

T | A | S | B | O

Legislative Priorities | 88th Legislative Session

Recognize the impact inflation has had on schools through adjustments to the basic allotment.

- Increase the basic allotment; and
- Index the basic allotment to inflation so that gains are not lost over time.

Provide the resources needed to ensure a pipeline of talented and prepared staff, ready to take on the challenges our schools currently face.

- Provide resources for salary increases;
- Help schools maintain competitive benefits packages; and
- Remember that schools face shortages for staff across all areas of school services.

Provide the resources necessary to ensure school safety and give schools the flexibility they need to use those resources effectively and efficiently.

- Increase the school safety allotment;

Remember that Texas students are educated in vastly different contexts. Resist the temptation to force one-size-fits all solutions across Texas.

- Provide districts as much flexibility as possible as it relates to the use of funds; and
- Prioritize formula funding over ad hoc grant funds.

Research clearly shows that the amount of resources matter in terms of educational outcomes, but equally as important is how those resources are used. Our school leaders will make the best use of funds in the context of stable, predictable funding that can be incorporated thoughtfully into the budget process.

- Consider either moving to enrollment based funding or putting a floor on attendance rates to create more predictable and stable revenue streams;
- Ensure that any changes to the FSP are implemented on a timeline that will allow for effective budgeting and revenue estimation (all the data elements needed to calculate funding changes should be available before they are incorporated); and
- Fully-fund the FSP formulas in current law and remove caps that result in the proration of individual allotments even in times of overall surplus.

Reform the Truth-In-Taxation process to ensure meaningful, accurate information is provided to taxpayers.

Invest sufficient resources to ensure that all districts can successfully transition from the pre-HB 3 funding formulas to new law without facing a financial crisis.

88th Legislative Session

