



LEWISVILLE ISD LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 87TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE



STUDENT LEARNING

1. Advocate for a more comprehensive accountability system beyond standardized testing

- Support the reduction of the number of STAAR tests to match the federal minimum to save time and money (Supported by TASA & TSTA)
- Oppose A-F campus and district ratings that over-simplify the complex work of schools and incentivize teaching to the test (Supported by TASA & TSTA)
- Support inclusion of Opportunity-to-Learn (OTL) information

2. Advocate for changes to expand the definition of College, Career and Military Readiness (CCMR) to include research-based data points that include GPA, school and community engagement, attendance, and more

- Support Community-Based Accountability reporting such as parent survey data, community service, and community partnerships



RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

1. Support sustainable state funding for HB 3 and dedicated funding for full-day PreK; oppose any cuts to school district funding (Supported by North Texas Commission, TASA, TASB, North Texas Regional Chamber Coalition, Pastors for Texas Children, InvestEd TX, & Texas School Coalition)

- Oppose any increases in recapture (Supported by Texas School Coalition)
- Support methods to provide funding by average daily enrollment with appropriate compulsory attendance requirements (Supported by North Texas Commission & Texas School Coalition)
- If cuts are made, we recommend they be made to newer programs

2. Advocate for dedicated funding for COVID-19 expenditures; oppose efforts to use federal funds (ex. CARES Act) to supplant state education funding

- TEA has already used CARES Act funding to cover existing budget expenditures following declining state revenue
- Ensure that the legislature has a say in how federal stimulus funds are dispersed to public schools



STUDENT EXPERIENCE

1. Advocate for continued funding for the school safety allotment established by SB 11 (Supported by TASA & TASB)

- Some of the same safety protocols required by SB 11 support social distancing measures
- This funding also supports prevention and treatment programs for childhood trauma and suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention

2. Advocate for funding for mental health and wellness resources such as School Health Advisory Councils (SHACs), efforts to address youth vaping, and funding for trauma-informed care and best practices

- Mental health and wellness, trauma-informed instruction and care are critical amidst the pandemic
- SHACs also address the physical health and well-being of students including access to food and shelter, societal issues that have been exacerbated during the pandemic



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Advocate for educational equity among traditional public schools and charter schools receiving public funds by requiring uniform reporting of finances, distribution of funds, and student data collection (Supported by TASA)

- Oppose vouchers, educational savings accounts, tax credits, or other programs that divert taxpayer dollars from public schools (Supported by TASB, Raise Your Hand Texas, Pastors for Texas Children & TSTA)

2. Provide full-day funding for ISDs that choose to create district-operated, full-time online schools that serve the students within its district boundaries utilizing district approved curriculum and courses

- Support expanded and improved broadband access for students (Supported by TXPTA, North Texas Commission, & several lawmakers)
- Support transparency in approval and expansion of online charter schools