Legislative Priorities

89th Texas Legislature, 2025 | Lake Travis Independent School District

Fund our Public Schools

The Texas Legislature is underfunding our public schools. Last session, over $4 billion budgeted for public education were left un-allocated. The 2019 basic allotment is not sufficient in 2024, and new mandates worsened the funding crisis. Lake Travis ISD cannot continue to do more with less.

Our Asks:

• Increase the basic allotment by at least $1,000—from $6,160 to $7,160—to account for inflation and compliance with additional mandates.

• Include a yearly inflation adjustment in the new basic allotment.

• Fund every enrolled student; Lake Travis ISD is accountable for the education of all students.

• Fully fund all previous, current, and future mandates imposed by the Texas Legislature.

• Oppose school vouchers. Public dollars belong in public schools; vouchers that create a new government entitlement program will further defund our public schools.

Support our Staff

Our teachers' and staff salaries have been underfunded. The Lake Travis ISD Board of Trustees has provided raises and one-time payments to the greatest extent possible given the current funding conditions.

Our Asks:

• Fund our public schools (see above).

• Prioritize teacher and staff compensation and benefits.

• Support those who have dedicated their careers to educating our children with inflation-adjusted funding for the Teacher Retirement System.

• Reverse the teacher shortage by making college and educator certification affordable and salaries competitive for future teachers.

• Incentivize staff as they navigate increasing challenges, including mental health concerns, rising student behavior issues, and heightened special education compliance mandates.

Make Taxation Transparent

Property taxes levied by Lake Travis ISD should remain in Lake Travis ISD. The recapture system, also known as "Robin Hood," is broken.

Our Ask:

• Amend tax bills accordingly. If the state of Texas requires local property taxes to fully fund public education, taxpayers deserve to know where their dollars are going.

Restructure Accountability

Lake Travis ISD values accountability that is focused on student growth. It is critical to evaluate the current accountability and assessment system to ensure they are appropriate measuring tools for Texas.

Our Asks:

• Restructure accountability to reflect a complete picture of student growth.

• Require the Texas Education Agency to adhere to existing laws regarding testing standards, ensuring state assessments are both viable and reliable.

• Set accountability benchmarks prior to the start of the school year; school districts and families deserve clear, accessible information on accountability standards well before testing begins.

Maintain Local Control

Every school district is unique. Locally-elected trustees understand their community and its goals for the district. State overreach undermines the will of our voters and local governance.

Our Asks:

• Grant local school districts the ability to make decisions that best serve our communities, staff, and students.

• Discontinue efforts to promote a common state curriculum.

• Simplify election ballot language to ensure it is straightforward and transparent; current requirements create voter confusion.

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District Facts

11,010 Students Enrolled

7 Elementary Schools	**4,805** Elementary School students	Lake Travis: **737** Lake Pointe: **721** Serene Hills: **744** Lakeway: **524** Rough Hollow: **702** West Cypress Hills: **591** Bee Cave: **786**
3 Middle Schools	**2,635** Middle School students	Lake Travis: **968** Hudson Bend: **806** Bee Cave: **861**
1 High School	**3,570** High School students	Lake Travis: **3,570**

District Population Size **50,330** (2023)

Recapture

2021-2022	34%	$45 million
2022-2023	45%	$71 million
2023-2024	32%	$43 million
2024-2025*	35%	$51 million

*Projected

District Tax Base **$20.7B** (2024)

State Funding

Underfunded Services	State Allotment	Expenditures	Difference
Special Education	$10,681,787	$18,687,989	($8,006,202)
Transportation	$1,007,743	$5,635,056	($4,627,313)
Safety & Security	$269,912	$1,637,516	($1,367,604)
			($14,001,119)

LT LAKE TRAVIS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT