

**From:** [Ernie Amaton](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ! virtual academy  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 12:31:11 PM

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Good afternoon,

I have looked on FAQ for attendance and enrollment and do not see a specific answer. My question:

Can our charter convert one campus (campus A) to a virtual academy to enroll all students that want virtual instruction and provide on-campus instruction at another of our locations (campus B) for those parents (of Campus A) that desire in-person?

--

Mr. Ernie Amaton, M. Ed.  
Deputy Superintendent of Schools  
Golden Rule Schools, Inc.  
[eamaton@goldencharter.org](mailto:eamaton@goldencharter.org)

**From:** [Ruben Cervantes](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** 3 week transition  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:49:24 PM

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Good afternoon,

We are looking to start school on August 17th with remote learning. On September 8th, we will be having face to face learning for all students.

We had to move our starting date from August 10 to August 17 so that we can comply with the El Paso County Department of Public Health orders and TEA guidelines. The EP Health Department directed schools not have face to face instruction until after Labor Day. My question is do we have to submit a letter of intent and a plan for remote learning during the 3 wk transition since we are planning to have face to face instruction after Labor Day?

If you have questions, feel free to call me on my cell phone (432)213-6020.

Ruben Cervantes  
Dell City ISD Superintendent

The first three weeks will be remote  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Todd Smith](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** 3 week window question  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:05:41 PM

---

Good afternoon-

Quick clarification question regarding the 3 week transition window.

We are scheduled to start school on Thursday, August 13. If we choose to start remote (via asynchronous model) for the first 3 weeks would we receive funding under the transition period waiver?

Todd Smith  
Superintendent – Azle ISD



**From:** [Bryan White](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** 5 day shut down  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:51:34 PM

---

If we have to shut down for a confirmed case, why are only allowed 5 days when quarantined periods are 14 days? Why can't we transition to distance learning immediately for the 14 day quarantine period?

Bryan White  
Superintendent  
Patton Springs ISD



#WeDoGreatThings



**From:** [Savoie, Paulette S \(C&I ELEM\)](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** 20-21 school year teacher to student ratios  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:41:20 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Do you have any guidance/information on class size ratios for the upcoming school year for face to face and remote learning for Prek-2 and 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades?

Thank you,

**Paulette Savoie, M.S. Ed.**

Elementary Curriculum Coordinator

Curriculum and Instruction

Katy Independent School District



#KatyStrong

Wash your hands. Social distance. Stay well.

**From:** [del.presillas](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** 100% remote learning  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:23:10 PM

---

Dear TEA,

Clarification please: Are ISDs and charter schools allowed now to have just 100% remote learning to begin instruction for SY 2020-21 without the worry on funding?

**Delia Presillas**  
**Superintendent & Principal**

**Alief Montessori Community School**  
12013 6th St, Houston, TX 77072



**From:** [Catherine Eubanks](#)  
**To:** [Grant Support](#); [Grants](#); [disasterinfo](#); [O'Reilly, Meredith](#)  
**Subject:** 2019-2020 Title I 1003-School Improvement Grant Period of Eligibility  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:19:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [NOGA 2019-2020 Title I 1003 – School Improvement Grant Application NOGA.pdf](#)

---

Hi Everyone!

Not sure which email to use for this question, so I am sending to a few that seem applicable.

Based on page 2 of the latest TEA [Federal Funding and Grants FAQ](#) document that was last updated on June 16 2020, it looks like the Period of Availability for the 2019-2020 Title I 1003 School Improvement Grant funds that would have ended September 30, 2020 was **extended until September 30, 2021** under an approved USDE waiver. Is this correct? Clarification is needed since the NOGA and "grant opportunities" page still lists the end date as September 30, 2020. For reference, attached is the specific NOGA to which I am referring.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Regards,  
Catherine Eubanks



Catherine Eubanks  
Humble Independent School District  
State and Federal Programs



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**From:** [Cheryll A Felder](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ADA Question for Pre-K  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:34:15 PM

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Will we be able to code a pre-k student as eligible if the LPAC committee doesn't meet until September and we start school on the 17th of August.

Cheryll Felder  
Executive Director, Student and Parent Services

████████████████████

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” ---- Frederick Douglass  
El Paso ISD Non-discrimination disclaimer <http://www.episd.org/Page/1115> "I am EPISD.  
Excellence Starts With Me"

**From:** [DEWAYNE WILKINS](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Add this email to the listserv  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 4:55:12 PM

---

I am a new superintendent and need to have my email added to the Covid listserv.

Dewayne Wilkins  
Early ISD

Dewayne.wilkins@earlyisd.net

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [David Williams](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ADSY Funding  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:59:13 PM

---

Good afternoon,

If we choose to have a 4 day in person week (Monday-Thursday) that meets the 75,600 minutes, can we apply for ADSY funding for remote asynchronous instruction on Fridays?

Thank you!

--

**David Williams**

CEO/Superintendent Villa e Tech Schools



**From:** [Brenda Richmond](#)  
**To:** [Jons, Justin](#); [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Asynchronous clarification  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:41:42 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

For asynchronous, we need clarity on an item please.

In the example below, would student be marked RA?

Student has schedule for 4 core courses every day and 2 electives. Student finished work in 1 of the courses during the day but not all courses. The other teachers did not have proof of work completed. Would student be marked RA since evidence existed that student was engaged in *some coursework that day*?

## Brenda Richmond

Austin Independent School District

Director of Management Information Systems

Project Management Professional (PMP)

Registered Texas School Business Administrator (RTSBA)

[www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond](http://www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond)

“One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.” John F. Kennedy

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**From:** [Rose Norman](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Asynchronous Learning Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:37:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Will the submitted Asynchronous Learning Plan need Board approval prior to submission?

Thanking you in advance for your response!

***Rose Norman***

Chief Operations, Accountability, and Grants Officer  
Southwest Schools



3333 Bering Dr. | Houston, TX 77057

A solid black rectangular box redacting contact information, likely a phone number and email address.



**From:** [Joseph Harrington](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** asynchronous plan question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:46:30 AM

---

Topic: Asynchronous Plans

The guidelines request that districts only submit one plan.

Our plan in HEB ISD is for PreK-2 to do asynchronous and 3-12 synchronous.

I would also like to have the option of some asynchronous for 3-12 for unique situations.

My question:

Can I submit my PreK-2 asynchronous plan first and then later submit a 3-12 asynchronous plan?

Thank you

Joe

Joe Harrington, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent for Educational Operations

Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD

**From:** [Mark Ruffin](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Asynchronous Plan Questions  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:16:29 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I have a question relating to the development of our Asynchronous Plan.

Is it possible to develop 2 sets of asynchronous standards for students?

Asynchronous standard 1 would apply to those students who have selected remote learning as their desired instructional delivery method and will be able to return to on-campus instruction only at the end of the grading period.

- This plan would be developed with less of a concern or emphasis on keeping pace DAILY with on-campus instruction because we are able to plan and transition these groups of students at expected times back into on-campus instruction

Asynchronous standard 2 would apply to students who are forced to quarantine due to illness or exposure and would be able to return to on-campus instruction as soon as their return protocols are met.

- This plan would have a much greater emphasis placed on keeping pace with current lessons and activities done daily in the classroom since these students are able to return at any time.
- Having a plan in place for them that keeps them ready to enter back into the classroom at any time is best for the student and for the district in regards to receiving funding while they are participating at home.

Thank you in advance for any clarification or information you can provide.

--

Mark Ruffin  
Superintendent  
Normangee ISD

*"It's a great day to be a Normangee Panther!"*

**From:** [Resczenski, DeVaughn](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Attendance Accounting for 20-21 (Long Term Closure Order by Health Authority)  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:40:52 AM

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Hidalgo County Local Health Authority has issued an order that schools under his area of influence (which includes our LEA) cannot return for in-person instruction until Sept 27. Districts can only provide distance learning during this time.

I understand that guidance is that LEA's will be funded for 100% remote instruction in this situation when cessation of in-person instruction is by Executive Order, but does that same guidance apply to closures by local health authorities?

There is some confusion here, as this is somewhat at odds with prior Executive Orders that have revoked this type of authority from local governments, so our LEA wanted to send this up as a question, possibly to be added to your FAQs.

Thank you,

**DeVaughn Resczenski**

Database Administrator | PEIMS Coordinator | Sharyland Independent School District

**SISD Twitter** @SISDnews / @SISDemergency

**From:** [Diane Frost](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Attendance Accounting  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 1:45:53 PM

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May different attendance tracks have different attendance times? For example, if we stagger start times to decrease the number of students entering and exiting the campus at the same time, could one group have attendance at 10 and another at 12? Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Brenda Richmond](#)  
**To:** [Jons, Justin](#); [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Attendance Scenario  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:56:24 AM

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I'm working on a decision chart (flowchart) to help teachers understand how to decide correct code and I'm hung up on 1 item. Would you mind assisting.

Official attendance time is 10am. Teacher decides that for today, she will move her ZOOM meeting to 4pm instead of 10am for this group of students. Is the attendance to be posted as RS or RA since it was not held at 10am (official attendance time)?

My guess is RA since this shows engagement but not at official attendance time.

## Brenda Richmond

Austin Independent School District  
Director of Management Information Systems  
Project Management Professional (PMP)  
Registered Texas School Business Administrator (RTSBA)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond](http://www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond)

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**From:** [Charlotte Williams](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Attestation or letter of intent  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:02:07 PM

---

Where will we find the attestation to sign and approve and the letter of intent sample/templates.

Thanks

**From:** [Craig Sims](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Band/Choir  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 2:54:13 PM

---

Is there any specific guidance on band or choir classes? I heard talk early on but haven't seen anything about the fall.

--

**Craig Sims**

Executive Director of Schools

Arlington Classics Academy

5206 S Bowen Rd

Arlington, TX 76017



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**From:** [Kelley, Mike](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Block Scheduling?  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:54:05 PM

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Can campuses move to a BLOCK schedule, allowing kids to attend EVERY day, but on "A" day, attend four classes for 1.5 hours per class, then on "B" day, attend four classes for 1.5 hours per class? This would reduce daily interactions between peers (fewer hallway interactions, fewer classroom interactions) and ease the challenges of synchronous learning (fewer class start/stop times) at the secondary level. Colleges do this all the time...many high schools have similar schedules.

--



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**From:** [Stacey Hughes](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** CARES Act  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:56:52 PM

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I have a district that says they received a call from the County Judge telling them that the county received CARES money and that the district will be paid \$30,000. The county received the money and said the district is entitled to \$30,000. I have not heard of this...guidance please?

--

*[Stacey Hughes](#)*

Grants & School Finance Specialist  
Region 5 Education Service Center  
350 Pine Street, #500  
Beaumont, TX 77701

[shughes@esc5.net](mailto:shughes@esc5.net)

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**From:** [Bruce Tabor](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Charter School Clarification  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:49:44 PM

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Good Afternoon

First, thank you for all the guidance and support you have provided during this COVID crisis.

As a public charter school we need clarification to number 33 on the Enrollment FAQ. The question is will students who were enrolled in private school, or home schooled, the prior year in Texas be eligible for funding through the remote synchronous or asynchronous instructional methods? The answer in the FAQ is "No."

Please provide clarification as we have several parents that want their students to be enrolled in our school.

Kindest Regards

Dr. Bruce Tabor

Superintendent/CEO

Goodwater Montessori Public Charter School



"A Child is both a promise and a hope for mankind." - Maria Montessori

It is not just the destination.

It is the journey and the journey is the adventure! - DrBT

All the greatest things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: Freedom, Justice, Honor, Duty, Mercy, Hope. Winston Churchill

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**From:** [Daphne Lynch](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Clarification on Guidance  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:59:20 AM

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Hello,


Collin County Health Department has been reviewing recommended COVID-19 guidance from TEA. We have a question about bullet 3 under the RESPOND section in the SY 20-21 Public Health Planning Guidance. <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/covid19-SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf>

“Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate on any on campus activities.”

Can you please guide me to the Texas Administrative Code or Health and Safety Code where the school notification requirements for other communicable diseases to notify all teachers, staff and families of all students is located?

Generally, Collin County Health Department in accordance with the Texas Department of State Health Services recommends a notification to all possibly exposed individuals, not the entire school in some circumstances. We want to be sure we are providing similar messaging as TEA.

Thank you,

Daphne Lynch, MPH  
Epidemiologist  
Collin County Health Care Services  
825 N. McDonald St. #130  
McKinney, TX 75069  


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**From:** [Beth.Chapoton](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Clarification re: in-person classes 5 days a week  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 9:29:00 AM

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In this afternoon's call, can you please clarify whether or not the requirement to offer in-person classes to each student five days a week means that you have to offer a FULL day of school for each student five days a week? The requirement does not allow, for example, there to be a scenario where half of the students come for the morning, and the other half come in the afternoon, does it?

My understanding is that 'in-person five days a week for each student' means that you have to meet the 75,600 minute requirement, which would be impossible with students only coming for half-days.

Thanks for your help,

Beth Chapoton  
Manor ISD Department of Accountability and Data Analysis  


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**From:** [Marsha Hagin](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Clarification  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:39:43 PM

---

Hello.

We are planning on following the asynchronous model. When is the deadline for teachers to post attendance?

If the daily instruction is a zoom meeting and the student does not attend, but watches the recorded video later and submits assignment by 11:59 PM, is the teacher allowed to alter attendance from asynchronous absent to asynchronous present the next morning?

Thank you.

--

*Marsha Hagin  
Principal/Superintendent  
Chaparral Star Academy  
14046 Summit Drive  
Austin, Texas 78728*

  
*(F) 512 251 9799*

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**From:** [Courtney Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Clarify Gov. Abbott Statement from Friday  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 5:51:31 PM

---

## Clarification Needed:

Governor Abbott said on Friday and was quoted:

"For schools across the state, if anyone in that school tests positive, that school will close down for five days to clear out the school, to sanitize it, to make it clear and clean for students return," Abbott said.

Per TEA Guidance,

**RESPOND:** Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case in the School Required Actions if Individuals with Lab-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School 1. If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). 5 2. Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus. 3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate on any on campus activities.

TEA Guidance does not say if one positive, then shut down for five days.

Can we please get clarification on this? It has caused a lot of questions with parents as we delivered our message in line with TEA guidance.

Thank you.

**Courtney Carpenter, Ed.D.**  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

**Midlothian Independent School District**

100 Walter Stephenson Rd. | Midlothian, TX 76065 | [www.misd.gs](http://www.misd.gs)

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**From:** [Monica Mahfouz](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Class Size Exception and COVID 19  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:25:55 PM

---

Hello,

One of our superintendents is asking about the 22 to 1 requirement.

If they use one teacher for virtual learning and divide the students into the other classes on-site, what happens if they go over the 22 to 1?

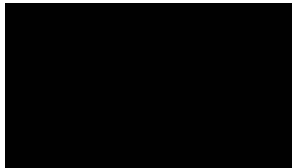
Do they follow regular exemption guidelines?

