Summary Debrief of TEA COVID-19 Superintendents Calls
As Of: April 9, 2020

Next steps for districts and charters:
1. Bookmark TEA’s coronavirus website tea.texas.gov/coronavirus for the most up-to-date guidance
2. Help amplify the Stay Well, Texas public health campaign at tea.texas.gov/staywell. New communications resources were added on April 9
3. Please continue to submit questions to disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov

Reminders:
- Governor Abbott’s closure order was extended to May 4, 2020. Please do not send updates on districts closings to disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov.
- TEA will host another deep dive webinar related to TexasHomeLearning.org on Wednesday, April 15 at 3:00pm. The zoom link will be sent via the superintendent listserv.
- TEA will also host a cybersecurity webinar related to virtual meeting security considerations on Thursday, April 16 at 10:00am. The zoom link will be sent via the superintendent listserv.
- Starting last week, the TEA COVID-19 Superintendent Call moved to Tuesday and Thursday at 3:00pm. Call-in information will remain the same.

Current status of facts:
- DSHS maintains a real-time dashboard of confirmed cases.

Recap of topics covered:
- Child Nutrition
  - TDA continues to update guidance related to serving meals.
  - Schools have been able to serve meals on weekends; however, these meals do not currently receive federal reimbursement. TDA has requested formal approval to pay federal reimbursement for weekend meals via a waiver.
  - Persons that are over age 18 and are determined by the state or LEA to have a mental or physical disability and who participate during the school year in a public or private non-profit school program are eligible to be served a meal.
  - As you update your meal sites within TDA’s system, those sites will continue to be reflected at TXSchools.gov on the state’s MealFinder map. Please help spread the word to your families.
- Public health communications campaign – Stay Well, Texas
  - TEA, in collaboration with DSHS, continues to encourage districts to engage in a broad public health campaign designed to inform Texans about the need to
engage in social distancing, and what steps we can all take to stay well. The campaign is meant to last two weeks, and was launched last week.

- Additional resources to continue the campaign were posted on the Public Health Resources section of our website to support districts with this public health campaign.
- The materials include English and Spanish templates for social media posts, emails, and text messages
- Many thanks to all the school systems across Texas participating in this campaign. We are all helping to flatten the curve!

**FEMA**
- The FAQ on FEMA-related issues was updated, including clarification that there is currently no deadline to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA).

**Waivers (of all types)**
- A summary of COVID-19 Related Waivers was posted to help differentiate between waivers districts need to apply for versus waivers that were issued but district do not need to take action on.

**Funding**
- Regarding the CARES Act, TEA will be sending out guidance in the coming days. Please be careful with information received from non-governmental entities as this information likely gives you a false picture of your funding.

**Virtual Learning and Cybersecurity**
- TEA will host a cybersecurity webinar related to virtual meeting security considerations on Thursday, April 16 at 10:00am. The zoom link will be sent via the superintendent listserv.
- Guidance related to FERPA and SPED was updated last week to provide additional information on virtual learning security considerations.

**Residential Facilities**
- Updates answers were provided in the Residential School Program Guidance document.

**SPED**
- An updated SPED FAQ was added on the Special Education and Special Populations Coronavirus webpage.
- An FAQ for supporting students with complex needs was posted to provide step-by-step guidance for educators and families.

**Instructional Continuity**
- An FAQ was posted on Thursday related to the Instructional Continuity grant opportunity for districts with Targeted Support and Improvement campuses. The grant application is due on May 22, 2020 at 5:00pm.
- Our Instructional Continuity website is updated daily with an FAQ, LOTS of resources, recording webinars, and much more. All optional. The Instructional Continuity FAQ was updated on Thursday.
- TEA has launched TexasHomeLearning.org to provide at-home learning resources as a contingency option for school districts, including an option for direct shipment of learning packets to parents.
If you missed last week’s deep dive webinar, you can see the recorded webinar [here](#). You can see the webinar
You can learn more about TexasHomeLearning.org [here](#).
The Texas Home Learning Printing Order Form can be found [here](#).
Another webinar will be conducted on Wednesday, April 15 at 3:00pm to provide additional information. The webinar and associated resources will be posted on Thursday.