



CELINA ISD 2025 PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING, AND TEACHER RETENTION/RECRUITMENT

Celina ISD advocates for State leadership to publicly support the efforts of public educators across Texas and **elevate** the importance of the **teaching profession** to address the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers. Celina ISD supports the State increasing the basic student allotment to provide the same buying power afforded to public schools in 2019 as adjusted for inflation. Celina ISD also supports:

- utilizing public dollars for public schools and programs and not using public dollars to invest in private schools;
- fully funding public schools based upon enrollment vs. attendance;
- creating a Basic Allotment inflation index adjustment factor to adjust the basic allotment to reflect changes in the consumer price index;
- fully funding full-day PreK programs;
- reducing recapture dollars from local tax payers and increasing transparency for where local dollars are being spent across the State;
- increasing State funding directly tied to supporting teacher health benefits.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The safety of students, teachers, and staff is the top priority in Celina ISD. We advocate for fully funding programs and mandates enacted by the State legislature for school safety by **supplementing** existing funding while maintaining **local flexibility** to meet needs of our community. Celina ISD supports:

- empowering educators and parents to commit to a partnership for managing student behavior through firm accountability and collaborative intervention;
- reviewing Chapter 37 law to protect student and teacher safety with appropriate consequences for any student who harms another student or educator;
- maintaining State cybersecurity support for school districts less than 15,000 kids through the State-provided grant to protect our State and local revenue.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

The number of students receiving special education services continues to increase each year while student needs become increasingly more demanding and at a greater cost to districts. We believe it is important that special education students are **given the opportunity to achieve at high levels** in all classes and within the State's goals for College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR). Celina ISD supports:

- funding special education **based on service intensity** so that districts can fully fund a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for students in special education programs without negatively impacting funding for students in the general education program.

GOVERNANCE

Celina ISD believes that decisions about the operations of public schools should be left to the discretion of parents and citizens of a local community through their **locally-elected boards of trustees**. Celina ISD supports:

- the revision of current requirements for ballot language so that local ballots have increased **clarity and transparency for voters**;
- **maintaining local control** in the development of curricular resources and selection of instructional materials;
- **maintaining** the State's allowance for **local control** through Board policy.

ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The State's accountability (A-F) system is disproportionately based on a single end-of-year test that does not adequately consider a **student's academic growth**. Additionally, it is the only measure of accountability ratings in grades 3 through 8. Celina ISD supports:

- **community-based accountability** measures that reflect the vast array of work conducted in our schools, including, but not limited to assessments; high-quality instructional measures; advanced academic success; post-secondary enrollment; career training and certification success; student, family, and community engagement; and co-curricular program participation and performance.