### **Maximum Class Size Exceptions**

A district must submit a request for a class size exception for any classrooms in kindergarten - fourth grade that exceed the 22 students class size limit ([Texas Education Code §25.112](#)). A district seeking an exemption must notify the commissioner and apply for the exemption not later than the later of (1) October 1; or 2) the 30th day after the first school day the district exceeds the limit. Note: class size limits do not apply to physical education classes or fine arts classes.

Thank you,

*Monica Mahfouz*  
*Region 5 ESC*  
*Director - Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [TEAINFO; disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Close Contact Definition  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:27:05 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I am emailing to seek understanding on why TEA's definition does not match the current CDC definition for what constitutes a close contact.

Your definition, as stated in the planning guidance dated July 7 states:

Close Contact

This document refers to "close contact" with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on ***while not wearing a mask or face shield***); or
- b. being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, ***while not wearing a mask or face shield***;

if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.

Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test.

(Emphasis added)

Specifically I bring your attention to the bolded parts of the definition, that imply that wearing a face mask or shield nullifies any instances that may otherwise be considered close contact.

The CDC has a detailed description of what they consider close contact that can be viewed here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

I would like to bring your attention to the second foot note that reads:

\*\* Data to inform the definition of close contact are limited. Factors to consider when defining close contact include proximity, the duration of exposure (e.g., longer exposure time likely increases exposure risk), and whether the exposure was to a person with symptoms (e.g., coughing likely increases exposure risk). While research indicates cloth face coverings may help those who are infected from spreading the infection, there is less information regarding whether cloth face coverings offer any protection for a contact exposed to a symptomatic or asymptomatic patient. ***Therefore, the determination of close contact should be made irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a cloth face covering.***

(Emphasis added).

So by CDC's recommendation, I, as a high school teacher, have the potential to come into

close contact with 180+ people on a daily basis if we got back to full in person classes. And that number only counts the number of students that will potentially be in my classes, not any that I will encounter in the hallways or on various duties I may be assigned. I understand that is most likely an over estimate as some parents may choose to keep their students home. However without those summers in hand, I can only rely on what I have seen in past years.

What I would like to know is why the TEA and CDC definitions are different?

Thank you for your time,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Hancock, Sandra](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Connally ISD-Question on Hybrid Restart  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:07:30 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

---

Good morning!

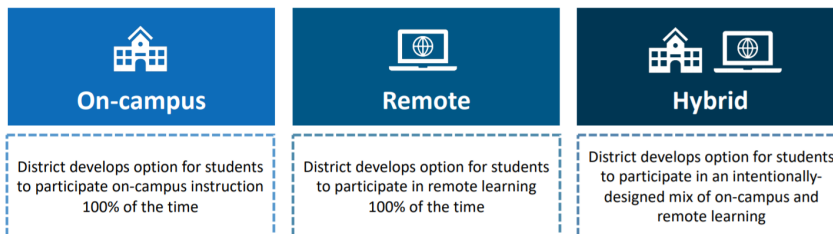
I'm just confirming....hybrid options (with schedules to reduce the number of students on campus on a given day) are still available for district use. It seemed Secretary DeVos was saying that was not an option, so I wanted confirmation that it remains on the table.

Thank you for your guidance and clarification!

4

#### Determine and develop the right set of school models

- Once you have analyzed your student needs, organizational capacity, operational constraints, and developed a strong foundation for high quality instruction you will need to determine the set of school options that best meet the needs of your community.
- Those school options will fall into three categories:



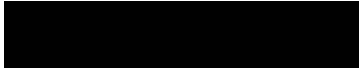
**From:** [schincarini@smacs.net](mailto:schincarini@smacs.net)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](mailto:disasterinfo)  
**Cc:** [jjones@smacs.net](mailto:jjones@smacs.net); [nbond@smacs.net](mailto:nbond@smacs.net); [rcude@smacs.net](mailto:rcude@smacs.net); [Stan Simonson](#)  
**Subject:** Coronavirus Relief Fund question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:08:59 PM

---

We are hearing that TDEM has stated that they have no allocation for schools under the Coronavirus Relief Fund and we have received no communication from TDEM concerning possible funding. Can TEA check with the governor's office to see if this correct?

Thanks,

Susan Chincarini CPA  
Chief Financial Officer  
St. Mary's Charter School  
507 N. Filmore  
Beeville, TX 78102



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---

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**From:** [Carven Proctor](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Coronavirus Relief Fund Question  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:36:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-1502292547.png](#)

---

*Hi,*

*I have a few questions regarding the Coronavirus Relief Fund if you can please assist me.*

- 1. Can College institution and Businesses request funding from the CRF?*
- 2. If yes, is there a cap on the requested amount?*
- 3. Is there already a predetermined list of College institutions and Businesses that are only approved or this reimbursement of available to everyone?*
- 4. How can a College institution apply to receive funding reimbursements?*

*Best Regards,*

*Carven Proctor*  
**Director of Client Management**  
**KSE Associates LLC**  
2145 N. Josey LN., STE 116, #322  
Carrollton TX 75006



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**From:** [Brigid Peña](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** COVID questions  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:17:01 AM

---

Hi TEA,

-Are there form letters to send out if we get a confirmed COVID-19 case?  
-What are the requirements for kids in the classroom who get sent home if someone in their class gets it for reentry. I don't see that specifically in the guidance sent yesterday.

Thanks!

**Brigid Peña**

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**From:** [Ibarra](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Covid  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:34:04 AM

---

Good morning,

I am looking for clarification on an issue that I have seen on social media. Is the TEA in fact closed to in person contact through the rest of this year allowing it's employees to work from home until January 2021 as a precaution against COVID-19? Also what plans if any do you have to help school staff should they contract COVID-19? I understand there is a 2 week quarantine requirement should we be lab confirmed positive but we are only allocated 2 paid weeks off per school year. If we have to take those due to COVID, what about when we or our own children get sick and we need to be off of work? Are there any plans to help financially in those cases? If so will we be forced to use all of our accumulated days off before we can access this help? I know several young teachers who are saving their paid days off for when they begin having children so they can continue to be paid during their maternity leave. Any info you could give me about any of this would be greatly appreciated. Thank you and have a nice day.

Sincerely,  
Roxanne Ibarra

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Edith Landeck](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Hilda Barrera](#)  
**Subject:** CRF - when is application available, and from where?  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:40:18 AM

---

Good Morning,

When is the Coronavirus Relief Fund application available, and from where will we access it? Thanks, Edie

**Dr. Edith "Edie" Landeck**

Director Grants Administration, Division of Business and Finance  
United Independent School District  
201 Lindenwood Drive



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**From:** [Sierra Fisher](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Dr. Shannon Allen](#)  
**Subject:** Definition of Close Contact  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 3:25:32 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Our team met with our local health department in Beaumont to discuss returning to school this fall. When discussing close contact, we shared the definition from the 20-21 Health Planning Guidance:

"close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
- b. being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield;

if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious."

The Beaumont Health Department has set a heightened standard for close contact, reducing the length of time of exposure to 10 minutes and eliminating the reference to wearing a mask or face shield.

Our concern is that under our Health Department's definition, anytime a student tests positive, the teacher assigned to the classroom will likely have to self-isolate for 14 days (our health department confirmed they will recommend this), because wearing of appropriate PPE will not "negate" close contact. However, we cannot compel our students to attend virtually and substitutes are scarce and create additional issues of exposure.

Does the local health department set the definition for close contact or is that a definition promulgated by DSHS? In addition, we read the guidance to mean close contact is defined by TEA/state authorities and the local health department applies that definition to define who has been in close contact.

Any direction is greatly appreciated. Should you wish to discuss further, I can be reached at 409-658-3288.

Regards,

Sierra Fisher, General Counsel Beaumont ISD  
Dr. Shannon Allen, Superintendent Beaumont ISD

**From:** [Anna Holmgreen](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Delay start of face to face  
**Date:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:54:53 AM

---

I read in the guidance that we have 3 weeks to bring kids back face to face.

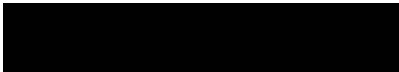
Does that mean that if we wait beyond that...6 weeks? 9 weeks? we would lose funding?

Is there any possibility of an extension of that?

*Anna*

**Anna Holmgreen**  
**Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction**  
***Data Informed...Student Driven***

**Alice Independent School District**  
**#2 Coyote Trail**  
**Alice, TX 78332**



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**From:** [Josh Haney](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Direct Spending Requirement and ESSER  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:17:16 AM

---

Hello,

We are getting questions from districts regarding how ESSER funds will be considered when determining compliance with direct spending requirements. If a district codes an expenditure out of 266, can that count toward meeting their 55% spending requirement under state law? I think the rationale for doing so is that expenditures on these special programs better align with the 12 allowable uses outlined for ESSER funds under the CARES Act (particularly #4).

I've pored over the agency's various FAQs have haven't seen this topic addressed specifically. Could you help provide some clarity?

Thanks,

Josh

Josh Haney, Associate  
Moak, Casey & Associates  
901 S. MoPac Expressway  
Building III, Suite 310  
Austin, TX 78746

[www.m](#)



**From:** [Cheryll A Felder](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Enrollment Question  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:06:36 PM

---

We are now receiving inquiries about students enrolling virtually with us while they live outside of Texas. I would assume that the procedures would be the same as it is during noncovid times. Please advise.

Cheryll Felder  
Executive Director, Student and Parent Services  


"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." ---- Frederick Douglass  
El Paso ISD Non-discrimination disclaimer <http://www.episd.org/Page/1115> "I am EPISD.  
Excellence Starts With Me"

**From:** [Josh Haney](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ESSER allowable use  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:40:06 PM

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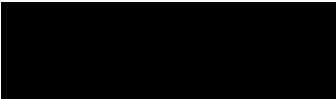
Hello,

Several districts we work with would like to use their ESSER funds to pay the salaries of regular teachers coded to PIC 11. This would seem to be an allowable expense under the 12<sup>th</sup> item listed in the CARES Act FAQ (Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in LEAs and continuing to employ existing staff). Can the agency please confirm that this is permissible?

Thank you,

Josh Haney

Josh Haney, Associate  
Moak, Casey & Associates  
901 S. MoPac Expressway  
Building III, Suite 310  
Austin, TX 78746



[www.moak-casey.com](http://www.moak-casey.com)



**From:** [Alex Dominguez](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#); [Guess, LaNetra](#)  
**Subject:** ESSER and PNPs  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:23:43 PM

---

Good afternoon~

In reviewing the FAQs, pre-award for private schools is addressed in that a district can pay unpaid (allowable) PNP invoices back to March 2019.

That would mean that a district is paying for a cost that the PNP obligated. Is that ok, just in this instance?

Thanks in advance

Alex Dominguez

rograms



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**From:** [Joe Wisnoski](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ESSER Funds and Foundation School Program Allotment Expenditure Requirements  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:01:03 PM

---

Would expenditures of ESSER grant funds from Fund 266 coded to the appropriate program intent code (e.g., 23 – Services to Students with Disabilities) be considered to satisfy Foundation School Program allotment expenditure requirements, such as the requirement found in Education Code Section 48.102(h), “(h) At least 55 percent of the funds allocated under this section must be used in the special education program under Subchapter A, Chapter [29](#)”? Would such expenditures be considered a local contribution under federal maintenance of effort requirements?

Joe Wisnoski  
Moak, Casey & Associates  
901 S. MoPac Expressway  
Building III, Suite 310  
Austin, TX 78746

[www.moakcasey.com](http://www.moakcasey.com)



**From:** [Starke, Adam R - Director State/federal Pgrms, State & Federal Programs](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#); [Grant Support](#)  
**Subject:** ESSER Updated Application  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 9:02:38 PM

---

Hello, when will the updated ESSER grant application come out? We are waiting for it because it was said in the July 2 training that it had to be updated due to the different PNP calculation options. I checked Grant Opportunities today and the same original application is there. We were told we could not complete until the new one came out, regardless of our status with PNP. It was also said that the newly updated application would be out by the end of this week. Will it be coming out soon? Thank you very much for your support as always.

Dr. Adam Starke  
Director of State and Federal Programs  
Socorro ISD

***“Just try to be the best you can be; never cease trying to be the best you can be.  
That’s in your power.” -John Wooden***

**From:** [Jordan Pruett](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Regulatory](#)  
**Subject:** ESSERF & GEERF Questions  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:06:02 PM

---

Hello,

We are interested to learn more about these programs and how we may assist LEAs in our area receive funding support for telecommunications services we have provided and continue to provide them. Can you please advise on any training material or a point of contact we may reach out to initiate these conversations?



**From:** [Kim Lyons](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** ESY processing during COVID-19  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:15:08 AM


---

I'm receiving questions regarding reporting ESY data during COVID-19 and the guidance does not speak specifically to coding questions for PEIMS. So can someone please respond to these questions for me:

1. Pre-K Teachers are providing "direct" services to students via Zoom but we are also working with Parents via Zoom, phone calls, etc. where students would have difficulty participating. Can we count those indirect minutes of ESY where the parent is really our hands and feet in providing services? Or can we only submit the direct time.

2. Do you have any guidance on how to submit contact hours for ESY services which were provided virtually?

Thanks,  
Kim

**Kim Lyons**  
**PEIMS Coordinator**  
 region 4  
7145 West Tidwell Road  
Houston TX 77092-2096

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**From:** [Tammy Brinkman](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** face masks  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 2:49:59 PM

---

In the Governor's Executive Order, I did not see that schools are exempt from wearing face masks. Does that mean that face masks are required for students above age 10 and all employees?

--

[Tammy Brinkman](#)  
[Superintendent, Coupland ISD](#)



**From:** [Eric Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FAQ change request  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:09:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-1474912822.png](#)

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TEA-

**Concern:** On the TEA website under Attendance and Waivers FAQ, **number 33** posted recently is a major concern to me and other Superintendents. All children that we have received in years past, whether from private schools, home schools, charters or other public schools, are always funded. Any LEA that is responsible for providing the instruction should be funded regardless of where the student was the year before. Likewise, when children have left their LEA to attend private schools, homeschools, charters or other public schools, the original LEA does not maintain the funding and never has. I am not sure any of us understand why this would even have been considered as a viable or fair option. It does say that more guidance may be coming.

**Action Requested:** Please eliminate this new guideline (copied below for your easy reference) and allow all districts to receive ADA for any child who registers and attends, regardless of their previous school placement.

*Sincerely,*

*Eric Carpenter*  
*Superintendent*  
*Big Sandy ISD*



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**From:** [deannlee@millsapisd.net](mailto:deannlee@millsapisd.net)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Field Trip Guidance  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 6:06:01 AM

---

Has guidance for field trips and overnight trips been released? I could have overlooked it. Thank you.

**Deann Lee**  
Superintendent  
Millsap ISD  
[REDACTED]

**"Your Child. Their Dreams. Our Mission."**

**From:** [del.presillas](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** First 3 weeks of school  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:19:29 PM

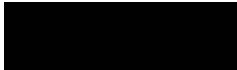
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Dear TEA,

Could the school just allow students in grade levels who could wear masks to come to school (e.g., ages 10-15/4th-8th) to come the first three weeks and require remote only for PK age 3 through 3rd grade (ages 3-9)? Would this have our school be eligible for ADA/FSP funding for all our grade levels if we do this?

