

# 2025 Legislative Priorities

## Galveston County Schools Consortium

Clear Creek Dickinson Friendswood Galveston Hitchcock Santa Fe Texas City

The Galveston County Schools Consortium and our state lawmakers share in the responsibility to keep **schools safe**, compensate educators with a competitive **salary**, provide **special education** services to meet a child's unique needs, and reduce the rising costs of **storm** insurance.

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### School Safety

- Enhance safety measures in our schools to protect students, staff and the community by increasing the School Safety Allotment.
- Revise Chapter 37 so schools can appropriately address disruptive student behavior. Such revisions include removing the 3-day In School Suspension limitation, Out of School suspension restrictions for certain students, and the ARD Committee requirements for disciplining a student with a disability in any manner for bullying, harassment, or making a hit list.
- Consider grant funding for innovative programming and practices for behavioral placements to ensure appropriate support and intervention.

### Salaries

- Improve teacher retention, attract high-quality educators, and improve overall student outcomes by increasing the salaries of teachers, counselors, librarians, nurses, custodians, bus drivers and all other district staff.
- Contribute more state funds to the TRS ActiveCare health plan to reduce the inflationary impact on educators and staff.

### Special Education

- Ensure that all students with disabilities receive the quality education they deserve by investing additional weighted funding for special education students that aligns with the rising costs of providing services and provide resources for training and retraining special education teachers to build a highly qualified workforce.

### Storms

- Lower property and casualty insurance expenses for storm-prone areas of Texas by establishing an allotment for school districts affected by high windstorm insurance premiums to help manage the significant financial impacts of rising property insurance.