

Hays CISD Proposed Legislative Priorities

Attract and Retain Professionals

- 100%** Support keeping the Teacher Retirement System a “defined benefit”
- 100%** Propose a \$5000 Texas guaranteed student loan forgiveness for five years of service in Texas public schools
- 100%** Support increased state contributions to TRS active care so that employees’ and retired teachers’ expenses do not continue to increase

Strengthen Local Control and Flexibility

- 100%** Preserve checks and balances on state agency oversight to ensure local school districts can best respond to local needs
- 100%** Recognize and preserve the right of public school districts and school boards to associate and collaborate with each other to communicate the needs of their students and schools, both directly and through representative organizations, with lawmakers

Support Texas School Pandemic and Recovery Needs

- 100%** Hold school districts harmless for funding losses caused by enrollment and attendance decline due to COVID-19
- 100%** Seek temporary waivers from the U.S. Department of Education regarding punitive elements of the federal accountability system

Improve Charter School Transparency and Local Voter Oversight

- 100%** Advocate for legislation that allows local voters to elect local representatives to the governing board of charter schools
- 100%** Advocate for legislation that allows local voters to vote on any public funding for charter school facilities
- 100%** Enhance transparency, posting/notification, local accountability, special education and nepotism laws for charter operators and schools
- 100%** Advocate for legislation that moves decision-making for charter school expansion from the state education agency to the State Board of Education (SBOE)

Mental Health and Safety

- 100%** Increase state funding for access to proactive mental health services and support in public schools to improve the physical safety and psychological well-being of our students and staff, especially as they cope with the additional anxiety related to COVID-19