



TSTA NEWS

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TSTA: State must fix the school COVID tracker and provide infection data for every district and campus

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

The state of Texas has adopted policies that are forcing many teachers and school employees to return to classrooms before it is safe for them or their students during this pandemic.

The state officials who are putting them in harm's way can't even keep track of how many COVID-19 infections have been reported in all the school districts, much less in individual campuses. This information is critical for educators, their students and parents, and the state's failure to accurately provide it is inexcusable.

The state needs to figure out now how to provide accurate numbers, updated at least weekly, on the extent of known COVID infections by school district and campus throughout the state. If number crunchers can provide Gov. Abbott with an array of charts and figures every time he has a show-and-tell COVID news briefing, the number crunchers can provide critical information on COVID infections to parents and school employees.

Several thousand cases of confirmed COVID-19 infections among students and school employees have been reported statewide. Some school districts have COVID trackers of their own, but many do not. The state must provide timely data for every district and campus. Parents and school employees have a right to know where the known infections are.