

Proposed Legislative Update




Fort Worth ISD Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Fort Worth ISD Proposed Priorities For the 88th Session of the Texas Legislature

School Safety

A white shield icon with a checkmark inside, centered on a brown background.

Student Learning

An icon depicting a teacher pointing at a whiteboard with horizontal lines, and three student figures below, all in white on a brown background.

Learning Loss Recovery
Public Education Funding
Accountability

Proposed Legislative Priorities



School Safety

- ★ Increased funding of the School Safety Allotment and local flexibility to ensure districts can adequately meet student and staff safety needs.
- ★ Providing appropriate ongoing funding for identification, services and supports for students with mental health needs.
- ★ Allowing school districts flexibility to determine how safety and mental health funds are spent in order to best meet local needs.

Proposed Legislative Priorities



Student Learning: Pandemic Learning Loss Recovery

- ★ Increasing the Technology and Instructional Materials Allotment to ensure students have access to high-quality materials and technology devices.
- ★ Increasing special education funding to fill critical positions and cover cost of diagnostics.
- ★ Additional funding to support House Bill 4545 requirements, extended learning opportunities and wraparound services for students once ESSER III funds end.

Proposed Legislative Priorities



Student Learning: Public Education Funding

- ★ Adjusting the basic allotment for inflation. OR Raising the basic allotment by \$200 per student to accommodate the rising staffing and operational costs.
- ★ Funding schools based on enrollment instead of average daily attendance (ADA) to better reflect how public schools are staffed and operated.
- ★ Full funding for universal pre-K to accelerate access to research-based early childhood learning.
- ★ Improving access to affordable health insurance for public school employees by increasing the state monthly contribution per employee to TRS Active Care.
- ★ The enactment of a substantial and meaningful cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Teacher Retirement System retirees.

Proposed Legislative Priorities



Student Learning: Accountability

- ★ The development of an assessment system that looks beyond high-stakes, multiple-choice exams to meaningful assessments that have value for students, parents, and teachers.
- ★ Reforming the accountability system to appropriately measure all factors that influence student performance and school ratings, including locally controlled flexible accountability measures.
- ★ Directing efforts to expand choice in education to public schools that are held accountable for their performance and are transparent in their use of funding. **OR** (Explicit language regarding charters.) Applying equal accountability and financial transparency standards for charter and traditional public schools.

Public Input Form



We value stakeholder input as we work together to ensure that District advocacy efforts are aligned to the needs and values of our Fort Worth ISD community.

District stakeholders may provide input regarding the proposed priorities via an online form prior to adoption of the final legislative priorities at the January 10th Board Meeting.





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