



SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 2020

BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE TEA WAIVER TO EXTEND 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR TRANSITION BEYOND THE FOUR-WEEK LIMIT

After listening to a presentation from local health authorities on the current local public health conditions and numerous public comments, the SFDR CISD Board of Trustees made a decision last night to approve the submission of TEA waiver that would allow the District to extend the transition window to students who opted for on-campus or hybrid instructional learning model for an additional three weeks.

The waiver, which was introduced by the Texas Education Agency last week, explains that “if a school system believes it is best for the health and safety of students and staff to continue to restrict access to on-campus instruction beyond the first four weeks of their 2020-21 instructional calendar, they must submit a board approved waiver request to TEA to extend that transition window, for a limited time period up to four additional weeks”.

After reviewing several scenarios, the Board approved an option, Option C, which would transition students who are assigned to special education units as early as September 16th. Next, students whose parents selected the face-to-face or hybrid model (approximately 4,000 students), will begin transitioning September 21st in four groups equal to 25%, until 100% have completely transitioned back to school by Monday, October 12th. Students who have been receiving assignment packets or who have been using cell phones to submit assignments will have access to a school computer lab as early as Monday, September 21st, and will continue to have access to a computer lab until they are provided a laptop or until they are transitioned back to a classroom. The remaining students (approximately 6,000), who have opted to participate in the 100% online model would continue receiving their instruction online as they have been for the remainder of the school year, or until they select a different model.

Principals will begin finalizing their transition plans this week and will begin sending parent letters through parent communication portals as early as Monday, but no later than Wednesday next week. Parents are urged to check their e-mail next week and follow the designated instructions as prescribed.