



November 29, 2021

Port Aransas ISD Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

100 S. Station Street

Port Aransas, Texas 78373

RE: Notification of Waiver Request for Summer Nutrition Program

Dear Members of SHAC:

For the 2021-2022 school year, the district met eligibility requirements to qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program to provide free meals to all students enrolled in the district for the 2021-22 school year. Participation in the program was approved by the PAISD board in May 2021.

Texas regulation (Texas Admin Code 25.612) requires public school districts with 50% or more of their enrolled students eligible for free or reduced-price meals to provide a summer nutrition program. Waivers are granted by Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) to not participate in this program. The waiver process requires notifying the SHAC of the intent to request the waiver from TDA.

A waiver request was approved by the board of trustees during the November 2021 board meeting. The waiver requested is due to transportation restraints. Transfer students from outside the district make up 25% of our district's students. During the regular school year, a majority of these students ride the bus provided to out of district students by Port Aransas ISD. On a normal school day, all students who live in district (including ridership inside the two-mile radius) ride the school bus due to the designated hazardous traffic area.

There is heavy pedestrian and vehicle traffic during the summer months (tourism traffic in the city); school bus transportation is not available; and there is a public transportation option available for all students affected. The surrounding school districts, including Aransas Pass ISD and Flour Bluff ISD, will be offering the Summer Nutrition Programs. Students are allowed to participate in the program regardless of where they attend school during the regular school year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Deane Erdner".

Deane Erdner

Port Aransas ISD, President