



TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 8716 N. Mopac Expressway, Austin, TX 78759 • 877-ASK-TSTA • www.tsta.org • Fax 512-486-7049

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2020

Contact: Clay Robison

ClayR@tsta.org

cell: 512.535.8994

TSTA: Let's continue the time out on STAAR testing

Texas State Teachers Association President Noel Candelaria released the following statement on the decision to require STAAR testing next year:

“We are in the middle of a health emergency, we don't even know for sure what form education is going to take this fall, and the state education commissioner has announced that STAAR testing will resume. The Texas State Teachers Association has a better idea: Let's continue the time out on STAAR testing.

“Standardized testing should be the last priority for students, educators and policymakers. There are other, much more crucial priorities for the state, beginning with a plan for safe schools, a plan for returning students, teachers and employees safely to classrooms, but only after the pandemic has begun to subside, not while COVID cases are still increasing.

“Even under normal circumstances, STAAR exams waste millions of tax dollars, and that waste will be even more critical now that the state and school districts will be suffering millions of dollars in lost revenue from the pandemic. Our schools can't afford the loss of more tax dollars on testing, and our students and educators can't afford the distraction as they continue to adjust to new methods of teaching and learning. Let's close the learning gap, not enrich testing companies.”