

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE



ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dr. Benita Reed
President, Place 6



Michelle Newsom
Vice President, Place 1



Ana-Alicia Horn
Trustee, Place 4

A group of people are seated in a circle in a meeting room, engaged in a discussion. The image is overlaid with a blue filter. The text "OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE" is centered over the image in white, bold, uppercase letters.

OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE



Vision 2030 is Mansfield ISD’s strategic plan focused on making sure that students are college, career and life ready.





Mission To inspire and educate students to be productive citizens.

A destination district committed to excellence. **Vision**

Values

- Students First
- Continuous Improvement
- Integrity
- Communication
- Positive Relationships
- Resiliency



Motto MISD: A great place to live, learn, and teach.

Guiding Statements

1. Students will read on level or higher by the beginning of third grade and will remain on level or higher as an MISD student.
2. Students will demonstrate mastery of Algebra II by the end of eleventh grade.
3. Students will graduate life ready.
4. Students will graduate college and/or career ready.



Purpose of the Committee

The purpose of the Legislative Leadership Committee is to create legislative priorities to recommend to the board.

Legislative priorities should be focused on what changes the **STATE** needs to make in the Texas Education Code (TEC) in order to improve Texas student's educational experience.

Overview of Committee

- More than 100 citizens applied to join this committee, and 89 citizens were invited to participate in the process.
- Committee members represented a diverse cross-section of the community.
 - Parents & Non-Parents
 - Campus & District Staff
 - Community & Business
 - All MISD Feeder
- Including ^{Patterns} varying perspectives from the entire community was very important to the process.

Committee Members

Parents

Amber Shields	Inson (Paulina) Cook
Ana Vides	Jack Reed
Andrea Fagan	John Kinsey
Ashley Byrd	Ke'Ana Bradley
Benedict Iheanacho	LaShanda Reed-Larry
Bethany Lowery	Major Berry
Carla Settle	Marisela Aramino
Catherine LaBrenz	Monica Ford
Chi Mai	Nasr Saleh
Clayton Waters	Nikayela Lockett
Curtina Wilson	Olayinka Ojo
Daphne Smith	Robyn Ellis
David Jones	Scherron Richard
DOlu Adeniran	Shannon Hill
Elizabeth Franco-Acevedo	Stacey Main
Faith Rodgers	Suzann Riddle spriger-Brown
Fidel Ramirez	Tiffany Kirksey
Heather Keating	Toya Embras
Hope Ramirez	Violeta Cervantes

Students

Blake Peters
Emma Moore
Hanna Abraham
Joanne Fagade
Kamryn Jackson
Lewis Reid
Olanrewaju Ahmodu
Peace Madubuko
Rasheed Bragg-Scott

Community Members

Angie Thor
Anita Moore
Beth Light
Darrell Sneed
Desiree Thomas
Jennifer Rike
Jo Anna Cardoza
Lynn Wilkie
Michele Gooch

