

Summary Debrief of TEA COVID-19 Superintendents Calls

As of: December 10

Next steps for districts and charters:

1. Bookmark TEA's coronavirus website tea.texas.gov/coronavirus for the most up-to-date guidance
2. Please continue to submit questions to disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov

Reminders:

- The TEA COVID-19 Superintendent Call have moved to **Thursdays only** at 3:00pm. The call-in information has changed. Please use the call-in information sent via TEA's Superintendent Listserv on **August 13, 2020**.

Recap of topics covered:

- Public Health Guidance
 - TEA's [Public Health Guidance](#) was updated to provide clarity about the underlying legal authority for this document.
 - A resource from [Austin Public Health](#) was posted describing a possible timeline for quarantine persons that are identified as close contact.
 - Related to COVID Case Reporting, data for the week of December 13 must be in by December 21 and data due for the week of December 20 and 27 will be reported on January 4.
- School Funding
 - Two documents were posted with updates:
 - [CARES Act Funding and Expense Reimbursement FAQ](#)
 - [Federal Funding and Grants FAQ](#)
- Special Education
 - The [Special Education FAQ](#) was updated to include steps districts need to take when students served with special education services are asked to return to campus with a medical certification.
- SY 20-21 Accountability and Assessment
 - We announced a [pause in SY20-21 A-F ratings](#), and that we will seek [waivers](#) of aspects of federal accountability requirements
 - State assessments will continue this school year through the administrations of the STAAR. STAAR Alternate 2, TELPAS, and TELPAS Alternate will also continue.
- Educator Evaluation
 - Districts are now provided more flexibility from [educator evaluation](#) state requirements given the COVID-19 disruptions.
 - Districts interested in using this flexibility must submit a [Educator Appraisal Waiver](#) to TEA.

- Attendance and Enrollment
 - The [Attendance and Enrollment FAQ](#) was updated to announce that districts will now have the opportunity to change a regular school day next spring to be an asynchronous instructional day with the intent to provide additional professional development, allow teachers more prep time or allow more personalized engagement with students.
- Strong Start – Innovative Staffing Approaches
 - TEA has been conducting webinars on three model staffing approaches to support virtual and in-person instruction: [Split Scheduling](#), [Split Staffing](#), and [Virtual Academy](#) approaches.
 - Office hours are now available for districts seeking support
 - In addition, a new resource – [Prioritized T-TESS-aligned Virtual Look Fors Tool](#) – was posted to help with virtual classroom coaching.
- COVID Recovery Instructional Materials Support Initiative
 - In our ongoing effort to support teachers, beyond the training on remote instruction, we have been trying to supply best in class remote learning curricular tools.
 - The [COVID Recovery Instructional Materials Support Initiative](#) is for schools or districts interested in piloting instructional materials from Texas Home Learning (THL) with a subset of schools, grades, or teachers in the spring of 2021.
 - To learn more, visit texashomelearning.org where your staff can:
 - Sign up for a webinar or office hours
 - Download the program overview and application
- Texas Home Learning 3.0 – New Asynchronous Tool for Elementary Mathematics
 - A new offering with Texas Home Learning: Adaptive supplemental online curriculum program [ST Math](#) – is now available for all Texans for 3 years.