



# Northwest ISD Legislative Priorities

## Adequate Public School Funding

- Increase the **Basic Allotment** to combat inflationary expenses.
- Expand and strengthen the Teacher Retention Allotment to provide sustainable and competitive **compensation for all school employees**.
- Increase **special education funding** to cover the full cost of services and support the recruitment and retention of specialized staff required to serve students with disabilities.
- **Fully fund Prekindergarten** by eliminating the half-day funding cap and recognizing Pre-K students as full-time equivalents (FTE).
- **Fully fund school safety requirements** by aligning state funding with actual, local costs of meeting mandated security standards.
- Increase **transportation funding** to match inflation and the rising cost of safely transporting students across growing communities.

## Classroom Behavior, Discipline, & Mental Health Supports

- **Establish a dedicated funding allotment or student weight** to support campus-based mental health and behavioral staff, including counselors, behavior interventionists, and school psychologists.
- Provide targeted resources and supports to address the growing number of students entering school with **unmet school-readiness and behavioral needs**, including early intervention and skill-building supports.
- **Restore educator discretion** in student discipline, enabling age-appropriate strategies that support positive student behavior.

## Limited State Government and Local Decision Making

- Protect the **authority of locally elected school boards** to make decisions regarding district operations, elections, and facilities without additional state-imposed barriers.
- Preserve local control over bond elections and Voter-Approval Tax Rate Elections (VATREs), including maintaining **flexibility in election timing** and **opposing supermajority vote requirements**.
- **Maintain local discretion** in the use of funds and programmatic decisions to best meet local needs.

## Eliminate or Reduce Recapture

- Reinststate providing a **discount** for districts that make early recapture payments.
- **Increase the threshold** of when recapture begins with an increase in the basic allotment and funding structure based on enrollment, creating a higher floor.

## Protect the Voice of Public Education

- Preserve the ability of school districts to select **training, support, and advocacy partners** that best meet local needs without state restriction.
- Preserve the ability of select **curricular materials, resources, and assessment tools**.
- Ensure fair and consistent processes for **educator discipline/certification actions**, including appropriate safeguards before revocation or suspension.

## Meaningful Accountability and Assessment Reform

- Amend STAAR 2.0 to provide **meaningful reform**.
- Ensure accountability systems reflect **multiple measures of student success** beyond standardized test performance, including growth, workforce readiness, and local indicators.
- Align **assessment timelines**.
- Ensure accountability standards and scale score adjustments are **grounded in research-based, realistic student growth expectations**.