



Red Raiders,

Most of us assumed that life would be back to normal by the time the fall semester began. We were all hopeful of the possibility that masks could be a thing of the past, and that all of our campus events could function as usual. Instead, COVID-19 remains a looming threat. This pandemic has been and will continue to present immense challenges, whether it be difficulty in adjusting to online classes, loss of a job as a result of businesses closing, or even the loss of a close friend or family member. Wherever you are right now, please know that you are not alone, and you are not forgotten.

We write to you to emphasize that there is only one way through this pandemic, and that way is by moving forward together. Moving forward together means wearing masks to safeguard our own health and the health of those around us. Moving forward together means staying home when we feel sick. Moving forward together means avoiding large social gatherings. Moving forward together means minimizing travel throughout the academic year and staying in Lubbock this Labor Day weekend if possible.

We acknowledge how tempting it may be to forego safety precautions to attend social gatherings or other events non-compliant with COVID-19 guidelines. However, we must all recognize that safety is of the greatest importance, and there is no amount of fun that can justify the loss of lives. It is on us to safeguard each other. It is on us to practice social distancing. It is on us to be compassionate towards others. It is on us to slow the spread of the virus.

As we approach Labor Day weekend, we want to remind you of our commitment to you and ask that you value the health and safety of yourself and your fellow Red Raiders. When we devote ourselves to moving forward together, the light at the end of the tunnel will approach more quickly. By doing our part, we can help guide the campus experience back to normal, and more importantly, we can save lives.

Sincerely,

Hunter Heck
Student Body President
Student Government Association

Trey Bolton
President
Black Student Association

Priscilla Colmenero
President
Hispanic Student Society