



Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge

For Immediate Release

July 16, 2020

Contact: Eddie Treviño, Jr.

Cameron County Judge

**LETTER SENT TO GOVERNOR ABBOTT, TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
COMMISSIONER MORATH, AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND HEALTH
SERVICES COMMISSIONER HELLERSTEDT, MD**

Today, July 16, 2020, Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr., Cameron County Health Authority Dr. James W. Castillo, and the Cameron County School District Superintendents respectfully submitted a letter to Governor Greg Abbott, Texas Education Agency Commissioner Morath, and the Texas Department of State Health Services Commissioner Hellerstedt, MD, requesting authorization to be allowed to exercise their decision-making authority to reopen the 2020/2021 school year without penalization and commence in-person instruction until the rate of positive COVID-19 cases has reduced to an acceptable level, as determined by Dr. James W. Castillo, with consultation from Dr. Hellerstedt, MD.

It is a collective aim to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health, safety, and well-being of all teachers, campus staff, and students. With the current rapidly increasing rate of COVID-19 cases within Cameron County and throughout the state of Texas, remote/online instruction is the safest and most practical way to educate Texans.

All School Districts throughout Cameron County have developed strategic contingency plans to include full-time remote/online instruction, hybrid instruction, and in-person instruction with prioritized safeguards for the protection of life.

“We are respectfully submitting this letter requesting local authority to be exercised in Cameron County for the protection of all students, educators, and staff this upcoming scholastic year. We are united in effort and submitted this letter to protect us all, especially our most valued treasure, our children,” stated Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr.

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