



# TSTA NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2020

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## **TSTA: Cancel STAAR. Don't use it to add more stress for children and educators**

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

The Texas Education Agency has suspended the A-F school accountability rating system for this school year, but TEA didn't go far enough. The Texas State Teachers Association once again calls on the agency and Gov. Abbott to also cancel STAAR testing for any purpose. They already have decided STAAR scores won't count toward student promotions this year but still insist on using it to try to measure student growth or learning loss during the pandemic.

Teachers already can tell parents how their children have been performing during this school year. All the STAAR test will do is what it always has done: measure a student's ability to take a test. And it will force teachers, who already are working long hours adapting lesson plans for virtual and in-person instruction, to waste invaluable time on STAAR preparation and administration.

It is not clear from TEA's announcement whether students who for safety's sake have been learning at home will have to return to their campuses or other central locations to take these STAAR exams. The governor and TEA should not put the health and safety of children over wasteful standardized testing.