



Texas Association of Community Schools

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• tacsnet.org

TACS Zoom Meeting Summary

Meeting with TACS and Sara Leon & Associates

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

11:00 AM

Superintendent Call with TEA Overview

There are currently 2,877 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Texas, with 38,000 people tested and 38 deaths. Only 2% of hospital beds are currently being used for patients with Coronavirus.

Governor Abbott is going to hold a press conference today at 2 PM. The Commissioner will be highlighted and is likely to address when Texas will return to school.

For districts with questions about missed day waivers, it is recommended to record every day your district is missing and then submit ONE waiver with all dates when your district goes back to school. If you have a concern that you won't meet your minutes based on other situations such as Hurricane Imelda, contact TEA.

Educator appraisal waivers DO require approval by the site-based team/district advisory team. That team needs to approve the appraisal first and then it will continue on to the board. This can all be accomplished via virtual meetings. It may be wise to wait and see what Gov. Abbott says about school closures at the press conference before proceeding.

TEA has an extensive list of resources and webinars linked for instructional continuity on [their COVID page](#).

The call highlighted Phases of Instructional Continuity Planning, along with highlighting districts who are providing solid resources. For example, London ISD has a distance learning plan that's very helpful. Many of the resources linked under Phase 1 ("Conduct Landscape Analysis") are from larger districts, so community school districts will obviously have to modify, but there are good guidelines and examples.

Phase 2 ("Determine At-Home Instructional Model and Monitoring") covers grading guidelines. Spring Branch ISD was highlighted for providing good virtual resources with helpful visuals and icons for parents to easily navigate the site.

Hawkins ISD is providing video messages from the superintendent so that students and families continue to feel connected to the district. Karen Saunders from Morton ISD reported that she is doing a Morton Campfire Chat with the superintendent each Monday evening, in the form of a video uploaded to their website.

Phase 3 is Operationalizing an At-Home Model. Jodi Duron in Elgin ISD provides a weekly communication newsletter to staff that is posted on TEA's website with the Phase 3.

TACS asked Dr. Jimmie Walker from Alamo Heights ISD to share their staffing models that are posted on TEA's website for Phase 3 and how they created them.

Dr. Walker said they began by reaching out to the Hong Kong International School and the American School in Japan. Both are diplomatic schools that have been hosting online learning for years. They were very generous in sharing resources and lessons they've learned. Other districts should feel comfortable reaching out to these schools. In their countries, the stay at home policies were very strict, so they recommended that schools schedule things as much as possible to keep some semblance of structure for the kids. This helps them stay busy and less likely to want to get together with friends and break the shelter-in-place/social distancing protocols. This approach is both pragmatic and maintains normalcy.

Below are some screenshots of how her district has scheduled a few different grade levels. The hours are open and flexible. Wednesdays are teacher planning days. Secondary students have classes that resemble a college schedule, as in they only take certain subjects on certain days of the week, rather than each subject every day like in a typical high school.

Elementary Teachers PK- 5

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Live Classroom Meeting via Google Meet	Live Classroom Meeting via Google Meet	Live Classroom Meeting via Google Meet	Live Classroom Meeting via Google Meet	Live Classroom Meeting via Google Meet
9:00-12:00 Interactive teaching with class, groups, individuals	9:00-12:00 Interactive teaching with class, groups, individuals	9:00-12:00 Team Planning Student Independent Worktime	9:00-12:00 Interactive teaching with class, groups, individuals	9:00-12:00 Interactive teaching with class, groups, individuals
1:00 – 3:00 Student Independent Worktime Special Services (IEP/ 504/ GT/ Counseling) Asynchronous feedback to students Posting recorded videos of daily	1:00 – 3:00 Student Independent Worktime Special Services (IEP/ 504/ GT/ Counseling) Asynchronous feedback to students Posting recorded videos of daily	1:00 – 3:00 Office Hours 15-minute scheduled phone conferences with parents Conferences with support teachers	1:00 – 3:00 Student Independent Worktime Special Services (IEP/ 504/ GT/ Counseling) Asynchronous feedback to students Posting recorded videos of daily	1:00 – 3:00 Student Independent Worktime Special Services (IEP/ 504/ GT/ Counseling) Asynchronous feedback to students Posting recorded videos of daily lessons

