



Waco-McLennan County Public Health District

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Waco-McLennan County Public Health District

ORDER BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of Sections 81.082(a) and 121.024 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and Sections 85.1(g) and 97.6(h) of the Texas Administrative Code, unless specifically preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Local Health Authority for the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District has supervisory authority and control over the administration of communicable disease control measures within its jurisdiction, to include public or private schools, when in his opinion these measures are necessary to protect the public health; and

WHEREAS, the situation regarding COVID-19 is rapidly evolving in McLennan County having reached its highest alert level of transmission through community spread as demonstrated by the surge in the number of new cases and increased hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, data indicates that if schools open for on-campus instruction on the currently scheduled date, multiple students and staff will arrive at the campus already infected with COVID-19,

NOW, THEREFORE, effective immediately and continuing through 11:59 p.m. on September 7, 2020, the Local Health Authority for the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District hereby imposes the following control measures on all public and private schools in McLennan County, offering instruction to students in any and all grades, pre-kindergarten through grade 12:

- (1) All Public and Private School Systems in McLennan County shall not re-open for on-campus, face-to-face instruction until after September 7, 2020. Administrators, teachers, and staff may conduct or facilitate the online learning process while on-campus provided social distancing is followed and facial coverings are worn at all times except when recording or broadcasting instruction to a virtual, remote, or other off-site audience;
- (2) All school-sponsored events and activities, including but not limited to clubs, sports, fairs, exhibitions, academic and/or athletic competitions, shall not take place until school systems are authorized to resume on-campus instruction; and
- (3) By no later than Friday, August 21, 2020, each school system shall develop a written plan for resuming on-campus instruction and extra-curricular activities and submit the plan to the Local Health Authority and make the plan available for parents and general public.

I believe these control measures are necessary to protect the public health. In conjunction with other measures already in place, the control measures contained in this order will further restrict and prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District.

This order is issued under my authority as the Local Health Authority of the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District on this the 21st day of July 2020.



Dr. E. Farley Verner, M.D.

Local Health Authority

Waco-McLennan County Public Health District