**Delia Presillas**  
**Superintendent & Principal**

**Alief Montessori Community School**  
12013 6th St, Houston, TX 77072





**From:** [Nancy Smith](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up question about 7/7/2020 planning guide  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 11:18:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

---

Hello,

In [this](#) document that was posted yesterday, the following note was on the last page.

***Screening Questionnaire Information***

1. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a "Yes" or "No" to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic.
2. Once it is determined that individuals who responded "Yes" to either of these questions have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals' responses.

Should districts plan on removing all reference to "No" answers as well, or only if they answered "Yes" ? If they are only tracking no wouldn't it by default still show any time they said Yes, because of the absence of no?

In the second point it says if they responded yes to EITHER of these questions, what are the 2 questions? I only see the one: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

While I'm not at a district, we support 250 districts throughout the state so it is very important to us that we make necessary updates according to the posted rules.

Thanks!



**Nancy Smith**

Team Manager - State and Federal Compliance

[REDACTED]  
2601 Skyward Drive | Stevens Point, WI 54482



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**From:** [TEAINFO](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Clarification on Public Health Planning Guidance  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:03:09 PM

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**From:** Graciela Lopez <glopez2@Laredoisd.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 2:25 PM  
**To:** TEAINFO <TEAINFO@tea.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Clarification on Public Health Planning Guidance

Good afternoon,

On page 9 of the guidance titled "*screening questionnaire information*" bullet number 2 reads "*school system must destroy those individuals' responses*" is this referring to students, employees, and visitors or just visitors and employees?

Graciela Lopez RN, BSN  
Laredo ISD  
Health Services Coordinator  
[REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]  
Health Services Hotline: 956-307-8053  
[glopez2@laredoisd.org](mailto:glopez2@laredoisd.org)



**From:** [Fudge, Barney](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: elementary PE for school year  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:13:29 PM

---

This email about social distancing guidelines for re-opening is being sent to disasterinfo. per guidance from my division leadership.

Barney Fudge  
Health and Physical Education Coordinator  
Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division  
Texas Education Agency

---

**From:** Melanie Latimer <mlatimer@childressisd.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 10:55 AM  
**To:** Fudge, Barney <William.Fudge@tea.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** elementary PE for school year

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Mr. Fudge,

My name is Melanie Latimer and I'm an elementary teacher at Childress ISD. We are currently trying to come up with a plan on how to set up PE classes and follow all the necessary guidelines that will be put in place for Covid 19. This is hard to don't knowing exactly what is going to be required for social distancing. Could you possibly fill me in on some ideas or things that you are aware of to help me better prepare for this school year?

Thank you,

Melanie Latimer  
Elementary PE Teacher  
Childress Elementary School

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**From:** Alex Dominguez  
**To:** disasterinfo; Guess, LaNetra  
**Subject:** FW: ESSER equitable services Question  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:41:52 AM

Good morning – I am reading a discrepancy between the July 9<sup>th</sup> update on the TEA COVID Webpage, page 2 of this document: <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/COVID-19-CARES-Act-Equitable-Services-FAQ.pdf> and the ESSER application. Please see snippets below. Please advise. Thanks.

**ESSER Application, option 2:** Total Student enrollment referenced which aligns with the July 2 TEA training.

**5D: Calculate the equitable services when ESSER funds are reserved at the district level and/or allocated to non-Title I, Part A as well as Title I, Part A campuses.**

1. Total student enrollment (ages 5-17) in LEA	9,210
2. Total student enrollment (ages 5-17) in all participating PNP schools within LEA boundaries	930
3. Total enrollment (line 1 plus line 2)	10,140
4. Total current-year ESSER allocation	425,030
5. Total Per Pupil Allocation (line 4 divided by line 3)	\$41.92
<b>Calculated PNP School Reservation for ESSER (line 2 multiplied by line 5)</b>	<b>\$38,982.04</b>

**July 9, 2020 TEA Publication:** low-income student enrollment referenced. Does not align with application or TEA training.

**Option 2:**

Calculating the proportionate share by counting ages 5-17 **low income students** in the district and ages 5-17 **low income students** in the participating private schools (TEA's original calculation guidance)

Line #	Calculations	Totals
1	LEA Total Student Enrollment (ages 5-17)	1120
2	PNP Total Student enrollment (ages 5-17)	90
3	Total enrollment (1 + 2)	1210
4	Total current year ESSER allocation	\$55,000
5	Total per pupil allocation (line 4 / line 3)	\$45.45
	Calculated PNP School Reservation for ESSER (line 2 x line 5)	\$4,090

**UPDATED**  
7/9/20

3. After a district has determined the proportional share of funds for equitable services under each CARES Act program, how does it then determine the amount of funds available for equitable services to participating individual PNP schools? **UPDATED July 9, 2020**

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**From:** [Olga Garcia](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: instructional minutes for funding - 2nd time  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:48:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

---

Good afternoon,

What is the status of my question below?

With kindness,



---

**From:** Olga Garcia  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 10:05 AM  
**To:** [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov)  
**Subject:** instructional minutes for funding

Good morning,

We would some clarification regarding instructional minutes for funding.

Do the minimum number of daily minutes to meet full day funding (180 or 240 instructional minutes) need to be defined at the *student level* in the *student's schedule*? Some schools have generic student schedules for the elementary students.

Thank you.

With Kindness,



**From:** [Fudge, Barney](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mask Clarification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 3:39:34 PM

---

Good afternoon,

This email is being forwarded to disasterinfo per guidance from my division leadership. Thanks and have a great day.

Barney Fudge  
Health and Physical Education Coordinator  
Curriculum Standards and Student Support Division  
Texas Education Agency



---

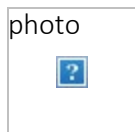
**From:** laurie Smith <lsmith1@pittsburgisd.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 8:26 PM  
**To:** Fudge, Barney <William.Fudge@tea.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Mask Clarification

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Per TEA guidelines "schools are required to comply with the governor's executive order regarding wearing of masks". My county, Camp, has filed an exemption because we do NOT have 20 or more active cases at this time. So, our county is exempt. My question is, does this exemption extend to our school district as well since it is in camp county?

Thanks,

--



**Laurie Smith BSN, RN, NCSN**  
Director of Health Services, Pittsburg ISD



**From:** [Holly Eaton](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Question about in person learning  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:12:29 AM

---

Hello. Regarding TEA funding and enrollment guidance, for purposes of on-campus instruction, would situations in which students are in class with a proctor and chromebooks qualify as on-campus instruction?

Thank you,

Holly Eaton



Holly Eaton  
Director of Professional Development and  
Advocacy





**From:** [Gloria Roach](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Accommodations and asynchronous instruction  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:15:38 PM

---

We are in the process of planning for the possibility of asynchronous instruction and some questions have arisen.

If the completion of daily assignments is needed to document attendance, how will students receive the accommodation of an extra day to complete assignments as documented in their IEP? Question 15 of the SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ seems to indicate that usage of this accommodation could preclude documentation of attendance.

When students have not completed their daily work, may attendance be counted if the student has interaction with a teacher or paraprofessional?

Thank you so much for all of your guidance as we plan for the year ahead.

Gloria Roach  
Special Services Director  
Channelview ISD  


----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gloria Roach** <[gloria.roach@cvisd.org](mailto:gloria.roach@cvisd.org)>  
Date: Sat, Jul 4, 2020 at 8:18 PM  
Subject: Accommodations and asynchronous instruction  
To: <[SPED@tea.texas.gov](mailto:SPED@tea.texas.gov)>

We are in the process of planning for the possibility of asynchronous instruction and some questions have arisen.

If the completion of daily assignments is needed to document attendance, how will students receive the accommodation of an extra day to complete assignments as documented in their IEP? Question 15 of the SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ seems to indicate that usage of this accommodation could preclude documentation of attendance.

When students have not completed their daily work, may attendance be counted if the student has interaction with a teacher or paraprofessional?

Thank you so much for all of your guidance as we plan for the year ahead. I look forward to the webinar on July 9th.

Gloria Roach  
Special Services Director



**From:** [Juan Zamora](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Coronavirus Relief Fund  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:54:07 AM

---

Good morning,  
How and where do we apply for the Coronavirus Relief Funds?

Thank you,

jcz

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **TDEMCRF** <[tdemcrf@hornellp.com](mailto:tdemcrf@hornellp.com)>  
Date: Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 7:32 PM  
Subject: Re: Coronavirus Relief Fund  
To: [juan.zamora@mvisd.org](mailto:juan.zamora@mvisd.org) <[juan.zamora@mvisd.org](mailto:juan.zamora@mvisd.org)>

Mr. Zamora,

Thank you for your inquiry.

TDEM is currently managing the \$1.85 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund for cities/counties and will inform stakeholders of any new program provisions.

Please let us know if you have any further question.

---

**From:** Juan Zamora <[juan.zamora@mvisd.org](mailto:juan.zamora@mvisd.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 5:34 PM  
**To:** [CRF@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:CRF@tdem.texas.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: Coronavirus Relief Fund

Also can you clarify one of the requirements that states "the subrecipient agrees that a minimum of 75% of its allotment will be spent in the categories of medical expenses, public health expenses and payroll expenses for employees substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the public emergency". How and when would this be the case for a school district?

On Mon, Jul 13, 2020 at 4:23 PM Juan Zamora <[juan.zamora@mvisd.org](mailto:juan.zamora@mvisd.org)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I have a couple of questions on allowable expenses that I hope you can help me with:

1. Can expenses that were incurred because of school closures that would not have occurred otherwise be an allowable expense, such as postage for having to mail packets to students?
2. Is premium pay or hazard pay allowable to be reimbursed? Does the pay have to be in relation to a Covid item directly? We kept our cafeteria staff working the entire time and provided them premium pay as they were working directly with the community to hand out meals.

--

Thank you,

Juan C. Zamora

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

830-931-2243 ext 1108

--

Thank you,

Juan C. Zamora

Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

830-931-2243 ext 1108

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--

Thank you,

Juan C. Zamora  
Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations  
830-931-2243 ext 1108

**Notice of Confidentiality:**

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**From:** [Omar Yanar](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Emily Levario](#); [Dianne Jones](#); [Paul Allen Ward](#); [Oscar Quezada](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: El Paso Department of Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:10:37 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

I wanted to ask for some advice about the position we're in here in El Paso. We took Commissioner Morath's advice and created a year-long calendar for the upcoming year starting August 3rd with students. We're quite happy about the change overall but quickly had to amend it as a result of a decree from our city's health commission.

We were informed late last week that the El Paso Health Commission has declared that no school district, public or private, can offer in-person school (must all be digital) until at least September 7th. This stands in contradiction to the three-week digital schooling TEA has set forth. You can see our dilemma.

I am worried that the commission may extend this date or create another decree in the future leaving us in a contradictory stance with TEA.

We did push our school year back two weeks in order to be in compliance with TEA and the city but again are worried about what to do if this occurs again. Any guidance would be greatly appreciated.

High Five,

**Omar Yanar**

Founder/CEO/Superintendent  
El Paso Leadership Academy- We Build. We Lead.  
[www.epleadershipacademy.org](http://www.epleadershipacademy.org)

(915) 298-3900 office

(915) 400-7971 fax

Make an appointment through Calendly! <https://calendly.com/omaryanar>

**From:** [Peter Griffiths](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Gov Exec Order and Guidelines  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 7:57:44 AM

---

Noticed that the Gov. Exec Order states....face coverings are required " when inside a **commercial entity or other building or space open to the public**, or when in an outdoor public space, wherever it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household..."

Is a classroom considered a "space open to the public"? Under the current Exec Order, would students need to wear a mask in a controlled environment, like a classroom. We were interpreting the rule that classrooms are NOT a space open to the public since only assigned students and persons are allowed into a classroom. With that reasoning, one protocol we were looking at would be any "unstructured areas" such as hallways, restrooms, etc...students would need face coverings. However, once in the classroom, with sanitization before and after class, students would need to utilize hand sanitizer as they leave the classroom. This would cover the the TEA guidelines of

Student-Teacher Groupings Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, encourage students to practice social distancing.

1. In classroom spaces that allow it, consider placing student desks a minimum of six feet apart when possible.
2. In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, **schools should plan for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing** and should consider whether increased airflow from the outdoors is possible.

If this is a feasible interpretation of the Gov Exec Order, this would help us to establish protocols and systems for the campuses and directions for the teachers.

Thanks! I know you guys are getting bombarded with questions. Appreciate it.

--

Dr. Peter E. Griffiths  
Associate Superintendent  
Wichita Falls ISD



**From:** [HILDELISA DIAZ](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Guidance  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:27:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-fj0az2iz.png](#)  
[Outlook-ovlg3af.png](#)  
[Outlook-jsc0ufcq.png](#)  
[Outlook-hecwx1ju.png](#)  
[Outlook-rsfjhfae.png](#)  
[Outlook-ne0ufpqz.png](#)

---

Good afternoon!

I have contacted the Early Childhood office at TEA to clarify a question and they have directed me to your attention.

I am in the process of developing a schedule for asynchronous instruction for our Pk students across the district. Do you know what guidance document specified the number of minutes for PK students for asynchronous Instruction attestations? Also, any other document that might be helpful in making decisions for our EC teachers and students will be appreciated. I will appreciate any guidance from you.

Thank you so much!



Dr. Hildelisa Díaz

Department of Early Childhood Learning Coordinator, AISD

Curriculum & Instruction and Educational Leadership

Enterprise Centre

690 E. Lamar Blvd, Second Floor, Office 220



hdiaz@aisd.net

*"A Wish is the Start of a Dream" Walt Disney*





**From:** [laurie Smith](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Health and safety questions  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:27:36 AM

---

I am seeking additional guidance on the following:

1. Is choir permitted?
2. Need guidelines on band: woodwinds, indoor practice, is there a capacity limit, etc....
3. Any specific guidelines for vulnerable staff? Should they sign a waiver relinquishing the school from any liability should they be exposed on campus?
4. Specific guidelines for the health clinic... PPE to be worn by nursing staff, isolation room requirements, etc....
5. What are the guidelines on another school shutdown? Will it be a certain percentage of positive students that will force a closure....

Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters.

--

photo



**Laurie Smith BSN, RN, NCSN**  
Director of Health Services, Pittsburg ISD



**From:** [Steve Clugston](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Health Guidance  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 10:23:06 AM

---

1. Can we have students remove masks once they are seated in class and all students are at least 6 feet apart?
2. Can we require students less than 10 years of age to wear masks until they are seated in class?

**From:** [Nancy Sandlin](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** hybrid learning option  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:24:45 PM

---

If, in an attempt to lower the class sizes, we offer a hybrid learning experience which will allow students to be on campus part of the week and in remote learning part of the week, will we be in violation of the 100% on-campus availability requirement on slide 31 of the TEA Planning Guidebook? If the answer is "yes," does this not negate the hybrid model option?

Thank you for any help you can offer.

