



RESOLUTION

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

88TH SESSION

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District (“UISD” or “District”) commits support and priority to the collective efforts in pursuit of legislative action for the sake of protecting public school districts and students across the state of Texas; and,

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of UISD, in partnership with, and in service to, their state and local communities, are committed champions of teaching and learning for success of schools and all students; and,

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of UISD are vital voices of their communities, advocating for the needs and interests of children and youth as they prepare for their future; and,

Whereas, the communities in Webb County have shown confidence and faith in their school trustees to make informed decision that will provide excellence and success in education for their students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of UISD wishes to have its voices heard in support for the following list of legislative priorities:

- **Accountability System:** We support reducing the emphasis on standardized testing and incorporating more holistic measures of success such as student engagement, school climate, social-emotional learning, and other non-academic indicators.
- **Teachers:** We support effective teachers with higher salaries and compensation and additional funded opportunities to improve recruitment, development, and retention.
- **Health Insurance Premiums:** We support equitable funding to the Texas public school systems. United ISD believes that State support relief for health insurance premium costs should be equitable to all Districts across the state of Texas, not just TRS Active Care. In 2022, the state directed approximately \$500 million to TRS Active Care to subsidize costs and maintain lower premiums. Non TRS Active Care districts, such as United ISD, did not receive any subsidies or support. In the future, State monies intended to subsidize health insurance costs should be distributed equitably to all Districts.
- **Funding:** We support the use of the average enrollment for purposes of the public school finance system, the annual adjustment to the basic allotment under the Foundation School Program to reflect inflation determined by the comptroller, and/or adjustment of the average daily attendance of a school district with a high percentage of educationally disadvantaged students.
- **Vouchers or Education Saving Grants:** We oppose a state voucher plan, tax credit, taxpayer savings grants, tuition reimbursement, or any program that diverts public tax dollars to private entities, homeschool students, or parents with little or no academic and financial accountability to the state, taxpayers or local communities.
- **Safety:** We support a safe and healthy educational environment, which includes mental wellness and high-quality pre-kindergarten in order for students to meet their full

academic potential. In addition, we support increases to school safety funding to improve all aspects of campus security.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District respectfully urge the members of the 88th Texas Legislature demonstrate that a well-funded public education system is of the highest priority in order to guarantee the best possible future for our students.

PASSED AND APPROVED on 19th day of April, 2023.

Mr. Ramiro Veliz, III, District 4
UISD School Board President

Mrs. Aliza Flores Oliveros, District 3
UISD School Board Vice-President

Mrs. Michelle Molina, District 6
UISD School Board Secretary

Mr. Gilberto Aguilar, Jr., District 1
UISD School Board Trustee

Mr. Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, District 2
UISD School Board Trustee

Mr. Javier Montemayor, Jr., District 5
UISD School Board Trustee

Mr. Francisco "Frank" Castillo, District 7
UISD School Board Trustee