

Summary Debrief of TEA COVID-19 Superintendents Calls As of: April 30 and May 5

Next steps for districts and charters:

1. Bookmark TEA's newly revamped 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:

- [Governor Abbott's closure order](#) was extended to the end of the 2019-20 school year. Please do not send updates on districts closings to disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov.
- The TEA COVID-19 Superintendent Call have moved to **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at 3:00pm. **The call-in information has changed. Please use the call-in information sent via TEA's Superintendent Listserv on May 5, 2020.**

Recap of topics covered:

- Closure Order
 - Governor Abbott, on Friday, April 17, issued Executive Order-16 that closes schools through the 2019-2020 school year
- Governor Abbott's Strike Force to Open Texas
 - TEA is working with educators, medical experts, and other officials to provide recommendations related to re-opening education.
 - Thank you to those districts across the state that supported this guidance development as part of the graduation working group!
 - Governor Abbott's Executive Order-21, issued on Tuesday, May 5, announced three key changes to cover graduation ceremonies, students accessing schools, and staff accessing schools.
 - Graduation and Promotion Ceremonies
 - A guidance document related to [Graduation and End-of-Year Promotion Ceremonies](#) includes information on the requirements and the three ceremony scenarios that are allowed under the current public safety environment.
 - This guidance document can also be found in the [Graduation 2020](#) section of our website.
 - Students Accessing Schools
 - An additional [guidance](#) document was posted for students accessing the school building for administrative or non-instructional purposes
 - Graduating seniors may also go back for activities that cannot be done virtually
 - For clarification, the [Special Education FAQ](#) was updated to note that in-person evaluations are still not allowed.

- Staff Accessing Schools
 - Given that the official COVID symptoms list has been expanded by the CDC, the [protocols for staff accessibility](#) to schools was updated to include new health and safety protocols.
- TEA will not be able to answer individual scenario questions, but we encourage you to thoroughly read the guidance and use your judgement. If anything is unclear, please email disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov and we can clarify on in future superintendent calls.
- Health Care System Coordination
 - An additional [FAQ](#) was created to provide information on frontline child care.
 - If you haven't seen it already, check out the website devoted to frontline child care: <https://frontlinechildcare.texas.gov/>
- Child Nutrition
 - Friday, May 1 was School Lunch Hero Day is a nationwide celebration to showcase the difference school nutrition professional make in the lives of children.
- Graduation 2020
 - For seniors graduating this year, several new [FAQs](#) were posted, including information related to [Individual Graduation Committees](#).
 - The NCAA posted an https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/ncaa_faq.pdf FAQ for student-athletes and eligibility.
- Instructional Materials
 - The instructional materials inventory requirement is now waived, as described in the [Instructional Materials Guidance](#) document.
 - Also posted were the [steps](#) to submit the instructional materials inventory waiver.
- Educator Certification and Preparation
 - Several updates to the Guidance on Educator Certification and Preparation [FAQ](#) were posted.
 - Governor Abbott issued waivers allowing those candidates completing student teaching or an internship this spring to receive a one-year, probationary certificate for the 2020-21 school year without taking certification exams if they have met all other certification requirements.
 - [Instructions for teacher candidates](#) applying for a probationary certificate were posted.
 - For Educator Preparation Programs, [instructions](#) were posted for recommending a probationary certificate for a teacher candidate.
- Attendance and Enrollment
 - A clarification on the sixth-six weeks reporting period related to the 2019-2020 PEIMS Summer Submission was included in an updated [Attendance and Enrollment FAQ](#).
- Uncontactable &/or Disengaged Students
 - A new FAQ and Best Practices guidance was posted related to supporting districts with identifying [Uncontactable Students](#).
 - Related to this Uncontactable FAQ, a [Crisis Codes Reporting Guidance](#) document was posted to inform policy makers and support best practice around

- identifying these students, particularly as they move from one district to another.
 - It is important to note that this information will not be used for any accountability purposes.
- Student Discipline
 - The [Student Discipline FAQ](#) was updated with several new responses.
- ASVAB Reporting
 - An [FAQ](#) was posted related to the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) exam.
 - Additionally, a document that outlines the [steps](#) to submit an ASVAB waiver was posted on Tuesday.
- Summary of Waivers
 - The [COVID-19 Related Waivers](#) summary document was updated to include the [Instructional Materials Inventory](#) and [ASVAB](#) waiver.
- Funding
 - An updated [Federal Funding and Grants FAQ](#) was posted to include several new responses, including a new section on Migrant Students.
 - The [General State Funding FAQ](#) was also updated.
 - In collaboration with the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) and FEMA, the [FEMA-related](#) issues FAQ was updated to include clarity around allowable expenses.
 - A conference call hosted by FEMA and TDEM took place last Friday; the webinar recording and fact sheet will be posted the week of May 4.
 - An optional COVID Detailed Cost Survey was sent to superintendents on Tuesday 5/5 asking for current costs and projected costs over next 6 months in 9 areas of potential additive costs.
 - The survey also includes sections on expected reimbursements from other fund sources and decreases in revenue.
 - Data from the survey will be used to coordinate implementation of various sources of funds in an attempt to reimburse LEAs for COVID-19 costs to the greatest extent possible.
 - We'd like at least 50 districts, with several districts in each major size band, to respond.
 - The survey is due at 11:59 p.m., Friday, May 8
- Certain Student Populations
 - Migrant Students
 - Guidance for implementing the Title I, Part C [Migrant Student Program](#) was posted to support districts with completing the certificate of eligibility.
 - English Learners
 - The [English Learner FAQ](#) was updated with new information for TELPAS administration.
- Assessment
 - An Optional End of Year Assessment for districts to diagnose student learning was announced last week with an [FAQ](#).

- For districts interested in participating in the Optional End of Year Assessment, a [webinar](#) and [PPT](#) were posted with additional information.
 - The Optional End of Year Assessment will be available to districts on May 11, if not sooner.
 - Watch this [video](#) first to learn how to register a student data file.
- SPED
 - Several new resources have been added to the newly revamped and stand-alone Special Education [webpage](#).
 - The Special Education [FAQ](#) was updated to on Thursday to clarify the change to the SHARS parental consent and annual notice.
 - The COVID-19 Special Education website now includes sections on [General Guidance](#), [Instructional Supports](#), and [Parent Resources](#).
 - There are many new Instructional Support & Parent Support resources.
 - On Tuesday, a new [Tips for Remote Learning for Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing](#) guidance document was posted to support districts.
- Instructional Continuity and Texas Home Learning
 - Our Instructional Continuity [website](#) is updated daily with an FAQ, LOTS of resources, recording webinars, and much more. All optional.
 - [Detailed guidance](#) related to supporting at home learning for students with disabilities is now included within our Instructional Continuity planning resources.
 - An educator resource guidance related to the PBS At-Home Learning Collaboration is now also in [Spanish](#)!
 - Regarding Texas Home Learning:
 - An overview of [Phase 2.0](#) was posted as a preview to districts.
 - An update to the [printing and shipping process](#) was posted last Thursday. Districts can start placing printing and shipping orders now.
 - Spanish [packets](#) are now available!
 - [ESCs](#) can now support printing and shipping to districts.
 - TEA has also launched a [Featured Resources](#) section
- This week is Teacher Appreciation Week!