



Dear Friends in the Willowridge Community,

I am writing to provide an update on the mold cleanup process at Willowridge High School, as the first day of school is quickly approaching. As we have previously shared, environmental experts are leading this extensive cleanup process, and because our student and staff safety is our top priority, we will not act in haste. We are going to do this right.

I learned yesterday that, despite our round-the-clock efforts, the school will not be ready to welcome students on the first day of school. While this is disappointing, our District leaders have been working with the WHS administrative team to make alternative arrangements and prepare for this scenario. We know that this is a fluid situation, and we remain committed to not opening the building until it is 100 percent ready. In the meantime, we will do all we can to ensure that students and staff members have a safe, welcoming and quality learning environment on August 22.

District leaders continue to work with the Willowridge leadership team to finalize these alternative plans, and we expect to share more details with you by the end of next week. While I am saddened that our students and staff will continue to be impacted by this unfortunate situation, please know that we are putting our student and staff needs at the forefront of every decision. Beginning today, we are providing a website, <u>www.FortBendISD.com/WHSmoldremediation</u>, where our community members can go for updated information regarding the cleanup process. We will share information as it becomes available, and as decisions are made.

Let me reiterate our commitment to supporting our WHS staff members with the resources and support they need. I know that many of you may have heard about fundraising efforts that have been organized by student groups and individuals, and we appreciate that so many people have graciously offered to help our Willowridge Community. **To be clear: Fort Bend ISD stands ready to replace all instructional items, furniture, supplies and other items that are needed to restore WHS and support our students and staff.** 

With that in mind, I realize that our teachers have lost some of their personal items accumulated during a career of teaching. We cannot underestimate this loss, and so I understand and appreciate that many fellow teachers and community members are willing to help with supplemental items. This is humbling. To help facilitate the process, the WHS website will also include more information about how our community can provide direct assistance to the staff and students of WHS.

Willowridge High School continues to have our full attention and support. We appreciate your continued partnership. Please be on the lookout next week for details on the plan to start school at an alternative location.

Very Truly Yours,

Charles Dupre

We understand that you may have questions, and we will continue to update an FAQ on the WHS website. You can submit questions by using this "Let's Talk" link.