Nancy Sandlin

*Nancy Sandlin  
Superintendent of Schools  
Danbury ISD*

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**From:** [Jay Ratcliff](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** I need guidance, please.  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:54:51 PM

---

Numbers 2 and 3 are contradictory to one another....number 2 requires masks for all, while number 3 says schools may require masks (page 6 of the Public Health Guidance Document).

#### Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks

1. For the purposes of this document, masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth. Face shields may be superior to cloth face coverings in many circumstances, given improved ability to see mouth movements and improved air circulation.
2. Schools are required to comply with the governor's executive order regarding the wearing of masks.
3. In addition to the executive order, school systems may require the use of masks or face shields for adults or students for whom it is developmentally appropriate.

And remember, it's a great day to be alive and a great day to be a Wildcat!

Go Wildcats!

Sincerely,



Jay Ratcliff  
Superintendent  
Harleton ISD



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** In school  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 12:11:10 PM

---

Hello,

I'm concerned on how the school year will look like. I wish our school district had a 50/50 plan or would just start school a month later to see where we are at. It's hard for me to want to send my kids [REDACTED] and have them be stuck in a classroom all day. Part of school is being able to play and move and socialize. To work together. How will this be accomplished. How are you expecting students, teachers and staff to return BUT TEA offices are not.

How does this work?

Thank you for your time

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Indoor pools opening  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:10:27 AM

---

Good morning,

My name is [REDACTED] and my [REDACTED] has been out of school since March 2020. [REDACTED] swims for a local competitive team in [REDACTED] and we practice at [REDACTED] ISD aquatic center, which has been closed since March. [REDACTED] loves swimming and it has served as a big outlet to [REDACTED] social life.

While I understand our current state of affairs, I would like to plead with you to allow the school districts to open the indoor pools. [REDACTED], along with other swimmers need this to open back up, not just for their physical state, but for their mental state as well. Continuing to keep these pools closed will only cause long term issues with kids social and mental behavior in the long term.

I hope you consider this and I am hopeful you will think about all the issues these kids will have to deal with if we continue to isolate them.

Thank you for your time.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Olga Garcia](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** instructional minutes for funding  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 10:05:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

Good morning,

We would some clarification regarding instructional minutes for funding.

Do the minimum number of daily minutes to meet full day funding (180 or 240 instructional minutes) need to be defined at the *student level* in the *student's schedule*? Some schools have generic student schedules for the elementary students.

Thank you.

With Kindness,





**From:** [Peters, Jennifer](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Isolation AREAS  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:59:17 AM

---

When an actual isolation room isn't available what are the guidelines for making an isolation area with in a room?

--

*Jennifer Peters, RN*



---

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**From:** [Dana Yates](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** July Graduations  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 10:01:40 AM

---

Are there any new updates for high school graduation ceremonies scheduled for July 2020?

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [NLGM](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Lack of Transparency  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:13:21 PM

---

Good afternoon I have a concern. There have been administrators on our junior high campus that have contracted Covid-19. They are still on campus. There is no transparency on our campus. The question I have is: Do the administrators need to let us know they have contracted the virus so we can go get checked? Will the campus be shut down because more than one administrator has contracted the virus?

Thank you in advance!

**From:** [Erika Foerster](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** LEA questions  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:54:52 AM

---

1. How many days is allowable for a teacher or campus to change an Absence in Remote Asynchronous learning to Present Asynchronous learning? Would the end of the grading period be appropriate to reconcile these with data from the LMS?
2. Will there be a waiver available for Physical Education minutes for elementary? Due to the possibility of limited recess and PE time, as well as students working in a remote setting for PE, there is a concern on how these minutes would be tracked and maintained.
3. We have a partnership with PK4SA - - will they be required to create an Asynchronous Learning Plan that must be approved by TEA or will they be required to follow our plan?

Erika G. Foerster  
Director of Student Information Systems  
Northside ISD - San Antonio



**From:** [Christie Whitbeck](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Major Concern  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:25:25 PM

---

**Concern:** On the TEA website under Attendance and Waivers FAQ, **number 33** posted recently is a major concern to me and other Superintendents. All children that we have received in years past, whether from private schools, home schools, charters or other public schools, are always funded. Any LEA that is responsible for providing the instruction should be funded regardless of where the student was the year before. Likewise, when children have left their LEA to attend private schools, homeschools, charters or other public schools, the original LEA does not maintain the funding and never has. I am not sure any of us understand why this would even have been considered as a viable or fair option. It does say that more guidance may be coming.

**Action Requested:** Please eliminate this new guideline (copied below for your easy reference) and allow all districts to receive ADA for any child who registers and attends, regardless of their previous school placement.

Thank you.

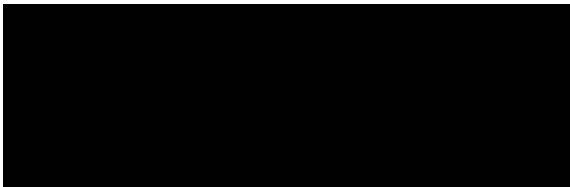
Christie Whitbeck, Ph.D.  
Superintendent, Bryan ISD

As a Bryan ISD Leader I will work to teach and model our Essential 8: ***Kindness, Tolerance, Gratitude, Philanthropy, Work Ethic, Optimism, Courage and Leadership***

***Attendance and Waivers FAQ, Posted July 2, 2020***

**#33.** Will students who were enrolled in private school, including a home school, the prior year in Texas be eligible for funding through the remote synchronous or asynchronous instructional methods? Posted July 2, 2020 No. Consistent with the laws governing the Texas Virtual School Network, school systems may not submit for funding educational delivery through either a remote synchronous or asynchronous method for students who attended a private school, including being homeschooled, in Texas the prior year, unless the public school campus the student would otherwise attend is closed to on-campus instruction because of a COVID-19 case on campus or a closure order. This limitation does not apply to: (a) students who transition from early education programs, where no entitlement to enroll in the public school existed, to public school; (b) students who transfer in from outside the state; or (c) students whose prior year private school does not offer the appropriate grade level (e.g., a private school ends at 6th grade so students moving on to 7th grade would no longer be able to attend the private UPDATED 7/9/2020 16 school). Students who attended a private school, including being homeschooled, in Texas the prior year will be eligible to earn funding under the traditional on-campus method. LEAs are not required to provide remote instruction to these students and can require the students to attend through the on-campus method. The agency is exploring additional, possible exceptions to the funding limitations described in this answer.

Bryan ISD  
801 South Ennis Street  
Bryan, Texas 77803



**Children First, Always**

**Bryan ISD will provide positive educational experiences that ensure high school graduation and post-secondary success.**

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**From:** [Cathy Lauer](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Need Document  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:35:15 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

---

Hello!

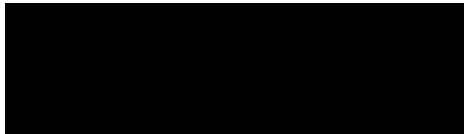
Where is this document?

6. School systems are required to provide parents a notice of their public education enrollment and attendance rights and responsibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic using a document published by TEA.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

**Cathy L. Lauer, Ph.D.**

Superintendent



**#mustangSTRONG !**

**From:** [Alejos Salazar](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [paz.elizondo@lavillaisd.org](mailto:paz.elizondo@lavillaisd.org); [Gonzalez, Cornelio](#)  
**Subject:** New Superintendent Assignments  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 4:14:47 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please be advised that there are two new superintendent assignments for which I would like to request email correspondence for any and all TEA or COVID related TEA calls or zoom sessions.

Alejos Salazar, Jr., former superintendent for La Villa ISD CD#801914 is now interim superintendent and lone finalist at Lasara ISD CD#245901, replacing Ms. Sara Alvarado.  
[asalazar@lasaraisd.net](mailto:asalazar@lasaraisd.net)

Paz Elizondo, is the currently interim superintendent at La Villa ISD  
[paz.elizondo@lavillaisd.org](mailto:paz.elizondo@lavillaisd.org)

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this email please contact me at [REDACTED]

Thank you,  
Alejos Salazar, Jr.  
Interim Superintendent  
Lasara ISD



**From:** [Earl Jarrett](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** New Superintendent  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:57:58 PM

---

Brent Jaco has been named the Lone Finalist at Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD. Please include him in the email with the link to the Commissioner's, Superintendent Zoom sessions.

[bjaco@pbtisd.esc18.net](mailto:bjaco@pbtisd.esc18.net)

Thanks!

--

Earl Jarrett  
Interim Superintendent

**From:** [Darrell Evans](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Not get TAA letters  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:18:26 AM

---

Is there a way to check why I am not getting TAA letters?  
I have checked AskTED and it is accurate.

Thanks.

Darrell Evans  
Superintendent  
Dew ISD

--

#teamevans

**From:** [gstinson@ldisd.net](mailto:gstinson@ldisd.net)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Notification letters  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:55:42 PM

---

Will the agency provide LEAs the templates for notification letters required if /when positive cases arise?

--

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**From:** [Kimberly Gardner](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** On campus asynchronous learning  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:37:40 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Per the attendance guidance last updated on 7/9, our district has to be open to offer on campus learning. The question has come up in our district: can that be asynchronous learning or does that mandate mean that parents who choose on campus are required to be taught traditionally by a teacher in person.

For example, what if we schedule kids on campus to do asynchronous learning not necessarily being driven by a teacher all day.

Would we need to take asynchronous attendance or could we count that as in person attendance?

Thank you,  
Kimber Gardner  
PEIMS Coordinator

**From:** [Courtney Hudgins](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** On Campus Presence Requirements and Remote Learning Transfers  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 4:41:53 PM

---

## FAQ Thought

1) Can school districts require students to come up to school to take assessments? For High school, this is a real concern as we cannot monitor who is actually taking the test and kids were sharing log ins in the Spring and having others take tests for them. With GPA's on the line, if we had an empty room and a way to space and proctor, could we require them to come up much like we do the CTE courses, IF we notified parents ahead of time of the request?

2) Can you clarify the remote learning and transfer students? If we have a student who lives in the neighboring district, and they are NOT enrolled in our district nor an approved transfer, do they now have the right to enroll for remote instruction?



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Commissioner](#)  
**Cc:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Open up OUR pools!!!  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:46:14 PM

---

Mr. Morath,

I am writing in regards to [REDACTED] whom we have raised all [REDACTED] life. We started [REDACTED] swimming at a very early age and has been swimming competitively for [REDACTED] years now. It has always been a dream of ours as a family for [REDACTED] to be on a high school team and know the comradery and discipline required to be a competitive athlete. However, since the Corona Virus has hit, [REDACTED] sport has been totally shut down and all [REDACTED] years of effort going for naught. [REDACTED] was to start [REDACTED] grade at [REDACTED] Independent School District this year to begin [REDACTED] UIL swimming path. I do not understand why we are not allowed to have all of our pools opened up for our youth since the data seems to prove that younger adults are not very susceptible and do not transmit the virus. I have watched [REDACTED] go from 2 hours of practice 6 days a week to maybe a couple hours a week and sitting in [REDACTED] room watching YouTube. If every public, tax funded chlorinated pool was opened I believe our coaching staff are very capable of enforcing social distancing and the more lanes open, the safer it will be instead of overcrowding the few private pools that are allowed to rent space to sports teams. With enough indoor lanes open and more frequent smaller practices we believe that competitive youth swimming is a safe option. Swimming is not a contact sport, you can have 4 swimmers in a lane, one at each end and 2 staggered in the middle and that provides a very safe exercise environment. Please reconsider opening all of our pools, indoor and outdoor, and allowing private teams to rent pool lanes and the high school teams allowed to start so our children can continue to follow their dreams.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Taxpayer

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Commissioner; disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Opening Natatoriums  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:17:03 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I would like to reach out regarding opening aquatics facilities for all swimmers. [REDACTED] our children are competitive swimmers living in [REDACTED] We currently swim out of the [REDACTED] Natatorium.

We ask that you please consider reopening these facilities so our kids can get back to the sport that they love! While this is a sport that is indoors, it is not the same as basketball and other activities. Our coaches have laid out excellent safety protocols for the kids, so they are able to train in a safe manner just like an outdoor sport. Not being able to train is hurting these kids not just from a training perspective, but to many kids these are their closest friends and coaches. Swimming for exercise is very much different than social swimming, and we ask that you please allow these kids to get back to doing what they love! We also ask that you open these facilities to outside renters, so these athletes can get back in the water. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] itself, so [REDACTED] has been unable to train at all.

We ask that you consider changing the current policies and allowing our kids to get back in the pool with proper with schools and outside clubs to do what they love! As parents we have confidence in the safety measures they have laid out.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance with this matter.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Opening school pools  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:55:51 PM

---

On behalf of [REDACTED] and all other Texas swimmers I am asking that you once again allow the schools to rent to outside clubs

[REDACTED] and has been swimming competitively for [REDACTED] years. [REDACTED] has placed [REDACTED] in several events in several state meets

[REDACTED] needs to train!

Prior to the pandemic [REDACTED] was swimming six days a week for two hours a day. Needless to say that is no longer the case

From what I understand swimmers develop “memory muscle” and without daily training they lose that

I also understand that swim clubs have developed strict guidelines for training. And know the coaches they will adhere to that

Texas should be proud of all our great swimmers but they need to get back in the water

Please open the school facilities to swim clubs once again

Thank you for taking time to read my email

Sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Kay Markert](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Opening schools  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 10:48:47 AM

---

When we return under the Public Health Planning Guidance, would that be considered resuming 'normal operations'?

--

*Kay Markert*

*Prairie Lea ISD*

Instructional Coach

DTC, Dyslexia, LPAC

We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. **Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.**  
-JFK

**From:** [Emily Coleman](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Schultz](#)  
**Subject:** phase-in  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:36:37 AM

---

Good morning, TEA,

Can the 3-week "phase-in" period allowed by TEA at the start of the year begin with zero students on campus? Is there a minimum percentage of students required to start on campus?

(Matt - FYI)

Thanks!

--

**Emily Coleman**  
Superintendent  
Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
1100 West 45th Street  
Austin, TX 78756

  
[colemane@tsbvi.edu](mailto:colemane@tsbvi.edu)

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**From:** [Maria Villarreal](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** PK Early Childhood Concern  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:57:46 PM

---

Good afternoon,

It has come to my attention that early childhood (PK) may not have met its minutes for the 19-20 school year. How do I go about finding out if a waiver was completed for the 19-20 school year for our district in regards to PK? I have read the FAQ on early childhood and have contacted ESC-20 regarding this. I am new to this position and need to make sure this is addressed. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks in advance,

MVillarreal

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Please change rules for indoor swim facilities so outside renters can rent facilities  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:23:23 PM

---

Hi,

My [REDACTED] swims in the UIL league in the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Due to the CoVID, the swim facilities we use ...the [REDACTED] facility has been closed to us and we are unable to train for swimming. As I said we are not swimming for re-creation and treating swimming like any other indoor sport (E.g Basketball) is unfair to a group of athletes who swim competitively. The CoVID virus is not known to survive the chlorinated pool water and our training group can use all the precautions to practice social distancing and wearing masks (when entering and leaving facilities) Please consider changing the rules so school districts are able to rent the pools to outside renters and we may commence our UIL training.

