Dear Texas Tech University Parents,

We are now just over three weeks into the fall semester, and I wanted to take this opportunity to share an update on our COVID-19 numbers as well as emphasize some essential resources that are available for students.

As most universities experienced, Texas Tech saw a spike in positive cases in the first two weeks of students, faculty, and staff returning to campus. Since then, the total number of active cases has declined, and as of today, we have 148 student cases and 23 employee cases. With more than 46,000 students and employees, this number is both encouraging and manageable.

We know that many of you have experienced some anxiety with your students away from home amid this pandemic. Our staff and faculty have been working around the clock to provide students with guidance and care. Since many of you have reached out to various units with questions and concerns, I wanted to give you some additional information and ways to communicate.

**Symptoms/High-Risk Exposure**

Students that exhibit symptoms or have a high-risk exposure should contact Student Health Services immediately at 806-743-2848. If a student receives a positive diagnosis by an off-campus provider, they need to have the documentation available and immediately self-report. Implementing isolation and quarantine protocols are critical to ensure the health of our community; however, we also understand that being in isolation or quarantine is not normal and may be challenging.

**University Housing**

If a student lives in on-campus housing and must self-isolate or quarantine, a staff member will communicate directly with the student. Upon positive test notification, University Housing will have students placed into self-isolation in 24 hours or less. Students must be responsive to calls and messages during this time-sensitive process. If you have a question or need an immediate response to a housing concern, please send an email to housing@ttu.edu. We are making every effort to respond to urgent email requests and concerns within 24 hours, including weekends.
Hospitality Services
If a student lives in on-campus housing and must self-isolate or quarantine, our Hospitality Services team will provide a meal delivery service. If you have questions about the meal delivery service or your student did not receive a delivery, please send an email to hospitality@ttu.edu.

Student Counseling Services
Mental health issues surrounding COVID-19 are well documented across the country, and we want you to know that counseling resources are available for students. The Student Counseling Center currently offers virtual counseling services for students, and these services can be initiated by calling 806-742-3674. In addition, the TTU Crisis HelpLine (806-742-5555) is available 24 hours a day for students experiencing a mental health crisis.

Recreational Sports
Students required to self-isolate or quarantine can take advantage of online fitness classes provided by the Student Recreation Center.

Additional information and resources surrounding COVID-19 can be found online, or if you have a specific question and are unable to find the information you are looking for, please call 806-742-5929.

Thank you for encouraging your students to follow our health and safety protocols both on and off campus. Following these protocols are the most effective way that we can prevent the spread of this virus in our campus community. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec
President
Texas Tech University