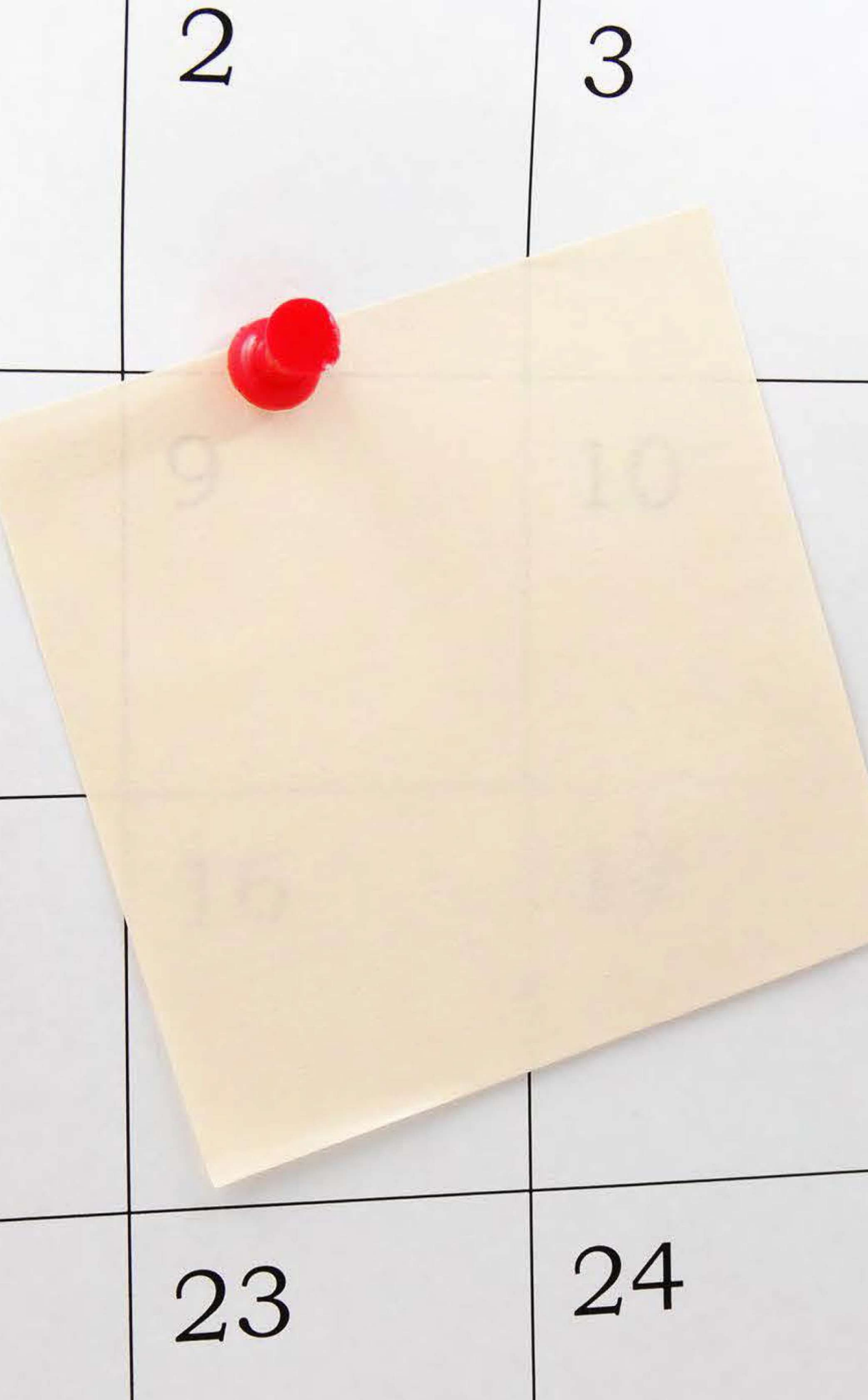
MISD Teachers

Alicia Benson
Angela Perdue
Blake Lindsey
Dale Olson
Denise Nettles
Donna Wright
James Fleck
Jennifer Bell-Damours
Kashieka Popkin-Duncan
Katie Gordon
Loren Burris
Maria Shamayev
Mary Costa
Matthew Respondek
Melissa Aldridge
Shanna Steele
Stephanie Prewitt
Tannie Brantley
Tiffanie Weil

Other MISD Staff

Ashley Parks
Darwert Johnson
Fernando Benavides
Jacquetta Haygood
Loni Lawson
Jason Short
Jennifer Bustillos
Karrye Aquino
Jennifer Powers
Katrina Mabry-Smith
Kimberly Robinson
LeighAnn Templen
Lesley Hash
Liz Lahue
Margaret Couldron
Mico Rhines
Monica Irvin
Tamara Conner
Tamara Liddell





Committee Meetings

- Thursday, November 6, 2025
- Wednesday, January 7, 2026
- Thursday, March 5, 2026
- Thursday, April 16, 2026

Future Meeting

- Thursday, August 20, 2026



Committee Meetings

- Thursday, November 6, 2025
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Future Meeting

- Thursday, August 20, 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS







Student Experience Recommendations

PRESENTED BY

Hanna Abraham & Lewis Reid

Student Experience

1. Fully Fund State Mandates

The State of Texas should fully fund all mandated programs and requirements imposed on public schools, including but not limited to:

- School safety and security requirements
- Special education services
- Academic intervention and student support services
- Mental and behavioral health services

Rationale: Districts continue to absorb significant unfunded costs for state requirements, diverting resources from classrooms and student support. Fully funding mandates ensures legislative priorities do not create unintended local financial burdens.

Student Experience

2. Fund Schools Based on Enrollment, Not Attendance

Transition from an Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding model to an enrollment based funding system.

Rationale: Enrollment-based funding provides greater financial predictability, allowing districts to plan staffing, programming, and services more effectively regardless of daily attendance fluctuations. This aligns with prior MISD advocacy efforts.