Thanks in advance

[REDACTED]

Texas Resident.

**From:** [Kelley Berberich](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** PPE  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:40:42 AM

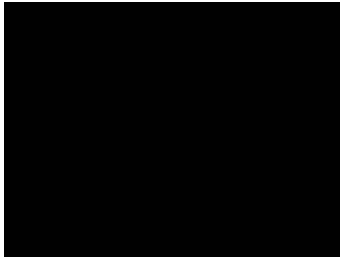
---

Good morning. Is there a contact person that I could speak to about PPE that we manufacture in Texas, and would be greatly beneficial to teachers and staff?

Thank you!

--

Kelley Berberich  
Extreme Engineering - Sales  
[www.extremeengineering.com](http://www.extremeengineering.com)



**From:** [Maggie Naranjo](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Private Transportation Costs  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 12:01:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image012.png](#)

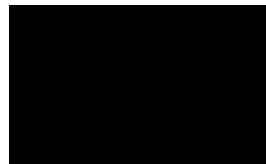
---

Hello,

Would COVID related issues that are impacting bus drivers and bus routes qualify as a hardship for eligibility for the private transportation allotment?

Thank you,

Maggie Naranjo  
School Finance Specialist



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**From:** [STOCKTON, DANIEL](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [WALDRIP, MICHAEL](#)  
**Subject:** Public Health Guidance Question  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 8:48:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

Good morning,

On page 2 of the public health guidance, Number 2 under “Attendance and Enrollment” states, “Any parent may request that their student be offered virtual instruction from any school system that offers such instruction.” I am writing to request clarification on that phrase. It appears to be saying that parents can choose any school district in the state for virtual instruction, regardless of their residency. Is that correct? If so, are school districts required to provide virtual instruction to any student that requests it, even if they do not live in the district’s boundaries? Additionally, for students who choose virtual outside of their home district, how would a school district enforce its commitment requirements (i.e. requiring parents to remain virtual until the end of a grading period) given that different districts have grading periods of different lengths and that end on different days.

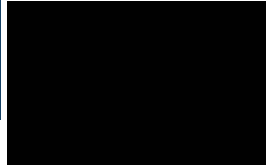
Thank you for any clarification you can provide.

Sincerely,



**Daniel Stockton, J.D.**

*Executive Director  
Government & Legal Affairs*



**From:** [Julie Bryan](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Commissioner](#); [TEAINFO](#)  
**Subject:** Put health and safety over funding.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:35:10 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am a Texas educator and have been for the past six years. I miss my students and the classroom, but not enough to jeopardize my student's lives, my life, or my family's life.

Here are a few reasons you SHOULD NOT reopen schools:

- reopening bars was a failure and lead to massive rise in COVID 19 cases
- TEA and all the meetings discussing this have been on zoom because you don't feel comfortable working in person, but you ask thousands of us to just go back into work.
- Schools are already a Petri dishes for the flu, and teachers often get what ever students have, and a sickness spreads through students like wildfire.
- We are continuing to rise in Covid-19 every day with Texas reporting 10,000 cases on July 7th.
- You expect teachers to be ok to literally put their lives on the line (again) without supporting us with extra sick days in case we get the virus
- There was already a shortage of substitutes, and now this will be even worse

Please use Texas' massive failure at reopening to soon as an example of what will happen with schools, but SO much worse. You cannot send us into our potential death. We should stay closed until the numbers start to decrease and only then should we reopen. Please don't rush and instead find a way to change the way you receive funding so that we don't get rushed into an unsafe environment because you want students in the seats. Please show that you care for our lives, because this isn't a "stick a bandaid on it" situation. How state and our country need to heal and get better, and then we can find out way to a new normal.

Thank you for your time,  
Julianne Bryan  
Dallas Tx



**From:** [Marilyn Harris](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Query re State Accounting EOY FY20 & FY21 rules for grant-funded purchases  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:41:28 PM

---

Hello, TEA,

When we found out the 2019-2020 ESSA grants were extended through the date of 9/30/2021, we were very glad, since some of our 2019-2020 ESSA-grant-funded projects have been unavoidably delayed due to Covid-19.

However, we are being told by our purchasing department that due to state comptroller purchasing rules, all projects started with FY20 funds must be completed by 8/31/20. Since TJJD is a state agency, we cannot find a way that is compliant with state purchasing rules to allow us to complete any project (or purchasing order) started prior to 9/1/20 that will not be completed by 8/31/20.

We are trying very hard to complete some 2019-2020 ESSA Title1 Part D (Federal Grant) funded projects currently underway ASAP because our new School Year starts August 3, but we are not sure these can be completed by 8/31/20. This is because delivery (and resultant installation) dates are uncertain due to Covid-19.

Do you know of any way the State Comptroller could allow exceptions to the FY20 purchasing rules to allow for federal grant-funded purchases to continue without a hard cutoff date of 8/31/20? Perhaps there is a way for the State of Texas to honor the intention of the 2019-2020 ESSA Federal grant extension?

Thanks,

Marilyn

--

Marilyn Harris  
Education Specialist, Federally Funded Programs  
Texas Juvenile Justice Department  
11209 Metric Blvd., Bldg. H  
Austin, TX 78758

512-490-7097

**From:** [Rose Norman](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 2:16:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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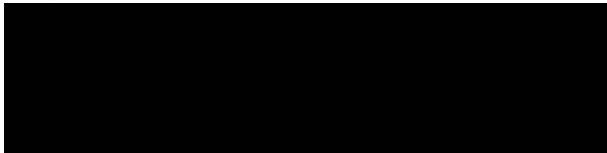
Our District has deployed a device to every student and a hotspot to those who needed internet.  
Our questions is:

If a building has to be closed for one or two days for disinfecting due to possible/confirmed case(s),  
can we switch to 100% virtual instruction for those days and receive funding or would we be closed  
for instruction and use “make-up” day(s) for funding purposes?

Thanking you in advance for your response.

***Rose Norman***

Chief Operations, Accountability, and Grants Officer  
Southwest Schools



**From:** [Don Beck](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 10:03:07 AM

---

I have read through the Q&As and can't find a question that addresses the one I'm going to ask. I can loosely interpret some of the questions but not exactly.


This is related to the 75,600 minutes and on-campus instruction.

We must offer on campus instruction to anyone who wants it. We understand that. If we offer daily instruction to students at the secondary level for 240 minutes everyday and then provide asynchronous learning for elective courses after school hours, would this be sufficient in addressing the 75,600 minutes of instruction?

Your statement of "On-Campus Instruction When schools are open and operating normally, students are scheduled to attend school on campus each day. Student schedules determine whether they will generate full- or half-day funding, and students generate funding when attendance is recorded for students who are physically present at school at a locally selected snapshot time. Traditional on-campus instruction will continue to be funded as it was before the COVID-19 pandemic." makes me assume that the answer to my question above would be "No."

So my other question would be are we required to offer full day face-to-face instruction if parents request it?

Thanks for your help in answering these questions.

Don Beck, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education  
828 Sheldon Rd.  
Channelview TX 77530  


**From:** [Carolyn Castillo](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 4:44:33 PM

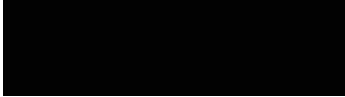
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Question from an LEA:

Regarding K-2 instruction for remote learners, could you provide any guidance on whether the minimum minutes of synchronous instruction requirement as part of asynchronous instruction for those grade levels also includes PE? In other words, for the 1st 9 weeks, is it possible for PE instruction for remote learners to be asynchronous with the addition of "office hours" or a check in with the teacher virtually at some point throughout the week?

**Carolyn Castillo, Ph.D.**

Deputy Director, Administrative and Instructional Services  
Education Service Center, Region 20  
1314 Hines Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78208



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**From:** [Carolyn Castillo](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 4:46:01 PM

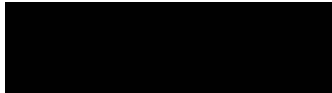
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Question from an LEA:

During the Commissioner's call last week, I asked the question if a district should need to submit more than one remote asynchronous instructional plans for approval would that be possible? His answer was good question, need to think about that. We operate an open enrollment public charter and multiple residential campuses to include JDCs, Emergency Shelter, and foster care facilities that differ considerably from one another. Merging multiple instructional residential plans into one plan and then merging that plan into a plan with the open enrollment public charter is being explored, but a challenge as you can imagine. I would like to know if submission of multiple asynchronous plans for approval is an option for a district.

**Carolyn Castillo, Ph.D.**

Deputy Director, Administrative and Instructional Services  
Education Service Center, Region 20  
1314 Hines Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78208



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**From:** [Rose Norman](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:36:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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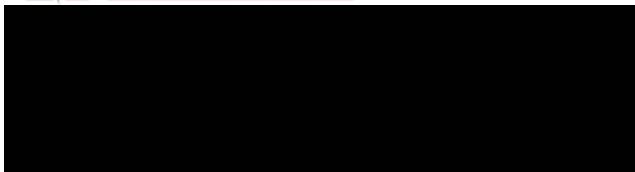
Asking for clarification on the language used in one District's plan that was given to the public today. It says:

"Classrooms must be reconfigured to ensure physical distancing, with student-teacher ratios capped at one teacher for every 10 students."

Current guidelines recommend, but do not mandate, a 6 foot social distance measure in classrooms. Can a district "cap" the number of students who are attending in person per classroom. If more than 10 students request a seat in the "capped" classroom, they would go to remote instruction and on a waitlist to get into the "capped" classroom. Is it a local decision to develop local guidelines with regard to enrolling classrooms?

***Rose Norman***

Chief Operations, Accountability, and Grants Officer  
Southwest Schools



**From:** [Angela McDonald](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question about ADA and no shows  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 5:00:13 PM

---

What happens if students are enrolled and do not show up for the first day of school and/or end up not attending the first few weeks of school? Meaning, there may be some students who were enrolled during 19/20 who are still considered enrolled **(they have not officially withdrawn and they are not enrolled in other schools)**. In this scenario, we would have information from a parent that they intend to return to our school, but for some reason, we are not able to contact them. Will these students still be counted as in attendance for the first 12 weeks of school (during the grace period)?

Normally these students are marked for the first day of school as a **NO SHOW**. How will we be expected to address this issue? Will we have to indicate them as a NO SHOW for enrollment/attendance purposes?

Thank you for addressing this issue,

Angela McDonald, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Advantage Academy  
*"Building Champions with a Future and a Hope."*  
North Duncanville - Grand Prairie - Waxahachie

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**From:** [Nobert Rodriguez](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** question about back to school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 10:52:18 AM

---

Good morning,

Are school districts allowed to begin the school year using a remote setting similar to Clint ISD?

We are trying to be proactive in working through this pandemic and strongly feel that "potential" on-campus re-entry plans may appear to be reactive in nature when it comes down to students or employees coming down with COVID-19.

Based on what we have recently witnessed regarding some of our employees coming down with COVID-19, I am highly concerned with how the beginning of the school year may turn out for students and staff.

--

**Sincerely,**

**Nobert Rodriguez**

**Superintendent**

**Pearsall ISD**

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*enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en las Educación de 1972 y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973 según enmienda.*

**From:** [Greg & Dana Myers](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** question about Gov Abbott comment on 5 days closure  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:24:34 PM

---

Gov Abbott had an interview with WFAA Friday and stated that schools will close down for 5 days if anyone in schools tests positive. This is different from the TEA guidelines previously communicated. Can you comment on if 5 day closure will become policy? I feel this is very important as we make decisions in the next week for our children to go to school in person or do virtual school.

Thanks,  
Dana Myers

RESPOND: Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case in the School Required Actions if Individuals with Lab-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

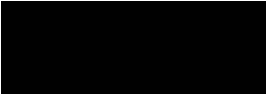
1. If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). 5
2. Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate on any on campus activities.

**From:** [Bobby Lopez](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** question about number of students in classrooms for the fall  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 8:27:47 AM

---

How many students will be allowed per classroom for the fall now that all students are being provided the opportunity to physically attend school?

Bobby Lopez, Ed. D.  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bob Hope School/Hughen Center, Inc.  
2849 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Port Arthur, Texas 77642



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**From:** [Davis, Jenny G](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question about Synchronous and Asynchronous Submissions  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:13:00 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

If my district is going to provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction, do I need to submit the LOI and plan for Asynchronous Instruction **AND** the attestation for synchronous instruction?

For example, I have a student that is getting synchronous instruction Monday through Thursday for the minimum number of minutes required, but on Fridays, is getting asynchronous instruction.

Thanks,

Jenny Davis  
Director of Finance  
The University of Texas Charter School System  
Division of Diversity and Community Engagement  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Office Phone: 512 471-1434  
Web Addresses: <http://utcharter.org>, <http://utelementary.org>  
Division Web Address: <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity>  
Physical & Mailing Address: 2200 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, Texas 78702  
UT Campus Mail Code R1100

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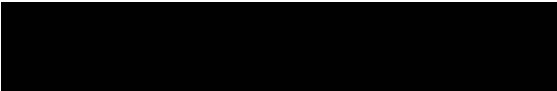
**From:** [Terri Fountain](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** question from a School nurse  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 10:32:39 AM

---

Nurses see symptoms listed on the COVID symptoms all day everyday. For instance, a sore , could be Strep, allergies, drainage or many other reasons. My question is. Since it is listed on COVID symptoms, we would send them home . What criteria do we use for return to school.. Symptoms free? COVID test positive? This would include any of the listed COVID symptoms

--

**Terri Fountain, RN**  
**Warren ISD- School Health Coordinator**  
**Campus Nurse for Junior High and High School**



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**From:** [Brenda Richmond](#)  
**To:** [Jons, Justin](#); [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question on attendance FAQ  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:30:02 PM

---

Hello. I'm reading latest FAQ and am wondering if I may please receive clarification on who can post attendance for asynchronous learning. The doc (page 3) says teacher or 'campus representative'. Who qualifies as this representative? Does this have to meet the same qualifications that are in the current SAAH manual for certified etc.?

Also, thank you so much for publishing and working with me on the side-by-side chart. That was kind of you to share my name with the commissioner.

Brenda Richmond

PS: Please excuse typos as this is being sent from my mobile device.

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**From:** [Paquin, Patricia](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question on re-opening  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:58:56 PM

---

Scenario:

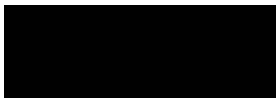
An elementary school re-openings in the fall and has face to face instruction as well as asynchronous instruction. Students are participating in both on site and remote.

A case of COVID 19 is identified in the school and the school closes for 3 days. During those 3 days all students participate in asynchronous instruction. The instructional program does not stop. Would the school receive full funding for students marked present/participating during the 3 school days the school was closed?

Is there a limit on the number of days a school can be closed if there is outbreak that requires closing for an extended period (more than 5 days)? Would funding continue if all students (including those who were in face to face instruction) were participating in the asynchronous instructional program during the extended closure?

