



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

July 28, 2020

Contact: Clay Robison

ClayR@tsta.org

cell: 512.535.8994

TSTA: We trust health experts, not the attorney general, when children's lives are at stake

Texas State Teachers Association President Ovidia Molina released the following statement:

Attorney General Ken Paxton has concluded that local health officials lack the authority to order school buildings closed as a precautionary safety measure to protect students, educators and local communities in the midst of a deadly pandemic that threatens to continue raging across Texas for weeks to come.

Gov. Greg Abbott so far has yielded to the expert advice of health authorities charged with protecting lives and public safety. Now, Paxton is sending a conflicting message to our school districts, students, parents and employees. This raises more questions about reopening schools safely instead of providing real guidance from state leaders.

The Texas State Teachers Association has more confidence in the professionalism of local health officials and their determination to act in the best interests of all Texans, including our children. We have less confidence in Ken Paxton, whose primary goal as attorney general has been to advance an ideological agenda. Now, he is promoting President Trump's election-year demands that school campuses reopen prematurely, regardless of the price that educators, students and their families may pay.