

To: President's Cabinet
From: Denise M. Trauth
Subject: President's Cabinet Meeting
February 21, 2022

Impact of COVID-19 (#770)

Dr. Carranco compared data for the week ending on February 20, 2022, to data for the week ending February 13, 2022.

Week-to-week comparisons revealed:

- In Texas, the average daily case counts decreased from 9,833 to 5,837 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 13.9 to 9.1 percent.
- In Williamson county, the average daily case counts decreased from 198 to 105 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 20 to 13.5 percent.
- In Travis county, the average daily case counts increased from 593 to 692 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate decreased from 19.2 to 12 percent.
- In Hays county, the average daily case counts decreased from 243 to 229 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate for the week ending February 13, 2022, was 19.5 percent. By Cabinet meeting, Hays had yet to release the positivity rate for the week ending on February 20, 2022.
- In Texas, hospitalizations decreased from 7,615 to 5,400.

On the Texas State campuses, there were 47 positives out of 875 tests for a positivity rate of 5.4 percent.

COVID-19 transmission levels, as defined by the CDC, in Texas as well as Hays, Williamson, and Travis counties remain "high."

For the week ending on February 12, 2021, at The University of Texas, the average daily case counts were 127 to 9,057 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate was 1.4 percent (via PCR and Antigen testing); at Texas A&M University, the average daily case counts were 274 to 1,987 cases per day, and the average daily positivity rate was 13.8 percent.

In summary, COVID-19 case counts, positivity rates, and hospitalizations continue their downward trend.

Layered mitigation measures should continue until community transmission levels reach "moderate" transmission: positivity rates of less than eight percent and greater than five percent; and less than 50 cases but more than 10 cases per 100,000 residents.

Dr. Carranco provided an update on Bobcat Trace, and how it is being utilized. Contact Tracers remain available to answer questions for faculty and staff. Dr. Carranco initiated a discussion on

the future of Bobcat Trace and how Texas State will remain prepared to ramp up its mitigation strategies if the need arises. Eventually, the Coronavirus will be treated like the flu.

Given the downward trend, the testing strategy after spring break will remain the same, and students living in residence halls will not be required to test. Messaging will stress the importance of testing if symptomatic.

Family Campaign (#696)

President's Cabinet and guest Dr. Dan Perry, Associate Vice President for University Advancement, discussed the 2022 Family Campaign. Topics covered included plans and messaging, shifting the focus from participation to engagement, the Denise M. Trauth Endowed Scholarship, and the Family Campaign Celebration on April 29, 2022. The Family Campaign Celebration will be held in conjunction with a celebration of President Trauth's tenure at Texas State.

Student Retention Data Analysis

Dr. Ekin discussed the results of his analysis of student retention data and how the findings will be used to inform retention strategies. Significant predictors of student retention include but are not limited to: academic readiness (e.g., high school graduation percentile rank and GPA); university readiness (e.g., first generation status); financial need (e.g., grants/financial aid and family income); gender and minority status; high school quality and class size; and student engagement (e.g., advising, housing, and PAWs alerts). Data will be used to develop targeted interventions. Cabinet members engaged identifying the most efficient and effective way to collect and analyze data in the future and discussed whether contracting with an external company would be beneficial.

RTA 03/22/2022 Discuss student success efforts and the pros and cons of using internal systems versus external products for entering and analyzing student success data.

Board of Regents (BOR) Rules and Regulations (#12)

Dr. Lloyd reviewed the proposed changes. Cabinet members approved the proposed changes.

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

President Trauth reviewed topics discussed during The TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall's meeting with component presidents during the February 2022 Board of Regents meeting including:

- Potential speakers for future commencement ceremonies,
- The timeline for when Texas State can request an increase to tuition and fees,
- 2025 targets for New Key Performance Indicators.

President Trauth added that decisions about public art for new buildings will shift from the component institution to The TSUS. UPPS 08.03.04, Public Art and Memorials, will need to be revised accordingly.

President Trauth requested that Cabinet members engage in interviews with candidates being considered for the new Vice President for Institutional Inclusive Excellence position.

President's Update (#556)

No items discussed.

Significant Issues (#01)

Provost Bourgeois discussed the possibility of online course sharing across the systems.

Provost Bourgeois announced that:

- 31 vouchers for Amazon's Career Choice Program have already been received; and
- Seven of the 10 recipients of the Edmund P. Kuempel Scholarship and three of the seven recipients of the Fernando Gomez Scholarship were Texas State students.

Texas Monthly received an Anthem Award for "Texas State University: Big Ideas Project," earning gold in the Awareness Category for Partnership or Collaboration in Education, Art, and Culture.

Mr. Algoe discussed:

- The increase in number of student mental health issues that have required the assistance of the University Police Department; and
- A Faculty Senate query about custodial salaries.

Mr. Coryell provided a recap of a successful weekend for Bobcat Athletics and shared that the men's basketball team is in good position to win the Sun Belt Conference regular season championship. Mr. Coryell reviewed the upcoming week's activities for all spring sports.

Dr. Hernandez reported that the Student Advisory Board presented topics to the Board of Regents, including raising the hourly minimum wage for student workers to \$8, enhancing emergency protocols (e.g., holding active shooter drills), and considering the implementation of a student engagement/involvement hour (such as setting aside the noon hour for student meetings). For the latter, Cabinet members suggested that Fridays are a great possibility given that most classes are offered Mondays through Thursdays.

Dr. Silva announced that:

- The rescheduled MLK commemoration program is on February 23, 2022;
- DEIA education courses by EVERFI are live and the university community has access to them; and

- The “Firsts” project is near ready for launch. The “Firsts” highlights and celebrates Texas State black students, faculty, and staff considered to be first in their respective accomplishments, positions, and content area.

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Posted to web at <http://cabinet.president.txstate.edu/> on February 28, 2022.