Thank you,

Patricia  
Patricia Paquin  
Principal/Superintendent  
UH Charter School





**From:** [Meza-Chavez, Jeannie](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Priscilla Mata](#)  
**Subject:** Question on Student COVID-19 Testing  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:29:33 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

If a student results positive for the virus and the classroom has to be moved to asynchronous (online), prior to returning to school once the classroom has been disinfected, can the students who were in the same classroom as the infected student be required to be tested for COVID-19? The concern is students may be asymptomatic.

Thank you,

JMC

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**From:** [Paquin, Patricia](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question on synchronous vs, asynchronous instruction  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:53:26 PM

---

Question 1:

We are looking at asynchronous instruction for the remote learning model in our district.

We are a one school, school district with an elementary school.

Must we submit a plan for both asynchronous and synchronous instruction? We believe with the asynchronous model we will incorporate synchronous instruction as well.

Or do we write the asynchronous plan to include information that synchronous instruction will be a part of that model?

Question 2.

Can we specify students that must participate in face to face instruction?

Example:

- students who were not successful with remote learning in the spring
- students not meeting grade level standards at the end of the year

Can we make requirements for students to continue to participate in remote learning if that is the method of instruction they start the year with?

Thanks for your time.

Patricia

Patricia Paquin  
Principal/Superintendent  
UH Charter School

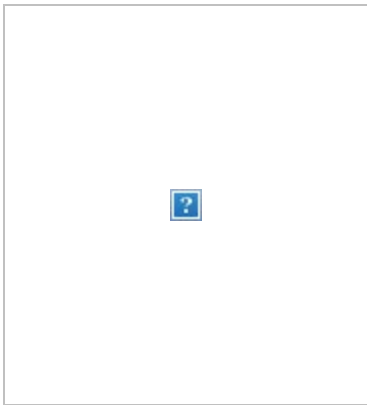


**From:** [Mika, Cyndy](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Daniel Gallagher](#)  
**Subject:** Question re out of district and ADA  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:50:49 PM

---

We have had a parent request to enroll a kindergarten student in at-home learning who does not reside in our district. If we allow the student to enroll in at-home learning will we receive full ADA for a transfer student?

**Cyndy A. Mika, Ed.D. / Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning Services**



Little Elm Independent School District  
Zellars Center for Learning & Leadership  
Box 6000 / 300 Lobo Lane  
Little Elm, Texas 75068

[www.littleelmsd.net](http://www.littleelmsd.net)

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**From:** [STOCKTON, DANIEL](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question Regarding Parents Switching Learning Environment  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 6:59:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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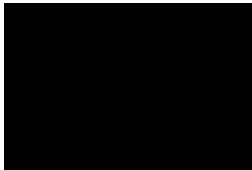
Good evening,

With respect to the ability for parents to switch learning environments throughout the year, we understand we can limit such transitions to the end of grading periods. However, we would like to require parents to give us advance notice of that switch. In order to adequately process the resulting schedule and staffing changes, we need a significant amount of lead time to ensure that the student will be able to transition from one learning environment to another at the end of the grading period. I have not seen any guidance that discusses whether it is permissible for us to require that parents provide us advance notice of their desire to transition learning environments. If that is acceptable, how far in advance can we require the notice be given? Thank you!



**Daniel Stockton, J.D.**

*Executive Director  
Government & Legal Affairs*



**From:** [Tosie, Anthony](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Question regarding student quarantine for close contact  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:26:14 AM

---

Hello,

We have the following question regarding when a student should quarantine following close contact (such as with a classmate) who has a confirmed COVID-19 test.

TEA guidance gives the following descriptions, which seems to conflict:

- "Additionally, they must report to the school system if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, **must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed.**"
- "Parents may also opt to have their students receive remote instruction if their child **has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19** until the 14-day incubation period has passed"

With close contact defined on Page 8. (All of these quotes are from the Public Health Guidance document.)

Is there a specific TEA guidance on when students need to be quarantined at home if a classmate -- in the same classroom -- tests positive?

Thanks,  
Anthony

**Anthony Tosie**

***Director o Communications, Lake Dallas ISD***

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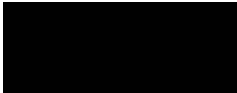
**From:** [Breedon, Terrie](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Clemens, Deanna](#); [Prater, Steven](#); [Brannan, Kim](#); [Porter, Justin](#)  
**Subject:** Question  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 7:44:11 PM

---

Does a waiver have to be submitted to TEA for homebound services to be virtual only. Can you clarify this as well?

*Terrie Breedon*

Terrie Breedon  
State 619 Coordinator  
Texas Education Agency  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78701



**From:** [Elizabeth R Lalor](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Questions  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 1:44:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-3xtvz5tb.png](#)

---

We have questions from the latest guidance.

On the June 25, 2020 PowerPoint, it states parents can choose how the student will attend school: On-campus, remote, or hybrid. This indicates we must offer full day, regular school to all students. Is this correct?

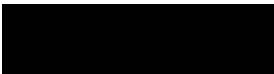
While Harris County COVID numbers are high, our plans were to offer a Hybrid or Remote options to our parents, and to use the Asynchronous model for Attendance. This will allow us to comply with the CDC guidelines on social distancing. We would only offer the On-Campus model once COVID numbers are under control and our BOT feels it is safe. Is this allowable?

We have not seen guidance on Dual Credit and how to count this for attendance. Our higher ed partner - San Jacinto College, has determined that academic classes will be virtual, and technical classes will be a combination of virtual and in person assignments. We are planning on using the Asynchronous model for attendance. How will we determine progress for college classes when our teachers are not the ones who teach the class? In some cases for our ECHS, all classes on particular days are dual credit classes. Do we just judge progress on their high school classes? What if all classes are college classes?

Thank you,

**Elizabeth Lalor**

Deputy Superintendent for Educational Support  
and School Administration  
Galena Park ISD



**From:** [Jaideep Hebbar](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#); [Siedlecki, Joe](#)  
**Cc:** [Son Han](#); [Addie Gomez](#); [Thomas Willman](#)  
**Subject:** Questions about Attendance and Enrollment FAQ  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:20:13 PM

---

Good evening,

In reviewing the Attendance and Enrollment FAQ dated 2 July 2020, I have a few questions regarding how districts will be paid from a cash flow perspective.

Note the following passage on the bottom of page 4, in response to the question, **“Will there be an ADA hold harmless for the 2020-2021 school year?”**:

*Yes, TEA is implementing an ADA grace period under the limited circumstances described below. TEA recognizes the challenges associated with implementing remote instruction in the new school year in light of COVID-19. Therefore, TEA will institute the ADA grace period for the first two six-week attendance reporting periods as follows: if an LEA’s ADA counts during those first two six-week reporting periods are more than one percent less than the LEA’s ADA counts during the first two six-week reporting periods for the 2019–2020 school year, the first two six-week attendance reporting periods for 2020–2021 will be excluded from the calculation of ADA for FSP funding purposes.*

**Related to the above, I have a few questions:**

- **If an adjustment is made as per the above to EXCLUDE the first two 6-week periods, can you please confirm that the district’s subsequent four 6-week periods will be used to calculate and true-up revenue for the full year (six 6-week periods)? How will TEA account for historical attrition patterns where ADA in the first two 6-week periods is higher than subsequent four 6-week periods?**
- **From a cash flow perspective, if an adjustment is made as per the above to EXCLUDE the first two 6-week periods, how and when will districts be paid for the first two 6-week periods?**

Best,  
Jaideep

**Jaideep Hebbar**

Chief Strategy and Financial Officer

***Need help with a Finance question? [Submit a ticket.](#)***

**KIPP Texas Public Schools**

10711 KIPP Way | Houston, TX

**E:** [Jaideep.Hebbar@kipptexas.org](mailto:Jaideep.Hebbar@kipptexas.org)

Janet Reynoso, Executive Assistant | [Janet.Reynoso@kipptexas.org](mailto:Janet.Reynoso@kipptexas.org) | 832.328.1051 x1589



**From:** [Kopycinski, Julie](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Questions about pools being reopened  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:28:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [Opening school pools.msg](#)  
[Open up OUR pools!!!.msg](#)  
[Please change rules for indoor swim facilities so outside renters can rent facilities.msg](#)  
[Indoor pools opening.msg](#)  
[Opening Natatoriums.msg](#)  
[A Student Letter About Swimming.msg](#)

---

In lieu of putting 12 more emails into this bucket – here are the emails associated with opening up swimming pools:

**From:** [Lucas Holloway](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Questions for 2020-2021 School Year  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:48:30 AM

---

Good Morning,

I was needing clarification on funding for homeschool and/or private school student enrolling in our school and COVID-19 flowchart.

If a student, who lives in the school district that attended a private or home school program during the 2019-2020 school year, decides to come to public school in a traditional setting for 2020-2021 but the school district has to close and move to a remote setting will the school district receive funding on the student during the remote setting?

Can the parent or guardian move the child, that attended private or home school program, from a traditional setting to a remote setting and the school still be able to receive funding on the student?

The district has an asynchronous plan developed but would like for someone to review the plan before submitting it to TEA or implementing it this school year. Is there anyone who could provide this service for schools?

Does TEA have a flowchart that helps guide districts to respond to employees or students exhibiting symptoms or claiming being directly exposed to someone who has been clinically diagnosed with COVID-19?

--

Thanks,

Lucas Holloway  
Broaddus ISD Superintendent  
Phone 936.872.3041 x.200  
"A Tradition of Excellence"



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**From:** [Lucas Holloway](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Questions for 2020-2021 School Year  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:48:30 AM

---

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--

Thanks,

Lucas Holloway  
Broaddus ISD Superintendent  
Phone 936.872.3041 x.200  
"A Tradition of Excellence"



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**From:** [Cristal Carbajal](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Questions  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:21:45 AM

---

I've seen a lot of district's back to school plans. Most focus on not spreading COVID-19, which of course is great. Here are some things I haven't seen addressed.

Are you going to require all students PreK3-12th, including life skills and functional academics students, wear masks?

What happens when a teacher gets it? Do the students in their class have to quarantine? What about other colleagues?

Does the teacher have to use their limited sick days on a mandatory 2 week quarantine so when they get the Flu in February they have to take unpaid days?

If a teacher gets it and contact tracers determine they got it at school, is that a workman's comp claim? Will workman's comp be as big a disaster as it normally is to navigate?

How often will teachers be tested? Cafeteria workers? Custodians? Front office staff? Bus drivers? 2 Cap Metro bus drivers have already died due to the virus.

Are teachers/employees going to be receiving hazard pay for working in a dangerous environment? What about a bonus for the LOADS of extra cleaning and administrative work they're going to have to do?

What about teachers/employees that are high risk? Will they be penalized for choosing their safety over their jobs? What if they're not high risk, but someone in their household is? Who determines the threshold for "at-risk" that qualifies for exemptions?

What happens when students get it? Will schools be shutdown? For how long? Will they wait to open until everyone gets tested and you need a negative result to return to school? Who pays for the tests? What if a student's family can't afford a test?

**From:** [Michael Davis](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** quick question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 10:21:46 AM

---

TEA said that schools do not have to offer the "at-home" model.

If we do not, where will those kids that want at-home instruction find a school?

Meaning, if we have several that do not meet transfer requirements of any of our surrounding schools, what options do they have? Only to return to the home campus or something else?

Thanks, msd

**From:** [Grant Support](#)  
**To:** [Chapman, Debbie](#)  
**Cc:** [disasterinfo](#); [Green, Cory](#)  
**Subject:** RE: CARES ACT question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:23:35 PM

---

Hello,  
Thank you for contacting TEA.

Your question has been forwarded to the appropriate agency staff at [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov).

All TEA guidance related to COVID-19 is posted first on the (COVID-19) Support and Guidance page of the agency's website (<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>). Refer to that page for information from TEA regarding COVID-19 and its impact on Texas K-12 schools and students.

For ease of reference, information related specifically to COVID-19 and federal grant funds will also be consolidated and posted at <https://tea.texas.gov/finance-and-grants/grants>.

You may also submit additional questions directly to [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov).

In Service,

Matt Lashlee, PMP  
Chief of Staff, [Department of Grant Compliance and Administration](#)

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---

**From:** Chapman, Debbie <[debbie.chapman@amaisd.org](mailto:debbie.chapman@amaisd.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:07 PM  
**To:** Grants <[Grants@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Grants@tea.texas.gov)>  
**Subject:** CARES ACT question

My Deputy Superintendent wanted me to ask a question about the grant.  
We are looking at paying payroll with much of this money, she wants to know if the district will be

exempt from paying the TRS match on the salaries.

Please let us know.

Thank you

*Debbie Chapman*

*Director of Federal Programs & Grants*

*Amarillo ISD*



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**From:** [Nancy Smith](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Follow up question about 7/7/2020 planning guide  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:28:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)

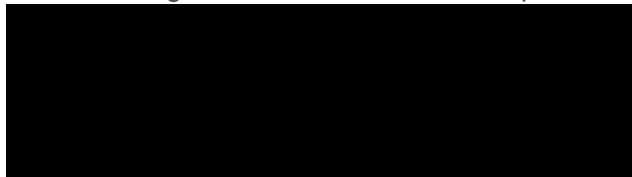
---

Hello,

I was just checking in to see if there has been any updates for this?



**Nancy Smith**  
Team Manager - State and Federal Compliance



---

**From:** Nancy Smith <nancys@skyward.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 11:19 AM  
**To:** [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov)  
**Subject:** Follow up question about 7/7/2020 planning guide

Hello,

In [this](#) document that was posted yesterday, the following note was on the last page.

***Screening Questionnaire Information***

1. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a "Yes" or "No" to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic.
2. Once it is determined that individuals who responded "Yes" to either of these questions have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals' responses.

Should districts plan on removing all reference to "No" answers as well, or only if they answered "Yes" ? If they are only tracking no wouldn't it by default still show any time they said Yes, because of the absence of no?

In the second point it says if they responded yes to EITHER of these questions, what are the 2 questions? I only see the one: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

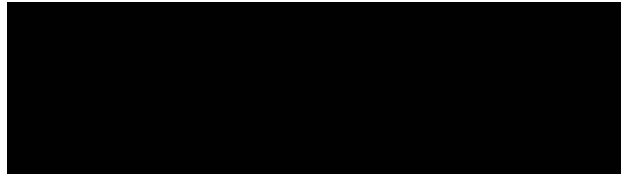


While I'm not at a district, we support 250 districts throughout the state so it is very important to us that we make necessary updates according to the posted rules.

Thanks!



**Nancy Smith**



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**From:** [Joseph E. \(Joe\) Hoffer](#)  
**To:** [Joe Hoffer](#); [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Janet Robertson](#); [Michael Higgins](#); [Pierce Denise](#); [Maia Levenson](#); [Ramon Medina](#); [Christopher Schulz](#); [Adrienne Stonecypher](#); [Dahlberg Bryan](#); [Allen Keller](#); [Emily Boney](#); [Joe Joyce](#); [Jasmine Grant](#); [Karen Ice](#); [Celina Warren](#); [Robert Schulman](#); [Rick Lopez](#); [Mark Moreno](#); [Jason Adelstein](#)  
**Subject:** Re: IMPORTANT: COVID Update-- Local County Health Orders  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 10:47:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [2020.07.09 Orders for School Systems Reopening.pdf](#)  
[unknown.png](#)

---

Dear Charter School Leaders (and TEA Officials)

In follow-up to the below alert we issued early this AM, a number of schools have contacted us inquiring about impact of state funding if the local public health authority orders the schools to not reopen to on-campus instruction and it extends beyond the three-weeks TEA has accounted for, or a closure for confirmed COVID-19 extends beyond 5 days per a subsequent local order or directive from your health authority.

