

# ALEDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES • 87TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION



### PROTECT LOCAL CONTROL

#### We advocate that the state:

- Reduce restrictions on how traditional public schools are permitted to educate students;
- Provide to local school districts more flexibility needed due to COVID-19, rather than using the pandemic to insert the state government into local schools.

#### We oppose:

- Measures that erode the decision-making authority of local, elected school boards in the operation of local public schools;
- Measures that centralize state control of local public schools in the Texas Education Agency or Commissioner of Education;
- State takeover of local instructional decisions through implementation of a statewide and operated instructional system (i.e., FRED/Texas Home Learning);
- Further state regulations of how elected school board trustees shall conduct business and govern;
- State interference in local elections, including measures that further restrict election dates and require confusing ballot language;
- Any measure that censors local community voice by prohibiting locally elected officials to associate and collaborate to share the needs of a community's children, both directly and through representative organizations, with lawmakers.



### PROTECT PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING AND SUPPORT EDUCATORS

#### We advocate that the state:

- Protect funding levels for public schools established in House Bill 3;
- Provide to public schools 100% of COVID-19-related federal funds as a supplement for additional expenditures rather than as a supplant of state funding;
- Fund public school districts based on average daily enrollment with appropriate compulsory attendance requirements;
- Focus on eliminating, reducing, and/or delaying state and local expenditures for compliance and new programming that is either unreasonable or not feasible due to the impact of COVID-19;
- Restrict the granting of new and expansion of charters while state revenues are reduced;
- Protect funding for operational start up costs of new campuses to support opening of new public schools;
- Continue the Teacher Retirement System's defined benefit pension program.



### REQUIRE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY TO TEXANS FOR THE USE OF LOCAL AND STATE TAX DOLLARS

#### We advocate that the state:

- Be transparent about how the state uses the increase in local property values to fund state programs other than education;
- Invest state dollars equitably and only on public schools that are held to the same financial accountability and transparency rules as traditional public schools by reworking how new charters are granted and charters are permitted to expand (including clear financial management requirements), making traditional public school funding per student equal to that sent to charter schools, requiring that charter schools be governed by elected boards.

#### We oppose:

- The privatization of public schools.



# ALLOW LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO HOLD THEIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACCOUNTABLE

We advocate that the state permit school accountability systems to:

- Be crafted by the local community and constructed of measures of student success that reflect the local values and priorities of our community;
- Deemphasize performance on a multiple choice, standardized test that a child takes on one day, prohibiting such performance to serve as the primary indicator of success;
- Suspend the STAAR and the related state and local expenditures during emergencies and disasters, including the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Remove all A-F label ratings for at least 3-5 years.

## GROWING GREATNESS THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES THAT EMPOWER LEARNERS FOR LIFE.



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### Who Represents Me?

The following represent Aledo ISD residents in the Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives.

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