

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
November 22, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Lloyd reviewed Dr. Carranco's report comparing data from the week of November 15, 2021, to data from the week of November 8, 2021.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts decreased from 2,811 to 2,635 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 5.5 to 7.5 percent.
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts decreased from 76 to 64, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 5.7 to 5.1 percent.
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts increased from 82 to 110 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 4.2 to 4.4 percent.
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts decreased from 30 to 20 cases per day. By meeting time, the average daily positivity rate for the week of November 15, 2021, had not been reported; the average daily positivity rate for the week of November 8, 2021, was 5.9 percent.
- At Texas State, the average daily positivity rate decreased from 2.1 percent (26 positives out of 1,211 tests) to 1.7 percent (19 positives out of 1,091 tests).
- In Texas, hospitalizations decreased slightly from 2,693 to 2,610.

Across Texas, case counts, hospitalizations, and fatalities are lower, but rate of weekly improvements is slowing and may be plateauing. The risk for a COVID-19 surge after the holidays remains.

The percentage of people five years and older, who are fully vaccinated in:

- The U. S. is 62.9 percent.
- Texas is 58.6 percent.
- Hays county is 60.4 percent.
- Williamson county is 65.4 percent.
- Travis county is 67.2 percent.

All persons 18 and older are now eligible for a Pfizer or Moderna booster.

On-campus COVID-19 testing sites will be closed November 25-26, 2021, and December 20-31, 2021. Curative testing in the surrounding communities will be closed November 25-26, 2021, December 24-25, 2021, and December 31, 2021, to January 1, 2022.

Provost Bourgeois sent a message on November 10, 2021, to faculty, staff, and graduate/doctoral teaching assistants providing guidance as they finalize their end of semester instruction plans.

Dr. Lloyd announced that University Communications is taking the lead in revamping the Roadmap, updating information and slimming down its content.

Chancellor's Meeting with the Presidents Update (#623)

President Trauth reviewed topics from the November meeting, including possible changes to the approval process for easements and to policies and procedures for foundations.

President Trauth discussed the September 9, 2021, Executive Order which mandated COVID-19 vaccines for federal contractors and their subcontractors. Texas State is finalizing its plans and will be fully compliant by the January 18, 2022, deadline.

Board of Regents Material Deadlines

Dr. Lloyd discussed the follow-up to the Board of Regents Rules and Regulations Committee conference call. The summary of the Board materials shared with Local Committees will now be part of the President's Briefing. Internal deadlines for Board materials will be revised accordingly.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth asked University Communications to send out a press release publicizing the purchase of a new house for the next university president.

Significant Issues (#01)

Mr. Algoe reminded President's Cabinet members of the procedures for off-site use of university property, UPPS 05.01.01, Texas State University Property and Equipment. Department heads must maintain a log of equipment checked out by employees working remotely.

Mr. Algoe reported that a capital project oversight advisory commission will be established to develop guidelines for approving capital construction assistance projects. Texas institutions of higher education cannot expend project funds until they are approved by the contract advisory team.

Dr. Breier announced that The Wittliff Fest will be on December 2, 2021.

Dr. Breier shared that she was recently in Panama working on a strategic partnership that will create opportunities for research and academic collaborations.

Mr. Coryell provided an update on athletic events:

- In Volleyball, Emily Walt was named the Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year and Janell Fitzgerald was named the Sun Belt Conference Offensive Player of the Year.
- Kwanelle Mthembu finished 153 out of more than 250 runners in the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships.
- Head Soccer Coach Kat Conner has stepped down, and the Department of Athletics will begin a national search for a new head coach

Dr. Hernandez summarized the student advisory board report to the Board of Regents.

Mr. Pierce announced that Texas State, in collaboration with 42 other universities, has reached an agreement with Elsevier.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on December 2, 2021.