The answer is not clear. So we recommend this question be submitted to TEA and I am taking the unusual step of sending this e-mail and analysis directly to TEA's [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov) account. TEA, this is submitted on behalf of our law firm's 140 charter school/charter holder clients. Thank you for your careful consideration.

### **Restate the Question for Clarity and for TEA**

TEA Officials, a growing number of local county health authorities are issuing orders pursuant to Tex. Health and Safety Code that provides they may order schools closed. TEA has also previously advised that the local health authorities may close school. DSHS per statute may supersede and "preempt" such orders, but it seems the state and local authorities are in a see-saw. El Paso County's public health authority issued an order that schools may not reopen to on-campus instruction before Sept. 7. What is the impact on state funding under these circumstances where the schools provide virtual only instruction for a period of time beyond the three-weeks the TEA has previously approved at the start of the school year?

### **Issues based on existing Guidance:**

We note that TEA's current SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ (July 9, 2020) at [https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/sy\\_2020-21\\_attendance\\_and\\_enrollment\\_faq\\_remote\\_only.pdf](https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/sy_2020-21_attendance_and_enrollment_faq_remote_only.pdf) does not directly address the issuance of local county health authority closure orders other than as follows:

## **Attendance Methods**

...

### **On-Campus Instruction**

When schools are open and operating normally, students are scheduled to attend school on campus each day. Student schedules determine whether they will generate full- or half-day funding, and students generate funding when attendance is recorded

for students who are physically present at school at a locally selected snapshot time. Traditional on-campus instruction will continue to be funded as it was before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Subject to certain exceptions listed below, **on-campus instruction must be offered for all grades served by the campus every day for every student** whose parents want them to access on-campus instruction for each day a campus is providing instruction given its instructional calendar. Exceptions, as more fully described in this FAQ below, include:

- A full-time virtual campus operating under the TXVSN.
- Any day a campus is ordered closed by an entity authorized to issue an order under state law.
- Any day a LEA closes a campus as a result of a confirmed COVID-19 case on campus, subject to the limits described in this FAQ below.
- As part of a **start-of-school transition period**, during the **first three weeks of the school year**, LEAs can, if they choose to do so locally, limit access to on-campus instruction to facilitate a **safe, effective** return to on-campus instruction. Students who cannot participate in remote learning at home because of lack of broadband internet access or devices must still have access to on-campus instruction during this time.

In the FAQ, TEA did not directly address the instance when “a campus is ordered closed [or to delay re-opening] by an entity authorized to issue an order under state law.” From the information provided in the rest of the FAQ, we can discern that state funds will flow to the charter holder/school that delays the reopening of or closes its campus pursuant to a local order to do so. However, we request TEA address the following in the FAQ:

37. **Can I establish a phased return to on-campus instruction to ensure my public health procedures are fully up and running?** *Posted July 7, 2020*

As part of a start-of-year transition period, for up to the first three weeks of your instructional calendar, you may limit the number of students who otherwise access on campus instruction.

This could be done by capacity limit by classroom across all grades, a limited number of grades starting by day, or some similar means, and could include being fully remote during this period. However, during this transition window, you are still required to allow all students to access on campus instruction who come from households without internet access or appropriate remote learning devices. All parents who want on campus instruction must be provided that on campus

attendance for their students at the immediate conclusion of the transition period (as opposed to the end of the first grading period, when parents otherwise choose remote instruction). The mechanism to limit access during this period should be clearly communicated to families in advance.

Thus, to avoid any misunderstanding, we are requesting TEA respond to the current circumstance in El Paso County as well as a growing number of other local public health authorities, be addressed in the FAQ as it is now a reality in multiple counties.

We also observe that the following TEA guidance is also somewhat on point as it addressed a “closure order.” which is what we have happening to delay the start of school

**32. Will students who were enrolled in private school, including a home school, the prior year in Texas be eligible for funding through the remote synchronous or asynchronous instructional methods? *Posted July 2, 2020***

No. Consistent with the laws governing the Texas Virtual School Network, school systems may not submit for funding educational delivery through either a remote synchronous or asynchronous method for students who attended a private school, including being homeschooled, in Texas the prior year, unless the public school campus the student would otherwise attend is closed to on-campus instruction because of a COVID-19 case on campus or a closure order. This limitation does not apply to: (a) students who transition from early education programs, where no entitlement to enroll in the public school existed, to public school; (b) students who transfer in from outside the state; or (c) students whose prior year private school does not offer the appropriate grade level (e.g., a private school ends at 6th grade so students moving on to 7th grade would no longer be able to attend the private school). Students who attended a private school, including being homeschooled, in Texas the prior year will be eligible to earn funding under the traditional on-campus method. LEAs are not required to provide remote instruction to these students and can require the students to attend through the on-campus method. The agency is exploring additional, possible exceptions to the funding limitations described in this answer.

Finally, TEA, we note that the following FAQ also is on point but does not clearly state that funding will be approved for virtual-only education where there is a COVID-19 ordered closure:

**34. Can my LEA decide to only offer remote instruction for a campus, or for all of my campuses? *Posted July 7, 2020***

No. Campuses cannot be solely remote (excluding full-time TXVSN campuses), except during COVID-19 closures (as described below) or during the start-of-school transition (as described below). On-campus instruction *must* be offered for all students who want to attend on campus in order to be eligible to

receive funding for remote instruction.

Which also is somewhat addressed here:

**If one of my campuses (or my entire LEA) closes because of a confirmed positive case of COVID-19, can my LEA decide to simply switch over to 100% remote instruction for the rest of the school year for that campus (or for my entire LEA)?** *Posted July 7, 2020*

37. No. For any day an LEA closes a campus as a result of a confirmed COVID-19 case on campus, remote instruction will be funded. However, to allow sufficient time to resolve the public health concerns while minimizing academic disruption, campuses may only remain closed to on-campus instruction for up to five consecutive days (including the original closure) day, while drawing funding for all students participating in remote instruction. A closure period does not end until the campus has reopened for on-campus instruction for at least one instructional day.

Again, not directly on point, but the above indicates that there is a limitation as to how long a school can remain closed (or fail to re-open) before it begins to lose state aid.

### **Request of TEA**

TEA, please address the circumstance and clarify that a school will receive funding if it is ordered to close to on campus instruction (but continued virtual instruction) for beyond the initial three weeks at the start of school or beyond the five days during the school year, if such physical closures are ordered by local public health authorities as they are authorized to do under state law.

An example order from El Paso is attached.

Joseph E. Hoffer  
Attorney at Law  
Managing Partner

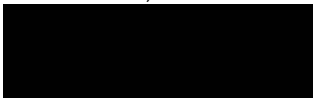


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<http://www.slh-law.com>

845 Proton Rd.

San Antonio, Texas 78258



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On Jul 9, 2020, at 10:09 PM, Joseph E. (Joe) Hoffer <[jhoffer@slh-law.com](mailto:jhoffer@slh-law.com)> wrote:

Dear Charter School Leaders,

We have recently received a number of questions regarding the impact of Local County Health Orders on school operations and growing numbers of Public Health Agency considering or ordering closures or delays to start of school.

There is tremendous confusion related to the orders and statements coming from the local and state authorities.

We are aware that El Paso County has issued the attached Local Public Health Authority Order and understand Travis County and others are considering or in the process of doing the same.

Note: the Local Public Health Authority's order supersedes and controls over any earlier orders or statements from other state and local officials, at this time and control unless superseded by DSHS or the Governor. This is the intent of the law as the local health authority is on the front lines of the local needs.

Per statute, the local health authority has supervisory authority and control over the administration of communicable disease within the authority's jurisdiction unless specifically preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

DSHS may supersede or modify the local health authority "if the department finds that the modification is necessary or desirable in the administration of a regional or statewide public health program or policy." The Local Health Authority has express authority of "education" matters where there is a public health emergency. We also note that per the TEA's existing FAQ it has acknowledged that only the Governor or Local Health Authority

Pursuant to TEA's FAQ (attached) from March notes "TEA does not have the general authority to close schools for matters related to health. This authority lies with the local health authority, DSHS, and the Governor of Texas." See attached.

The El Paso order delays the start of school physically on site, but would permit virtual school to start.

We are monitoring the situation, and note that there may be some continuing tension between state and local authorities. If you have specific questions please contact our office and also include a copy of the relevant order that you may have questions about from your local authorities.

<2020.07.09 Orders for School Systems Reopening.pdf>  
<FINAL\_CV Initial Guidance and FAQs\_March 12 2020 3.pdf>

Joseph E. Hoffer  
Attorney at Law  
Managing Partner

<unknown.png>

**Please note our new address:**

<http://www.slh-law.com>

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San Antonio, Texas 78258



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**From:** [Pruitt, Julie \(HCJPD\)](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Remote Instruction  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:46:13 PM

---

I have a follow-up to this question based on the Zoom's this week with Commissioner Morath.

Is remote learning whether synchronous or asynchronous even an option for RTC/JDC campuses?

Julie Pruitt  
Deputy Director of Education Services  
HCJPD



---


**From:** Pruitt, Julie (HCJPD)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 2:29 PM  
**To:** disasterinfo [disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov] <disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Remote Instruction

Are we choosing how we provide remote instruction per campus or per LEA?

We are a Charter school with 3 campuses located within juvenile facilities and 1 that is not. I envision we will offer synchronous instruction in the facilities in order to mitigate exposure to students and staff, but at the campus that is not in a facility we would offer a combination of synchronous and asynchronous.

Thank you,

Julie Pruitt  
Deputy Director of Education Services  
HCJPD






**From:** [Harvest Green montessori](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#); [TEAINFO](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Child Care Covid - 19 State relief & Grant by TEA  
**Date:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 1:34:16 PM

---

Hi,

We are looking Child Care COVID - 19 State relief & Grant by TEA. We are located in Richmond Texas. Request to advice on how it will help us in this difficult time. I am trying to call but not able to reach you.

Regards

Bhagwan Bhutada  
Harvest Green Montessori school  
Richmond Tx 77406  


**From:** [York, Clint](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Raney, Linda](#)  
**Subject:** remote asynchronous attendance question  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 3:46:08 PM

---

The FAQ document has a section titled “PEIMS Attendance Reporting” section starting on p. 14 of the current version of that document

I’ve been asked to get clarification that we would only be required to code attendance each day for the “funding period”

I explained to my people that PEIMS reporting of attendance data has always been based on the “funding period” and that it is “implied” in that FAQ document ... however, so can be CRYSTAL CLEAR to anyone reading it, **can we please state “explicitly” that the PEIMS Attendance reporting will be based on the funding period**

Respectfully,

*Clint York*

PEIMS Manager  
Belton ISD

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**From:** [Maria Villarreal](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** remote instruction  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:52:06 PM

---

Our district is considering going 100% percent remote learning in the fall. For PK-2 we need to conduct asynchronous instruction. For 3-12 we would like to have synchronous instruction. Is this allowed?

For attendance purposes, would this put students on two different tracks?

Also, as a district pending board approval to go 100% remote in the fall, if parents of special needs students demand they receive services at the campus, what would the appropriate response be?

Thanks,

M.Villarreal

**From:** [Brenda Richmond](#)  
**To:** [Jons, Justin](#); [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [Nicole Conley](#); [Debra Ready](#)  
**Subject:** Remote Instruction Funding (RS and RA)  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:48:17 AM

---

Good morning. In TEA webinar today a reference was made that there are different funding amounts attached to Remote Synchronous vs Remote Asynchronous). I have reviewed the [FAQ](#) and am not specifically seeing this mentioned.

Would you mind please providing clarity on this item? My understanding was the eligible days, RA eligible days, and RS eligible days would generate the same amount of funding and that funding wouldn't vary by type.

## Brenda Richmond

Austin Independent School District  
Director of Management Information Systems  
Project Management Professional (PMP)  
Registered Texas School Business Administrator (RTSBA)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond](http://www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-k-richmond)

“One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.” John F. Kennedy

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**From:** [Juan Zamora](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Remote Instruction Startup  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:19:44 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Am I correct that a district may choose to start 100% remote and move towards a hybrid of remote and in person? The exception would be anyone without the technology to do remote? If this is accurate and we provide the technology does that mean we can deny in person during the transition?

--

Thank you,

Juan C. Zamora

f Finance and Operations



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**From:** [Pruitt, Julie \(HCJPD\)](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Remote Instruction  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 2:28:55 PM

---

Are we choosing how we provide remote instruction per campus or per LEA?

We are a Charter school with 3 campuses located within juvenile facilities and 1 that is not. I envision we will offer synchronous instruction in the facilities in order to mitigate exposure to students and staff, but at the campus that is not in a facility we would offer a combination of synchronous and asynchronous.

Thank you,

Julie Pruitt  
Deputy Director of Education Services  
HCJPD



**From:** [Kay Markert](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Re-opening  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:33:33 PM

---

If the governor's orders limit groups over 10, will this postpone the opening (or cause closure if already in session) of schools in those areas affected?

--

*Kay Markert*

*Prairie Lea ISD*

Instructional Coach

DTC, Dyslexia, LPAC

We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. **Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.**  
-JFK

**From:** [Alfredo Segura](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Request for Information  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:10:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Commissioner,

We are seeking clarity to the response of question #37 in the FAQ document posted on the TEA COVID-19 website. I have provided the Q&A below and highlighted the part in the question.

37. **Can I establish a phased return to on-campus instruction to ensure my public health procedures are fully up and running?** *Posted July 7, 2020*

As part of a start-of-year transition period, for up to the first three weeks of your instructional calendar, you may limit the number of students who otherwise access on campus instruction.

This could be done by capacity limit by classroom across all grades, a limited number of grades starting by day, or some similar means, and could include being fully remote during this period. However, during this transition window, you are still required to allow all students to access on campus instruction who come from households without internet access or appropriate remote learning devices. All parents who want on campus instruction must be provided that on campus attendance for their students at the immediate conclusion of the transition period (as opposed to the end of the first grading period, when parents otherwise choose remote instruction). The mechanism to limit access during this period should be clearly communicated to families in advance.

Based on parent feedback, we are considering 100% remote instruction for the first three weeks of school and moving to a combination of on-campus and remote instruction after Labor Day. Based on the response, it appears that this is acceptable as long as our district provides internet access and the appropriate remote learning devices to any households who need them. Is this line of thinking correct?

Thank you in advance for your quick response.

