

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
September 3, 2020

2020 Elections Task Force

Dr. Lloyd and guest Dr. Sherri Benn discussed the progress of the 2020 Elections Task Force. Dr. Benn summarized a three-part TXST Votes campaign with the tag line “Vote. The rest is just noise.” Part I (September 7, 2020-October 5, 2020) is focused on voter registration, education, and information via social media platforms, a voter information resource hub (website), and voter registration outreach activities in high-traffic areas and residence halls. Part II (October 6, 2020-November 3, 2020) is focused on early voting and making sure that students know how, know when, and know where to cast their votes. Part III (November 2020-January 2021) is focused on unity and community and includes post-elections debriefing activities through civil discourse and engagement within and across party spectrums.

University Marketing is creating a voter information resource hub to be accessed on Texas State’s main webpage. Dr. Cavitt requested that signs be displayed early in front of the Performing Arts Center, indicating that voting will take place at the Performing Arts Center.

Dr. Benn discussed voter outreach activities that will take place on the Round Rock Campus. The hub will include specific information about these activities.

Dr. Lloyd will reach out to TSUS Vice Chancellor and General Counsel Nelly Herrera to prepare a message reminding employees of the restrictions that Texas law and Regents’ Rules place on partisan political activities on Texas State Campuses. Mr. Algoe asked Dr. Lloyd to prepare a message reminding employees to be mindful of their backgrounds when conducting business meetings virtually at home. Employees must avoid displaying anything that appears as though they are advocating for any legislation or political party during business hours.

Pandemic/Post Pandemic Work Groups (#771)

Dr. Cavitt discussed the responses to the first thematic feedback survey. Content analysis revealed: 1) “Opportunities to continue education and learning” was the most common thematic response to “What excites you about the fall semester?” 2) “COVID-19 outbreaks and illness” was the most common response to “What concerns you about the fall 2020 semester?” 3) “Online/remote semester” was the most common response to “What resources do you need to have a successful fall 2020 semester?” Cabinet members discussed concerns raised in the mid-August 2020 survey and how many have since been assuaged. Provost Bourgeois shared that the Office of Distance and Extended Learning will be conducting more training to enhance online teaching and learning. The Continuity of Education Work Group will reconvene to examine fall 2020 instructional delivery methods.

Naming of Round Rock Campus and STAR Park Streets

Mr. Algoe presented recommendations for the naming of streets prior to commencing construction projects on the Round Rock Campus. Cabinet members agreed on a generic name, i.e., Maroon Drive, so that the construction project can commence. President Trauth recommended tasking a committee to recommend options for street names named after individuals who have made a meaningful impact on Texas State University.

Mr. Algoe presented recommendations for the naming of streets prior to commencing construction projects at STAR Park. Cabinet members provided recommendations, including Pegasus and STAR Way.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth discussed the upcoming home football game against Southern Methodist University and reviewed the Bobcat Stadium health and safety measures.

President Trauth discussed the policy for issuing and funding restricted parking spots for faculty with disabilities.

President Trauth reminded Cabinet members that requests for special lighting of buildings must be approved by the Cabinet.

Significant Issues (#01)

Provost Bourgeois provided a fall enrollment update.

Provost Bourgeois reviewed the PAAG meeting held on September 3, 2020.

Mr. Algoe announced that Texas State will receive about \$5 million in Governor's Emergency Education Relief Funds. The funds will be used to address electronic course fee billing issues for online students, to honor funding commitments made prior to the recent cuts to the Toward EXcellence, Access, and Success Grant Program, and to fund new financial aid awards.

Mr. Algoe provided an update on the Aqua Sports Center renovation project.

Dr. Cavitt provided an update on Bobcat Trace and surveillance testing.

Cabinet members engaged in a discussion on compliance and the enforcement of health and safety measures in dining facilities, the LBJ Student Center, and the Albert B. Alkek Library.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on October 1, 2020.