Health Directive

Due to moderate to sustained community transmission of COVID-19 in San Antonio, and pursuant to the Texas Health & Safety Code §81.082, the Local Health Authority for Bexar County and the City of San Antonio, issues this Directive imposing restrictions on all public and private schools (“School Systems”) offering instruction to students in any grades from pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

The following requirements are effective July 17, 2020:

- School systems must not re-open schools for on-campus, face-to-face instruction until after September 7th, 2020, although a School Board may accommodate families without Internet access/devices by providing access to remote learning as possible, or by otherwise addressing consistent with guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency.

- Virtual instruction is allowed consistent with individual district or school academic plans. Instructors may use classrooms for video streaming if they are alone in the classroom and building occupancy does not exceed 10%.

- All school sponsored events and activities, including but not limited to extracurriculars, fairs, exhibitions, academic and/or athletic competitions, must not take place in person, on or off campus, until school systems resume on-campus instruction.

- By no later than Friday, August 21, 2020, each School System shall develop a written plan with safety and health protocols for resuming on-campus instruction and extracurricular activities. School systems must make the plan available to parents and the general public.

I believe this directive includes appropriate control measures based on the higher risk for spread of COVID-19 in schools due to their confined spaces, and the challenge for children in following social distancing and hygiene guidelines.

The start of on-campus instruction and activity may be delayed further based on ongoing monitoring and assessment of public health mitigation conditions.

This directive is issued under my authority as the Local Health Authority for Bexar County and the City of San Antonio on this the __17th__ day of July 2020.

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C. Junda Woo, MD, MPH
Bexar County Health Authority