Respectfully,

*Alfredo Segura Jr.*

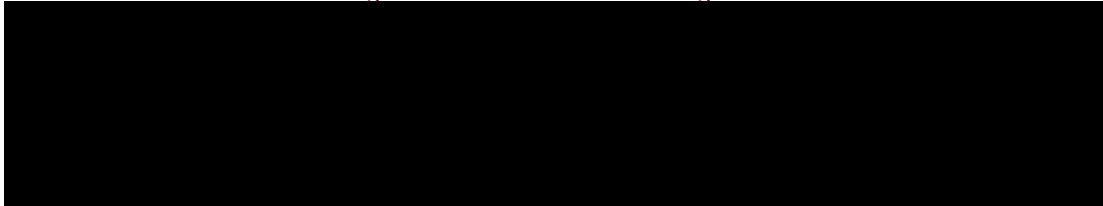
Chief Executive Officer  
New Frontiers Public Schools  
138 Fair Avenue  
San Antonio, TX 78223







*"Student outcomes don't change until adult behaviors change"*



**From:** [Jeremiah Montez](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Required Minutes  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 5:09:22 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

For clarification, a school that follows the 75600-minute plan will still need to meet that required amount of time?

The idea is to create a shorter school day to help with daily cleaning and to incorporate teacher planning.

Thanks,

--

Jeremiah Montez  
[Principal/Superintendent](#)  
[Henry Ford Academy:ASAD](#)

I wish there was a way to know that you're in "The Good Old days" before you've actually left them- Andy Bernard

**From:** [Lou Blanchard](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** sample asynchronous  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:16:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Lesson Plan 1st 9 wks 2020 21.pdf](#)

---

Teachers are desperate to put together a plan. I assured them I would send this is to see if this is in line with what is acceptable. There is not a list of textbooks but direct from the TEKS Resources.

Please advise.

--

Ms. Lou, Director  
Treetops School International

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** School drills help  
**Date:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 6:20:08 PM

---

Hello,

As we return to school & put children at risk of spreading COVID-19 to each other, staff, & their families when they return home each day, are drills still going to be required? I teach in a Title I middle school of 950, where one of my students already had a confirmed case, and fortunately recovered. However, social distancing is physically impossible, more than a couple feet. How will we handle lockdown drills, where students must pile into one corner of classroom, face to face, & on top of each other in some cases? Fire drill hallway exits? In a school of 950?

My students DESPERATELY want to come back, but WE TAUGHT AND BUILT RELATIONSHIPS during the spring shutdown, & build rigor to do it again. Stop pandering to politicians! 0.02% is OVER 14,000 CHILDREN'S LIVES I'M NOT WILLING TO SACRIFICE. Nevermind even considering teachers and their families, or how we'll get subs when there's already a shortage.

Stop silently publishing 20 page documents on the TEA website, and TALK TO THE PUBLIC YOU SERVE.

We've gone above and beyond. Your turn.

Sincerely,

A dedicated middle school social studies teacher & department chair in DFW, who works an AVERAGE of 60hrs a week.

**From:** [Susan S. Wright](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Schools Required Face Masks or Face Shields  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 4:05:27 PM

---

From the Commissioner's call today, I just need to clarify regarding a school districts request to have staff and students wearing masks or face shields. Did the Commissioner state that face masks or face shields are not required?

Thank you.

Susie

*Susan Wright*  
*Assistant Superintendent of Instruction*  
*Glen Rose Independent School District*



***Glen Rose ISD Mission***

*A Caring CommUNITY That Inspires and Empowers  
Students Through Innovative Education.*

***Glen Rose ISD Vision***

*GRIS fosters a culture of high expectations  
that focuses on continuous improvement  
for students and staff.*

**From:** [Beth Nicholas](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** screening  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:16:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

---

Morath said the responsibility is on staff, students and visitors to self-screen. Then talked about using an app that could be used through the SIS. Is it required to put it in SIS or have documentation that these people filled it out daily or weekly? Also, it did not say how often students needed to be screened.

Beth Nicholas

tendent



**From:** [Jay Ratcliff](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Staff Missed Days  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 7:34:23 PM

---

How do we manage staff days missed due to COVID-19 exposure or diagnosis? For example, a staff member states they have been exposed to or have been diagnosed with COVID-19. They are required to be out, as per TEA SY 20-21 Public Health Planning Guidance document.

#### Screening Questions for COVID-19 Before Campus Access

1. School systems must require teachers and staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. The self screening should include teachers and staff taking their own temperature. **Teachers and staff must report to the school system if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the school system if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed.**

How do we record or account for the staff member days missed?

And remember, it's a great day to be alive and a great day to be a Wildcat!

Go Wildcats!

Sincerely,



Jay Ratcliff  
Superintendent



**From:** [Kay Markert](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Staffing  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 4:53:58 PM

---

What if we don't have enough staff/subs available to offer in-person instruction to every student in every grade level in every school as requested by parents (due to either documented health issues or hesitation to take the risk of being on-campus during a pandemic)?

--

*Kay Markert*

***Prairie Lea ISD***

Instructional Coach

DTC, Dyslexia, LPAC

We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. **Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.**  
-JFK



**From:** [Damenion Miller](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** students during this time  
**Date:** Monday, July 6, 2020 8:29:04 AM

---

Are students still allowed to be in buildings as of today 7/6/2020?

We have a few [REDACTED] students who are working with the State [REDACTED] Virtually and they have planned to come to the school to use the internet.  
Of course, they would follow protocol with temperatures and cleaning and it will not be mandatory. Some kids don't have connection at home.

--



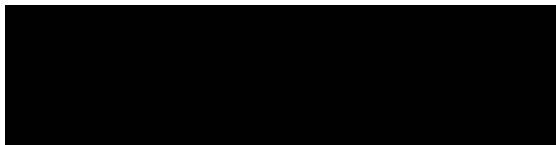
photo



**Damenion Miller**

Superintendent at Winona ISD

---



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**From:** [Thad Roher](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Students outside for recess / other  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 11:05:48 AM

---

Governor's order for facemasks says that facemask are not required for exercising outdoors.  
Can you provide clarification for recess requirements for facemasks.

Thad J. Roher  
Superintendent



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**From:** [Kathy Creek](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** students previously enrolled in private school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:59:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [image225147.png](#)  
[image460700.png](#)  
[image967625.png](#)  
[image105446.png](#)  
[image714028.png](#)  
[image355210.png](#)

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Per question 33 on page 15 of the SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ of 7/9/2020:

I understand the guidance offered in this Q/A, but I have a couple of clarifying questions:

what if a student's private school has closed and the student enrolls in our district for 2020-21? can we receive ADA funding for remote asynchronous instruction for that student if that is the choice the parents/guardians make for mode of learning?

what if a student who had been homeschooled or in private school in 2019-20 begins the year as an on-campus student but switches to remote asynchronous at the end of the 1st grading period? can the district receive funding for the remote asynchronous instruction days?

Thanks for any help you can provide.



**Kathy Creek**  
Director Student Systems

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**Coppell Independent School District**  
1303 Wrangler Circle • Coppell, Texas • 75019

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**From:** [Jay Ratcliff](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** SY 20-21 Public Health Planning Guidance  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:06:26 PM

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On page 6, under the section titled 'Health and Hygiene: Masks', numbers 2 and 3 seem to be contradictory to each other. The Governor's Executive Order states that children under the age of 10 do not have to wear masks, deeming it developmentally inappropriate for them to wear masks. Number 2 states that schools must follow the Governor's Executive Order, but then number 3 states that schools may require the use of masks or face shields for adults and students for whom it is 'developmentally appropriate'.

So, do schools have a choice as to whether or not we enforce the wearing of masks, or did the guidance mean to state that school could require the use of masks or face shields for adults and students for whom it is developmentally inappropriate? I'm not sure of a situation where it is developmentally inappropriate for an adult to wear a mask or face shield.

Please offer any guidance you can on this. Thank you all for your leadership and guidance during this time. God bless you all.

And remember, it's a great day to be alive and a great day to be a Wildcat!

Go Wildcats!

Sincerely,



Jay Ratcliff  
Superintendent



**From:** [William Boyce](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Symptom Clarification  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:31:48 AM

---

In looking at the Covid-19 symptoms we are needing clarification. If we have a student or employee who has a cough or any of the other symptoms of Covid-19 are they supposed to go home because of a cough, dizziness. Some of these symptoms can be caused by other things not Covid related.

We have parents asking as well as myself asking.

So if a child/employee has a coughing attack because of allergies do they need to go home?

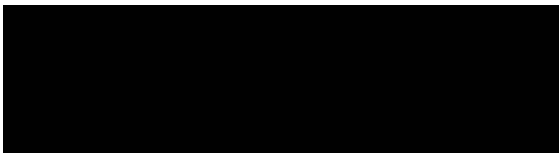
If we send a child/employee home how long do they stay home? Is it 14 days?

Any help would be great.

Thank you

--

William Boyce, M.Ed.  
Superintendent, Richards ISD  
9477 Panther Drive  
Richards, TX 77873



**From:** [Redden, Ron](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Synchronous Attendance Taking Time  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:24:05 AM

---

Do districts need to set an official attendance marking time for students using synchronous learning as they do for face-to-face, or is attendance in all synchronous classes each day required for a student in that setting to earn attendance credit?

--

**Ron Redden**  
**Assistant Superintendent of Compliance and Data Quality**  
**District Coordinator of School Improvement**  
**Brazosport Independent School District**  
**301 West Brazoswood Drive**

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**Students/Parents:** FFH (EXHIBIT)

[District Contact for Title IX](#)

[District Contact for Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) & Section 504](#)

**Employment/Employees/Public:** DIA (EXHIBIT)

[District Contact for Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) / Section 504.](#)

Call: 979.730.7000 or Write: P.O. Drawer Z, Freeport, TX 77542



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**Estudiantes / Padres:** FFH (EXHIBIT)

[Contacto del Distrito para el Título IX](#)

[Contacto del Distrito para la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades \(ADA\) y la Sección 504](#)

**Employment/Employees/Public:** DIA (EXHIBIT)

[Contacto del Distrito para el Título IX. Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades \(ADA\) / Sección 504.](#)

Llame al: 979.730.7000 o escriba a: P.O. Drawer Z, Freeport, TX 77542

**From:** [York, John](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Cc:** [John York](#)  
**Subject:** Synchronous Remote Instruction  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:44:53 PM

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At Longview Independent School District, we plan to offer both Synchronous and Asynchronous remote instruction. As I understand the guidelines, an attestation must be approved and signed by the Board and Superintendent. The online survey must be completed and does it require an attachment with the Board agenda item noted? Is there a prescribed form for the Board signature? Thank you for your help.

John York, Director  
Elementary Curriculum & Instruction



**From:** [Anthony Figueroa](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** teacher sick time  
**Date:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 3:03:11 PM

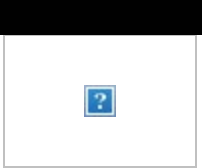
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Guidance for teachers' use of sick leave for time off for COVID19 exposure or being positive?

--

Sincerely,

Anthony R. Figueroa  
Superintendent  
Wolfe City I.S.D.



**From:** [Steve Clugston](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Two Questions  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 10:38:15 PM

---

1. In the case of an exposure to a person infected with Covid 19, when would the date for the 14 day quarantine begin for the person exposed? Is it 2 days prior to the onset of the persons, who tested positive, symptoms or from the date of the confirmed Covid 19 diagnosis?
2. If we are going to automatically treat anyone with simple covid symptoms, like a headache, as a covid positive and then subject them to the 10 day re-entry requirements, we are very likely going to have to close school when allergy season begins. When it comes to staff why can't we just require a mask the whole time they are on campus for the same ten days unless their symptoms persist or get worse?

**From:** [Janis Nott](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** UIL Direction for Band Competition  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:00:58 AM

---

UIL will be conducting their competitions this year utilizing Music First at their platform. Has there been any consideration providing this to districts as a resource?

Thanks!

--

Sincerely,

Janis Nott  
WISD Chief Academic Officer  
[janis.nott@warrenisd.net](mailto:janis.nott@warrenisd.net)

you are essential



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**From:** [Joshua Johnson](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** UIL Question  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:05:53 PM

---

I was told by my TASB representative to email TEA to ask my question since she did not know the answer.

My TASB rep recently emailed me a resolution TASB has created to address a school board excluding students from participating in UIL extracurricular activities due to their fully remote learning choice. In the options given on the resolution, all of them state a student can't participate, practice, or perform in any extracurricular activity while utilizing their remote learning option. If that student needed the course for a credit, how does a student NOT participate, practice, or perform for that course and still get a grade from the teacher? I know it's a local decision to enforce a school's right to prohibit a student from participating in an extracurricular class while learning remotely. Based on the resolution TASB created and sent to me, how does that student still get credit for the class? ie. Band - would the band director have to send remote assignments home to earn a grade and that wouldn't be considered participating, practicing, or performing for band?

Josh Johnson

**Josh Johnson**  
**Superintendent**  
**Leverett's Chapel ISD**

**From:** [Mark Dykes](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Use of School Facilities  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 8, 2020 8:01:00 AM

---

May school districts allow community youth sports leagues to practice and play games on school district fields and courts from now till August 3rd 2020?

Thanks,  
Mark

Mark A. Dykes  
Superintendent of Schools  
Collinsville ISD



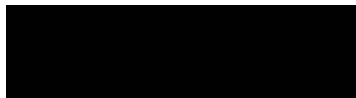
**From:** [Gloria Roach](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Virtual ESY Contact Hours  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:19:31 PM

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Can you provide any guidance on how to submit contact hours for ESY services which were provided virtually?

Thank you so much.

Gloria Roach  
Special Services Director  
Channelview ISD



**From:** [Tamy Smalskas](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Waiver Deadlines  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:46:25 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I do not see on this document <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/COVID-19-Waivers-List.pdf>

Any deadlines for the Early Failure notice on the instruction page I downloaded in June. That said, I am being told we cannot process the waiver and that it was to have been sent in prior to July 5? I was using a previous document that didn't have the 'spreadsheet/table' at the start (page 1)? And this document was updated July 7 after the deadlines showing? How can we proceed to finish the process for the Failure Notice? Thank you kindly for any guidance.

Tamy Smalskas, PhD  
Assistant Superintendent  
Student Engagement & Support  
Sherman ISD  
2701 Loy Lake Road  
Sherman, TX 75090  
@lead4kidsDrS

**#BearcatPride**

**#BringItBack**

As Socrates once said, "The secret to change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

**From:** [Davis, Jenny G](#)  
**To:** [disasterinfo](#)  
**Subject:** Waiver Question  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:02:04 PM  
**Importance:** High

---

Is it possible to have the deadline for submitting the COVID-19 related waivers for the 19-20 school year (ex. ASVAB, CPR, etc) extended to July 15<sup>th</sup>? We held the appropriate board meetings approving the waivers by July 1<sup>st</sup>, but the waiver system closed on July 5<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to submit the waivers in TEAL today.

Thanks,

Jenny Davis  
Director of Finance  
The University of Texas Charter School System  
Division of Diversity and Community Engagement  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Office Phone: 512 471-1434  
Web Addresses: <http://utcharter.org>, <http://utelementary.org>  
Division Web Address: <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity>  
Physical & Mailing Address: 2200 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, Texas 78702  
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