



## Houston Federation of Teachers Advocacy Center

Dear HFT Member,

This certainly isn't the spring break any of us had planned, but we as Houstonians are used to a crisis and will weather through together. Here are a few important top lines to digest in case you don't read the entire e-mail:

1. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT PAY- I've been in contact with Dr. Lathan and neither of us want you to worry about that right now. Pay is coming on its regular schedule.
2. STATE GUIDELINES- TEA has issued guidelines for extended closures and so long as we meet those guidelines, then we will be ok. Guidelines include a system to get work assignments to kids and a way to ensure kids that need food continue to receive meals. The STAAR Test has been CANCELLED by Gov. Abbott.
3. REGISTER TODAY FOR OUR TELE-TOWN HALL UPDATE: On Thursday, March 26th at 6:00 pm we will hold a tele-town hall update for our members. [HFT Tele-Town Hall Member Update](#)

We will be joined by Dr. Grenita Lathan to update on HISD schedule, HFT General Counsel Chris Tritico to answer legal questions, Dr. Jennifer Blaine to update on Spring Branch ISD (invited), a medical professional (TBD) to update on the virus and best practices, Dr. Claudia Morales to share info on virtual learning opportunities, and myself.

Again, register here-----> [HFT Tele-Town Hall Member Update](#)

**Right now, follow medical advice to maintain social distance. Keep to 10 or fewer people in a crowd. Those with compromised immune systems or those in direct contact with family members "at-risk" should think safety above all else. Let those without health issues do the volunteer work. Look for opportunities to help virtually, such as the one below!**

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Calling Online Learning Experts! Our HFT VP Traci Latson will be hosting a zoom webinar for our members who would like to volunteer with our Online Learning Task Force. Our goals will be to develop a list of resources and best practices for learning online geared towards elementary and middle school students. We hope to assist teachers in transferring lessons and supports to an online modality, develop a network of volunteers to host teacher tutor chats to prepare for prolonged school closures and provide support to colleagues who are learning new skills.

We also need science teachers willing to develop 5 minute podcasts to help kids with safe and easily completed at home experiments that extend learning and help parents who are looking for structured activities for our students. Please consider being part of this task force and joining our zoom meeting on Thursday, March 19th at 10:00 am.

Here is the link to register for the Online Task Force Meeting:

**Zeph** Capo is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/529535138>

Meeting ID: 529 535 138

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,529535138# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,529535138# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 529 535 138 Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abPkbFNoJp>