Student Experience

3. Clarify and Refine Senate Bill 12

Provide clear statutory guidance and revisions to SB 12 to:

- Refine definitions of “psychological test” and “psychological treatment”
- Ensure school counselors can appropriately support students’ mental and emotional well-being
- Eliminate conflicting language related to “general well-being” inquiries

Rationale: Current statutory language creates ambiguity that limits the ability of trained professionals to serve students effectively and may conflict with parent expectations and student needs.



School Finance & Resource Allocation Recommendations

PRESENTED BY

Chi Mai

School Finance & Resource Allocation

4. Increase and Index the Basic Allotment

Increase per-student funding and index the Basic Allotment to inflation.

Rationale: Texas public schools have experienced significant erosion in purchasing power. Indexing funding ensures sustainability and prevents recurring shortfalls.

School Finance & Resource Allocation

5. Modernize and Fully Fund Special Populations

Provide equitable, adequate, and inflation-adjusted funding for:

- Special education
- Emergent bilingual (EB) programs
- At-risk student services
- Early learning, including full-day Pre-K funding

Rationale: Current funding structures do not reflect the actual cost of serving diverse student populations, limiting districts' ability to meet statutory and educational expectations.

School Finance & Resource Allocation

6. Ensure Long-Term School Finance Stability and Equity

Develop a school finance system that:

- Prioritizes equitable distribution of state resources
- Increases the state share of funding to reduce reliance on local property taxes
- Provides predictable, sustainable funding streams for districts

Rationale: A stable and equitable system is essential for long-term planning and maintaining high-quality educational programs.



Assessment & Accountability Recommendations

PRESENTED BY

Tamara Conner

Assessment & Accountability

7. Reform the A –F Accountability System

Establish a more holistic and balanced accountability system that:

- Reduces over-reliance on STAAR assessments
- Incorporates multiple measures of student success (e.g., CCMR, workforce readiness)
- Limits standardized testing impact to no more than 50% of ratings

Rationale: The current system overemphasizes standardized testing and does not fully reflect student achievement or district effectiveness.

Assessment & Accountability

8. Protect Instructional Time

Reform assessment systems to:

- Reduce excessive testing requirements
- Eliminate redundant or non-essential assessments
- Prioritize instructional time and student learning experiences

Rationale: Instructional time is critical to student success and should not be compromised by excessive testing mandates.

Assessment & Accountability

9. Ensure Fair and Comparable Accountability Standards

Require that all schools receiving public funds, including private schools participating in voucher/ESA programs:

- Meet equivalent academic accountability standards
- Demonstrate comparable student outcomes
- Adhere to transparency and reporting requirements

Rationale: Public funds should require public accountability to ensure fairness and protect taxpayer investment.

Assessment & Accountability

10. Expand Use of Alternative and Norm-Referenced Assessments

Allow districts flexibility to use nationally norm-referenced assessments (e.g., SAT, ACT, TSIA2, MAP) to:

- Demonstrate college readiness
- Measure grade-level achievement
- Provide meaningful data beyond STAAR

Rationale: Multiple assessment options provide a more accurate and comprehensive picture of student performance and readiness.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Student Experience

1. Fully Fund State Mandates
 2. Fund Schools Based on Enrollment, Not Attendance
 3. Clarify and Refine Senate Bill 12 (SB 12)
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School Finance & Resource Allocation

4. Increase and Index the Basic Allotment
 5. Modernize and Fully Fund Special Populations
 6. Ensure Long-Term School Finance Stability and Equity
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Assessment & Accountability

7. Reform the A-F Accountability System
8. Protect Instructional Time
9. Ensure Fair and Comparable Accountability Standards
10. Expand Use of Alternative and Norm-Referenced Assessments

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Student Experience

1. Fully Fund State Mandates
2. Fund Schools Based on Enrollment, Not Attendance
3. Clarify and Refine Senate Bill 12 (SB 12)

School Finance & Resource Allocation

NEXT STEPS...

4. Increase and Index the Basic State Fund
5. Modernize and Fully Fund Special Populations
6. Ensure Long-Term School Finance Stability and Equity

Assessment & Accountability

7. Reform the A–F Accountability System
8. Protect Instructional Time
9. Ensure Fair and Comparable Accountability Standards
10. Expand Use of Alternative and Norm-Referenced Assessments

ENGAGE

MANSFIELD ISD

Brought to you by MISD School Board







**THANK YOU!
ANY QUESTIONS?**

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

