



Press Release for San Benito CISD  
Single Tuberculosis Case  
at San Benito High School

San Benito Consolidated Independent School District has fully responded and cooperated with the Cameron County Public Health Department notification of a single confirmed Tuberculosis case at San Benito High School.

The Cameron County Public Health Department is solely responsible for tracking this case as a public health issue as required under Texas Department of Health guidelines.

The Cameron County Public Health Department has provided all the professional medical guidance for addressing this one single confirmed case. Their recommendations were critical and necessary so that San Benito CISD could proceed with the identification of students and staff that needed initial testing.

The Cameron County Public Health Department is also the entity that will conduct the Tuberculosis testing and San Benito CISD will make the accommodations.

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Timeline and Protocols for San Benito High School Tuberculosis Testing

The Cameron County Public Health (CCPH) Department notified San Benito CISD, on March 27th, that an individual at San Benito High School had tested positive for Tuberculosis (TB).

The San Benito CISD Administrative Team immediately began to coordinate with CCPH to initiate all protocols necessary to address this case. On March 28th, CCPH representatives met with the Texas Department of Health officials to determine the next steps of identifying potential exposure and to develop testing guidelines for those students and staff at San Benito High School and Veterans' Memorial Academy.



On Tuesday, April 2nd, San Benito CISD administrators and Cameron County Public Health staff met to share the recommendations of the Texas Health Department. The recommendations were: (1) to conduct an environmental assessment of the SBHS HVAC (air) systems and review the identified classroom spaces. That assessment was completed on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, April 3rd, San Benito CISD, in coordination with CCPH, identified, reviewed, and verified the list of students and staff recommended for TB testing. CCPH assisted SBCISD in creating the list of students that met the criteria for TB testing.

Identified on that list were (148) SBHS students, (12) VMA students, and (6) SBCISD staff members.

The parents of those students and the SBCISD staff members were emailed the SBCISD notification letter, the Cameron County Health Department letter, the parent consent form for TB testing, and an informational notice of TB. All the documents were provided in English and Spanish. The notification email was sent on Wednesday, April 3rd by SBCISD.

**It is important to note that if a notification email was not received from San Benito CISD, other SBHS and VMA students and the additional SBCISD staff were determined not at risk of immediate exposure to this Tuberculosis case - by Cameron County Public Health Department and San Benito CISD.**

Those parents of students and SBCISD staff receiving the TB notification email were offered the following for them:

1. A parent meeting was held at the San Benito High School Library on Thursday, April 4th at 5:30 pm. Both SBCISD administrators and Cameron County Health Department staff were there to share TB testing information and answer questions.
2. TB testing will be conducted by CCPH on Monday, April 8th at the San Benito High School Gymnasium between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. The test is highly encouraged for those on the list of students and staff. The testing will require parent consent for minor students.



3. If the students are not able to take the test on Monday, the students and parents will need to be tested at the Cameron County Public Health Department.

Both San Benito CISD and the Cameron County Public Health Department will follow the FERPA and HIPAA guidelines with all students and staff identified on this list.

<https://www2.ed.gov/ferpa>

<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/regulations/legal-information/hipaa-privacy-laws>

Currently, with the professional medical guidance from the Cameron County Public Health Department, San Benito CISD has identified all the potential students and staff that need this TB testing. Attached is an English and Spanish handout from Cameron County on Tuberculosis (TB) for your review.

Please self-assess your child's or family member's current health and if they are experiencing any Tuberculosis symptoms, please contact your medical provider for guidance.

If parents, staff, or the public has any questions, please forward those inquiries to:

Points of Contact:

San Benito CISD  
Public Relations Department  
Luis D. Gonzales, Jr., Interim Director of Public Relations  
(956) 276-6030  
lgonzales@sbcisd.net

Cameron County Public Health Department  
Tuberculosis (TB) Program  
(956) 574-8753