

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
July 19, 2021

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data from the week of July 12, 2021, to data from the week of July 15, 2021. There was much to talk about and little good news.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts increased from 1,297 to 2,130 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 7.3 to 10.2 percent;
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts increased from 18 to 61, and the average daily positivity rate increased from three to 8.5 percent;
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts increased from 51 to 103 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate increased from 4.3 to 6.6 percent; and
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts increased from 15 to 33 cases per day. (Note: The average daily positivity rate for the week of July 12, 2021, had not been released by meeting time).

Texas State had eight positive tests out of 157 tests for an 8.1 percent positivity rate. As of July 19, 2021, there were 26 active cases at Texas State. In comparison to the latest test results from other Texas institutions, Texas A&M University had six positive tests out of 195 tests for a positivity rate of 3.1 percent, and The University of Texas at Austin had six positive tests out of 458 tests for a positivity rate of 1.3 percent.

COVID-19 cases per 100,000:

- Texas: 66 cases= Substantial transmission,
- Hays county: 101 cases= High transmission,
- Williamson county: 130 cases= High transmission, and
- Travis county: 52 cases= Substantial transmission.

We are in the early stages of a surge. Since most surges last two to three months, this likely means that we will start the fall 2021 semester amid a surge. Lower vaccination rates among young people make them a better host for the Delta variant and is leading to higher infection rates among younger individuals. Since masks or vaccinations cannot be required by Texas public universities at the present time, this could create a significant amount of fear and infections as we return to full capacity in fall 2021.

As of July 19, 2021, fully vaccinated rates of those who are 12 years of age and older are:

- 51.3 percent of the Texas population,
- 53.7 percent of Hays county,
- 60.1 percent of Williamson county,

- 61.8 percent of Travis county,
- 56.7 percent of the U. S. population, and
- 42.3 percent among young adults.

The Health, Wellness and Safety Work Group met on July 15, 2021. The group did not come up with any new ideas or approaches that would be allowed to be implemented. The focus will be on individual responsibility and action. Cabinet members engaged in a lengthy discussion of fall 2021 preparations, classroom experience, large event management, and other readiness plans.

Enrollment Management (#9)

Provost Bourgeois and guest Mr. Gary Ray reviewed the fall 2021 enrollment report. Fall 2021 enrollment is too early to predict, though a return to 2019 freshman enrollment levels remain possible.

Services at Round Rock Campus

Dr. Hernandez discussed offering Student Health Center and Campus Recreation services to Austin Community College students and possibly Texas A&M students on the Round Rock Campus. Cabinet members approved the recommendation.

Coordinating Board Meeting (#5)

Provost Bourgeois discussed the upcoming Coordinating Board meeting.

President's Update (#556)

Dr. Trauth will be a keynote speaker at the Greater San Marcos Partnership Innovation Summit. Texas State has purchased a table at the event.

Significant Issues (#01)

Dr. Bourgeois reported some success in moving federal funding requests forward for inclusion in the pending budget, infrastructure, and stimulus bills.

Dr. Bourgeois reported that the new Community Health and Economic Resiliency Research Center is moving forward quickly since it was just funded by the Texas Legislature. Dr. Melinda Villagran is planning multiple activities across the state for the first year.

Mr. Coryell announced that there were strong football ticket sales when the Athletic Ticket Office went live with individual game ticket sales during the week of July 12, 2021.

Mr. Coryell announced that there are five candidates for the track and field head coach position.

Mr. Algae clarified issues regarding university-funded retirement celebrations.

Dr. Silva provided an update on recent DACA court cases.

Dr. Hernandez announced that housing is currently at 101 percent capacity and is planning for isolation and quarantine.

DMT:ta

Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on August 3, 2021.