



TSTA NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2020

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TSTA: Ordering students to campuses for end-of-course exams is dangerous during a pandemic

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

Why are Gov. Abbott and the Texas Education Agency intent on endangering the health and safety of Texas students, teachers and communities? Just as health experts are warning that the COVID-19 pandemic is entering a particularly dangerous stage, they are ordering thousands of students to return to their campuses before the winter break to take supervised end-of-course exams required for high school graduation. These include many students whose parents have decided, in the interest of their families' safety, to keep their children home all semester for virtual learning.

This is another example of Abbott and TEA bullying school districts to do things that are unsafe and make no sense.

We call on parents to join us in demanding that the governor and the education commissioner relax their unreasonable fixation on standardized testing and put the safety of students, educators and families first. They must cancel all STAAR testing during this health crisis, beginning with the upcoming end-of-course exams. STAAR wastes tax dollars and needlessly adds to the stress of an already stressful emergency.

<https://www.kxan.com/news/education/thousands-of-remote-students-will-be-forced-to-return-to-campus-for-final-exams/>