

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
August 16, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data from the week of August 9, 2021, to data from the week of August 2, 2021.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts increased from 10,457 to 11,286 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased slightly from 18.4 to 18.5 percent;
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts decreased from 303 to 279, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 16.4 to 15.8 percent;
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts decreased from 418 to 385 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 14.5 to 14.1 percent; and
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts increased from 150 to 163 cases per day. By meeting time, Hays county had not reported their latest positivity rates.

Texas State had 49 positive tests out of 953 tests for a positivity rate of 5.1 percent. As of August 16, 2021, there were 76 active cases at Texas State.

COVID-19 fully vaccinated rates of those who are 12 years of age and older are:

- 54 percent of the Texas population,
- 56.2 percent of Hays county,
- 63.2 percent of Williamson county,
- 64.9 percent of Travis county, and
- 59.3 percent of the U. S. population.

Centers for Disease Control data indicates that 45.5 percent of 18-24 year old individuals are fully vaccinated.

At move-in, all students living in on-campus residence halls are required to show a recent negative COVID-19 test result or evidence of recovery from a COVID-19 infection within the last 90 days. For students unable to test before arrival, a limited number of free, rapid COVID-19 tests are being provided at the University Events Center on the San Marcos Campus between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., on August 15-17, 2021. On August 15, 2021, 326 tests were conducted and five returned positive.

Dr. Carranco discussed the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines. Though vaccines are effective in protecting from severe disease and death and in significantly reducing hospitalizations, breakthrough infections are occurring. Thus, additional preventive measures, including wearing face coverings and testing, are recommended.

Dr. Carranco announced that the Food and Drug Administration has authorized the administration of a third dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines to people with weakened immune systems. "Boosters" are available at the Student Health Center.

Texas State's approach to quarantine was clarified. Employees and students should quarantine if they have been identified as a close contact and stay home (do not return to work or class) for the prescribed time period.

- Fully vaccinated Bobcats who are asymptomatic are not required to quarantine but should get tested for COVID-19 three to five days after last exposure. They should also wear a face covering when indoors in public spaces for 14 days since the exposure or until a negative test result is obtained three to five days after exposure.
- Unvaccinated Bobcats are required to quarantine for 10 days since the time of last exposure for those who do not test or for seven days for those who test immediately and again five to seven days after close contact, producing negative test both times.

Neither instructors/supervisors should require a negative COVID-19 tests result or medical note from students/employees in order to resume in-person activities.

Testing on the Round Rock Campus was discussed. Currently, two sites are available on campus and nearby. The Student Health Center on the Round Rock Campus will resume testing at the start of the fall 2021 semester.

The August 17, 2021, Virtual Town Hall Meeting was discussed. President Trauth will provide introductory and closing remarks, Dr. Carranco will share updates on COVID-19 transmission patterns, the Delta variant, health and safety measures for fall 2021, and mass vaccinations. Provost Bourgeois will discuss topics related to course delivery. Mr. Algoe will provide guidance for supervisors on staff support. Dr. Breier will moderate the question-and-answer portion of the Town Hall, and all presenters, plus Dr. Hernandez, will be available to answer questions.

Clery Act (#772)

Dr. Lloyd and guests Ms. Kristina Morales, Clery Act Coordinator, and Mr. Bobby Mason, Chief Compliance Officer, reviewed the process for drafting the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (ASFSR) 2021 and provided an overview of the contents of the report.

The ASFSR 2021 provides campus crime statistics for the San Marcos and Round Rock Campuses for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020; policy statements regarding campus safety and security measures; descriptions of prevention and awareness programs; safety-related university procedures and important guidance; and other essential safety information. Statistics

for calendar year 2019 have been updated, specifically for the liquor law violation referrals and stalking crime categories. These modifications were made as a result of further review of Texas State records.

Dr. Lloyd lauded Ms. Morales and the Clery Act Liaisons for their efforts in producing a well-done report in a timely manner.

UPPS 04.04.01, General Workplace Policy

Mr. Algoe discussed pen and ink changes to UPPS 04.04.01, General Workplace Policy. Two major changes were made to the policy:

- the terms “short-term” and “long-term” were added to help clarify the difference between remote work and telecommuting, and
- “rolling 12-month period” was added to help clarify the period of time by which 30 workdays can be taken for short-term remote work.

Mr. Pierce suggested that any reference to the rolling 12-month period be replaced with fiscal year. He also highlighted some challenges that complicate the recording and tracking of remote work. President Trauth asked Mr. Algoe and Mr. Pierce to discuss the policy and related time entry challenges and to provide Cabinet with an update at a later date.

President's Update (#556)

President Trauth announced that new TSUS Regents Sheila Faske and Stephen Lee, along with Chancellor Brian McCall, will visit the San Marcos Campus on September 3, 2021.

Significant Issues (#01)

Dr. Lloyd discussed the final stages of Texas State's work with Life Anew. The recommendations, which are based on perspectives shared by more than 100 faculty, staff, and students, including President Trauth and all cabinet members, during a series of meetings facilitated by representatives from Life Anew, will be reviewed by administrators and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) leaders, with the goal of maintaining momentum around fostering equitable relationships at Texas State by developing the most effective approach to analyzing the information provided by Life Anew, establishing DEIA priorities, and developing a plan of action to address those priorities.

Provost Bourgeois provided an enrollment update. Currently, 6,371 freshmen are registered, which is higher than Texas State's previous record of 6,314 freshmen in 2019.

Provost Bourgeois announced the formation of The First Year Student Success Executive Committee to oversee initiatives, programs, services, and activities occurring from the undergraduate student's admission through the completion of the first year at Texas State.

Dr. Hernandez provided an update on students moving into residence halls.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on August 25, 2021.