus by Wednesday, August 25. Parents may also visit any campus beginning Monday, August 23, if they need help completing the online form. If an eligible student participates in the virtual academy, their spot will be held at their regular campus.

As we near the start of the new school year, please know that we continue to be focused on one thing — accelerating student learning and fostering social and emotional development in a safe and nurturing environment. I hope this new option helps accomplish that goal for our most vulnerable students.

Sincerely,

 Millard House II signature
Millard House II
HISD Superintendent