Summary Debrief – May 26 and May 28

Summary Debrief of TEA COVID-19 Superintendents Calls
As of: May 26 and May 28

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.
- A search bar was added to the main TEA coronavirus website to make searching within documents and across the multiple sub-sites easier. Enjoy!

Recap of topics covered:
- Guidance Related to Governor Abbott’s Executive Order-23 (EO-23)
  - Governor Abbott’s most recent Executive Order set guidance related to Summer instruction, activities, and school visits.
  - As a result of EO-23, the Updated information from TEA includes guidance related to graduation and end-of-year promotion ceremonies, students accessing schools, protocols for staff accessibility were also updated.
- Graduation 2020
  - In addition to the short videos from Commissioner Morath and Lieutenant Governor Patrick, Secretary of State Hughs made a video celebrating graduating seniors. Feel free to use these videos with your graduation ceremonies if they will be of benefit.
- Child Nutrition
  - Since TEA cannot send information directly to families, we request that districts utilize the communications toolkit and recommended communications timeline posted on our Child Nutrition website to encourage families to take advantage of the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer or P-EBT. communication toolkit we sent you last Thursday, we would have one more letter we will ask you to distribute to families.
  - The application for families goes live on June 1.
  - On Monday, June 1, TEA will post a To the Administrator Addressed letter and an email via the Superintendent Listserv containing the actual application link and the number for HHSC’s customer service hotline for anyone who has questions or needs assistance applying.
• English Learner Summer School
  o A new FAQ was posted to provide districts information related to providing summer for school for English Learners.
  o The COVID-19 Related Waivers document was also updated to waive the requirement to offer bilingual education/ESL summer school to English Learners entering kindergarten and Grade 1 in Summer 2020.

• Assessment
  o Guidance related to Student Assessment was updated on Thursday
  o In addition, a waiver was announced related to the Student Success Initiative (SSI) promotion/retention district requirement to notify parents that their child is at risk of failure.
    ▪ If a district or charter school is not able to or does not have sufficient information to make a determination about a student’s risk of failure at this time, the school district or charter should request a waiver to delay the notice requirement from the Commissioner until the start of the 20-21 school year.

• Dyslexia Screening Waiver
  o An updated FAQ was posted announcing a waiver related to screening and treatment of dyslexia and related disorders.
  o This waiver was also updated in the COVID-19 Related Waivers summary document, and includes the emergency rules districts must comply with.
  o The Special Education FAQ was also updated to include this information.

• CARES Act Funding
  o TEA announced its plan for CARES Act Funding and provided several pieces of information to support district planning:
    ▪ A new FAQ related to the CARES Act Equitable Services Provision
    ▪ An updated CARES Act Funding and Expense Reimbursement FAQ
    ▪ An updated Federal Funding FAQ
    ▪ An updated General State Funding FAQ

• School Calendar Considerations
  o New resources from East Chambers ISD were posted including their original 20-21 calendar and a new proposed 20-21 calendar that accounts for additional time for student learning as a response to COVID-19.

• Instructional Continuity
  o A new resource was posted with a list of free online professional development resources and webinars for educators.
    ▪ This resource can be found on our Phase 3: Operationalize Home At-Home Model portion of the Instructional Continuity website.

• Summer Learning Support: Texas Home Learning
  o New resources and materials are frequently updated on our Texas Home Learning website!
  o We set up a new email address for districts to share instructional continuity resources: texashomelearning@tea.texas.gov