High School Schedules

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 1st Period	9:00 2nd Period	9:00- 12:00 Team Planning A	9:00 1st Period	9:00 2nd Period
11:00 3rd Period	11:00 4/5th Period		11:00 3rd Period	11:00 4/5th Period
1:00 6th Period	1:00 8th Period	1:00- 4:00 Team Planning B	1:00 6th Period	1:00 8th Period
3:00 9th Period	3:00 Office Hours	Advisory Lessons on Wednesdays	3:00 9th Period	3:00 Office Hours

Secondary (Gr 6-12) Options for Instructional Design

Option A	Option B
<p>9:00 </p> <p>Google Meet Live Stream- Teacher leads mini lesson and explains independent work.</p> <p><i>Recorded and Posted for later viewing</i></p> <p>9:30- 10:00</p> <p>Some kids log off to work offline on tasks and other students remain in Google Meet for extension or additional support.</p> <p><i>Small group and individual instruction is not recorded and posted</i></p>	<p>9:00</p> <p>Push out common video for welcome and mini lesson (no longer than 20 mins)</p> <p><i>Recorded and Posted for later viewing</i></p> <p>9:00 - 10:00</p> <p>Scheduled time with small groups and individual students in ~ 20 minute increments</p> <p><i>Small group and individual instruction is not recorded and posted</i></p>

You can contact Dr. Walker at jwalker@ahisd.net if you have questions or want more information.

They're in the second week of this program's rollout and the parent response has been incredibly positive; families like the normalcy and flexibility it allows.

Also included in Phase 3 is purchasing resources. Sara Leon did a great job on providing guidance dealing with purchasing. You can see a sample resolution they wrote for authorizing emergency purchases [here](#).

Phase 4 covers "Monitoring and Support."

Georgetown ISD has a component called "Let's Talk" where people can email in and they'll connect you with somebody who can specifically answer your question.

Other Updates

Regarding CPR waivers for 7th and 12th graders, if your district didn't get CPR done and we find out we're not going back to school this year, there is a waiver that allows seniors to still graduate.

Seniors will need to demonstrate speech proficiency by either giving a speech in a video submitted or via video conference. Districts will determine when and how this is accomplished.

Regarding TELPAS, the listening and speaking portions can NOT be administered online. Writing samples, however, can be collected digitally. Kindergarten and first grade can be rated from home. The TELPAS assessment window has been extended through May 29, 2020. If you do not complete this, you do not have to notify TEA. Just keep documentation and be cognizant of FERPA and the Privacy Act.

Regarding FIRST ratings - dates for adopting a budget are staying the same, and audit submit dates are same. TEA does understand it is hard to set a budget not knowing your funding, and they will continue to monitor the situation.

MOE compliance review letters have been sent out by TEA on March 27th. 85% of LEAs were compliant. If your LEA was not compliant the letter will have a link for you to visit.

School Board FAQ

Barry Haenisch guided meeting attendees through the “Board Goals/Progress Monitoring” portion of the TEA handout “School Board FAQs.” These questions covered items like board adopted plans, data for CCMR goals, superintendent evaluations, and more. You can see all these questions and answers covered [here](#).

We invite you to continue to visit [our website for updates and information](#),

Tomorrow’s agenda items are:

- School Board FAQ: Board Trainings and Board Meetings
- 3/31/20 TEA superintendent call recap
- Governor’s Press Conference recap
- Updates from TEA, our “TACS Notes”

Please join us tomorrow at 11 am by clicking here:

<https://zoom.us/j/220619743>

Meeting ID: 220 619 743

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aecodrrHCg>

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Disclaimer: This information is accurate as of March 31, 2020. It is intended for informational and educational purposes only, and is not a substitute for legal advice.