

**Board of Trustees
Lewisville Independent School District**

Position Statements on the Texas 85th Legislature 1st Special Session

The Governor of Texas identified 20 priority statements that he would like to see addressed during a 30-day special session beginning July 18, 2017. The Lewisville ISD Board of Trustees adopted legislative priorities in advance of the regular session. These statements are specific to the education-related priorities as defined by the Governor.

Many of the Governor's items for the special session revolve around funding our public schools, such as the possible creation of the Texas Commission on Public School finance, teacher salary increases, a new state subsidy for private schools, and property tax reform. Passing each one of these items individually will keep school finance fractured and will exacerbate current public school funding and state budgeting issues.

LISD advocates for a study of the true cost of education and the creation of a new funding formula to support student learning. The formula must begin with an analysis of student needs and the requirements created by the state. Such a study should be completed before the 86th Legislative Session. Only after this needs assessment is complete should the commission begin its work to revamp the current finance system so it will not continue to rely on the ever increasing local property valuations.

LISD advocates for legislation that evaluates the expense caused by unfunded mandates.

LISD advocates for local control in salary structures to determine which classroom teachers and what pay make up that structure and opposes a change in the finance structure that redistributes local budgets according to statewide incentives.

LISD opposes any plan for vouchers, education saving accounts, tax credits, taxpayer savings grants, tuition reimbursements, or any other program that diverts public funds to private entities for education with little to no academic or financial accountability especially before the Texas Commission on Public School finance has a chance to evaluate the effects of such legislation.

LISD advocates for property tax reform that analyzes its impact on student funding in the classroom.

LISD opposes the targeting of teacher professional group deductions as a way to quiet the advocacy provided by these groups.

LISD advocates for the continued use of local control to make individualized plans to manage all of our students' safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th day of July, 2017.

By: 
Angie Cox, President
LISD Board of Trustees

By: 
Kronda-Thimesch, Vice President
LISD Board of Trustees

By: Katherine Sells
Katherine Sells, Secretary
LISD Board of Trustees

By: Kristi Hassett
Kristi Hassett, Member
LISD Board of Trustees

By: Tracy Scott Miller
Tracy Scott Miller, Member
LISD Board of Trustees

By: Jenny Proznik
Jenny Proznik, Member
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By: Trisha Sheffield
Trisha Sheffield, Member
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