



2026 Legislative Update

School Board Business Meeting
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June 15, 2026

PURPOSE

The purpose of this presentation is to share information with the Board of Education and the community about the district's 2026 Legislative Platform and the outcome of the Legislative Session.

2026 Legislative Platform

- Enhance Student-Centered Learning
- Modernize Long-Term Facilities
Maintenance Revenue to Address
Aging Infrastructure
- Expand Safe Schools Revenue and
Modernize Its Uses
- Institute Tax Equalization
- Oppose Unfunded Mandates and
Ensure Adequate Implementation
Resources



2026 Legislative Platform Summary

Robbinsdale Area Schools' 2026 Legislative Platform focused on five key strategic priorities to support student success and district stability.



**Student-Centered
Learning**



**Modernizing LTFM
Revenue**



**Safe Schools
Revenue**



Tax Equalization



**Opposing
Unfunded
Mandates**

A number of bills were introduced this session that aligned with the district's legislative priorities. While most did not make the final cut, these issues remain critical to the long-term success of our students, schools, and community. We will continue advocating for progress in these areas to ensure districts have the flexibility, resources, and funding needed to meet the evolving needs of students and families.

One-time spending highlights



**Vehicle tab
fee reduction**



**Property tax
homestead credit**



**HCMC dedicated
funding**



**Rural and critical
access hospitals
relief fund**



**Anti-fraud
provisions**



Bonding bill

District Impact

Compensatory Revenue (FY28)

Districts may allocate up to 40% to school sites under a board adopted plan.

Anonymous Threat Reporting

Policy adoption by June 30, 2027; implementation of local/state system by July 1, 2028.

Operating Capital Revenue

May be used to pay utility service costs.

Health Insurance Data

Survey data collection and reporting requirements.

Tax Base Replacement

Seasonal tax base replacement aid provisions.

Behavioral Health Grant

School-based behavioral health grant updates.

Permanent School Trust Transfer

A **November election** will ask voters to consider a constitutional amendment to allow an increase to be paid from the **Permanent School Trust Fund (PSTF)** to:

- Schools
- Districts
- Charters

The amendment aims to increase the statutory distribution amount **up to 4.5%**.

Anonymous Threat Reporting System

By **June 30, 2027**, school boards must adopt a policy for an anonymous threat reporting system and notify MDE of their selection:

Option 1

Local anonymous threat reporting system

Option 2

Used and promoted the statewide system

Option 3

Neither implemented local nor used statewide system

Reporting: MDE will report the list of selections to the legislature annually starting **January 15, 2028**.

Implementation: Chosen systems must be fully implemented by **July 1, 2028**.

Student & School Safety

Grooming Prevention & Criminal Laws

PELSB Authority: Authority granted to suspend or revoke licenses for educators convicted of grooming.

Mandatory Notification: Police/sheriffs must notify licensing agencies if an educator is charged with grooming crimes.

Criminal Statute: Grooming added as a felony under criminal sexual conduct, including school employee provisions.

Reporter Training: DCYF and MDE must update mandated reporter training to specifically reflect grooming.

Investment: \$1,450,000 annual appropriation to MDE to increase investigator capacity for the Student Maltreatment Program (SMP) team.

Other Policy Provisions

Veterans Diplomas: LEAs can now issue High School Diplomas for Veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Teacher Preparation: Programs must require supervised early literacy field experience for all candidates.

Paraprofessional Qualifications:

LEAs may use a competency grid to verify qualifications. MDE guidance is expected by Aug. 1, 2026.

Foster Care Priority:

Highest enrollment priority in community ed programs. Districts may request verifying documentation.

Questions?

