



Texas Department of State
Health Services

Friday Beat

February 18, 2022, Edition

The newsletter that takes a [Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child](#) approach.

Announcements

Attend the Texas School Health Advisory Committee Meeting

The Texas School Health Advisory Committee will hold its Spring Semester meeting on Monday, February 28, 2022. There is an option to attend virtually through Microsoft TEAMS or in person. View the [agenda and meeting information](#).

Special Statewide Oral Health Screening Begins in 2022-23

Next school year, DSHS [Oral Health Improvement Program \(OHIP\)'s Smiles in Schools](#) will screen kindergarteners and 3rd graders at select schools for a special report on the oral health of Texas children. Your school may be asked to participate in the special statewide oral health screening. This report is created every five years. Past reports show that nearly 53 percent of kindergarteners and 67 percent of third graders in Texas have experienced tooth decay. OHIP needs to screen children at all types of schools all over the state. Dental teams are quick and efficient and can accommodate the school's schedule. If you have any questions, reach out to your [regional dental team](#) or OHIP at dental@dshs.texas.gov.

Professional Development

Webinar: Leading Successful District School Health Advisory Councils

Action for Healthy Kids will host a webinar to discuss School Health Advisory Councils (SHACs). District SHACs support development and oversight of school district health and wellness policies. This ensures a strong connection between health and learning. Join this learning session to hear strategies and best practices for leading successful SHACs. The webinar will take place on March 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Register for the [webinar on leading successful SHACs](#) hosted by Action for Healthy Kids.

Attend the Human Trafficking Prevention Resources Webinar

On Friday, March 4, 2022, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and The Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Workgroup will host the final webinar in the Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness series. Educators play a vital role in prevention and awareness, recognizing the warning signs of trafficked students, and guiding potential victims to resources and support. See more information and register for the [human trafficking prevention resources webinar](#).

Texas Suicide Prevention Virtual Symposium 2022

The Texas Suicide Prevention Council and Symposium Committee will host their virtual symposium on March 1-3, 2022. Over 30 experts at the national and state level will exchange important suicide prevention, intervention and postvention information, resources, and expertise. In addition, what has historically been a one-day event has been transformed into three full days of learning. The virtual symposium format enables Texans from across the state to participate in this learning opportunity. Register for this [free suicide prevention symposium](#).

The Power of Prevention: Promoting Healthy Development in Children

On Tuesdays from March 1-March 22, 2022 the HHS Office of Disability Prevention for Children will host a series of free webinars from 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. These webinars will highlight topics on preventing intellectual and developmental disabilities in children. The goal is to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss and learn about strategies for creating positive change in the lives of children and families across Texas. Continuing education credits are available. View the [HHS Office of Disability Prevention for Children conference flyer](#) for additional information and registration.

Funding Opportunities

DFPS Offers Financial Support to Foster Youth

The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) is offering financial support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds for young people age 14-20 in the foster care or extended foster care system are available. In addition to funding needs during the pandemic, Education Training Vouchers are also available. Read about the [DFPS funds for foster youth](#) for more information.

Garden Grant Program

The Whole Kids Foundation provides a \$3,000 monetary grant to support a new or existing edible educational garden in K-12 schools or non-profits serving children. Applications must be submitted by March 11, 2022. A webinar regarding the Grant Application process will take place on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. [Register for the webinar and apply for the grant](#).

Health Services

Improve Hand Hygiene and Cleaning

School nurses and others can take Centers for Disease Control training to gain information and strategies for keeping hands and surfaces clean in educational settings. The web-based training will provide guidance and resources for creating and following a hand hygiene and cleaning plan. Resources for caregivers will also be provided. Visit the TRAIN Learning Network to [enroll in the course](#). Receive continuing education credit for the course by following [CDC's 9 simple steps](#).

Employee Wellness

Lunch and Learn: Beyond Burnout: Exploring the Cost of Caring

The Texas School Safety Center will host this virtual event on April 29 and May 13, 2022 from 11:30am- 1:00pm Central Time. Participants will be given tools to decrease risk for compassion fatigue, stress, trauma, and burnout. The

presentation will reframe self-care and offer a live Q&A session. [Register for this virtual training.](#)

Family Engagement

Strengthening Families: Parenting Stress and Self-Care

Parenting is not easy, but resilience is key to helping keep family connections strong. Self-care can be one of the best steps to take to support and care for children. Read the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services' [information about self-care insights](#) for support when feeling overwhelmed or needing balance in family life.

Quote to Note

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou

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