March 2, 2021

**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNOR ABBOTT’S EXECUTIVE ORDER (GA-34)**

Governor Greg Abbott today issued an Executive Order (GA-34) lifting the mask mandate in Texas and increasing capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent. This order comes into effect next Wednesday, March 10, 2021. The Governor made the announcement during an address to the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce in which he discussed the incredible advancements that Texas has made that allow the state to open fully and lift the mask mandate—noting the rapid increase of vaccines. Governor Abbott also stated that more than 2.5 million Texans who were lab confirmed for COVID-19 have recovered since the beginning of the pandemic, and that the number of active COVID-19 cases is the lowest since November—meaning more Texans are recovering from COVID-19 than contracting it.

The Texas Education Agency issued a statement indicating that it will update the public health guidance this week. TEA Commissioner Mike Morath has called a special meeting this Thursday, March 4, 2021 with Superintendents from across the state to discuss the updated public health guidance.

SFDRCISD will provide an updated press release when details become available. In the meantime, parents and students are urged to continue following the mask requirement established in our county.