Summary Debrief of TEA COVID-19 Superintendents Calls
As of: July 2

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:
- 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 June 25, 2020.

Recap of topics covered:
- Guidance Related to Governor Abbott’s Executive Orders
  - Governor Abbott’s Executive Order-28 paused the state’s reopening plan, and Executive Order-29 issued a face covering mandate on Friday, July 3.
  - Under the current phase of re-opening (phase III), on-campus instruction is still allowed.
  - We are in the process of updating TEA’s plan for reopening schools and will provide an update as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience.
- Remote Instruction Guidance for SY 2020-2021
  - Guidance was updated as it relates to attendance and remote instruction for the upcoming school year.
  - For additional information, please read the more detailed SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ that was also updated on July 2.
  - A new Overview PPT was posted to provide information covering Synchronous and Asynchronous Templates. Related documents include:
    - 20-21 Asynchronous Plan Summary
    - 20-21 Synchronous Attestation Summary
- Messages to Promote a Safe 4th of July Holiday
  - Social media sample messages were provided for districts that wanted to promote a safe 4th of July holiday with their communities.
- Summary of Student Engagement in Virtual Learning in 2019-2020
  - A new Summary of Student Engagement was posted as a result of district efforts to engage uncontactable students.
- Supporting English Learners
  - A new English Learning Guidance document was posted to provide districts information for the upcoming 20-21 school year.
• Operation Connectivity
  o Superintendents and Chief Technology Officers were reminded to submit a survey to collect information on the number of students who do not have internet access and/or home devices to inform the efforts of the Operation Connectivity Task Force.

• Texas Home Learning
  o A new website was launched to facilitate registration for Digital Speech Language Therapy.
  o Reminder to learn more about Texas College Bridge to get information and resources for the Texas Summer Bridge program and get started!
  o Texas Home Learning has organized a list of high-quality Reading Language Arts extension materials available in both print and digital formats. July 31 is the last date for districts to order extension materials.
  o The Texas Home Learning 3.0 survey closed July 5

• Child Nutrition
  o The Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) online application is now open and will remain open until Friday, July 31.
  o As of July 2, the Health and Human Services Commission has received applications for nearly 1.6 million Texas children.
  o Additional communications resources will be posted on July 7 to support districts with encouraging their families to apply.
  o The Texas Department of Agriculture has launched a Meal Services: Fall Planning Resources website.
    ▪ The USDA issued five waivers allowing for federal flexibilities around meal patterns, group-setting requirements, meal service times, and parent/guardian pick-up of meals for kids across all three programs to address anticipated changes for the coming school year. These waivers allow:
      • Flexibilities to serve meals via grab-and-go or home delivery;
      • Parents/guardians may pick up meals without children/adult participants present when providing sufficient proof of guardianship;
      • High schools may serve pre-plated meals in non-congregate or classroom setting;
      • flexibility around National School Lunch Program meal service times; and
      • Allows operators experiencing supply chain issues to request a meal pattern waiver authorizing specific meal pattern components.
    ▪ Superintendents interested in learning more about federal meal service waivers are welcome to attend a TDA webinar scheduled for July 8 at 2:00pm that will discuss USDA waivers with Child Nutrition Directors. The webinar link can be found at squaremeals.org/coronavirus.