

# Discussion of Legislative Priorities

May 22, 2018

# The Denton ISD Legislative Priorities 2017

1. SCHOOL CHOICE
2. ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
3. SCHOOL FINANCE
4. FACILITIES FUNDING
5. LOCAL CONTROL/GOVERNANCE & TAXATION

# School Choice

ALTHOUGH VOUCHERS, REPRESENTED AS EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, WERE PASSED BY THE TEXAS SENATE, THE TEXAS HOUSE SUCCESSFULLY SQUASHED THE LEGISLATION BY A 2-TO-1 MARGIN.

## Assessment & Accountability

During the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session:

- HB 22 reduced the accountability domains, lowered the weight of state exams to near 50%, and allowed for local accountability plans. However, legislation did not impact the A – F rating system.
- HB 657 provides limitations to retesting students served under special education who failed a state assessment.
- HB 2130 initiated a study on the impact of state assessments on students served under special education.

## School Financing

The Legislature failed to pass meaningful school finance reform during the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. However, there was a call for the creation of a commission to study school finance reform.

## Facilities Funding

HB 1081 increased the maximum New Instructional Facilities Allotment from \$250 to \$1,000 for each student in average daily attendance.

## Local Control/ Governance & Taxation

DURING THE 85<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION, AN AMENDMENT TO SB 1566 MANDATED THE POSTING OF DISTRICT OF INNOVATION PLANS. NO OTHER LEGISLATION WAS PASSED THAT LIMITED THE FLEXIBILITY OF DISTRICTS OF INNOVATION.

## Initiating the Conversation

- **School Funding**
- Scope of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- Health Care
- **A – F Ratings**
- **Required State Testing**
- **School Choice**



## Consideration of TASB Resolutions

- The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has invited our school board to submit resolutions to be included in the 2018 – 2020 Advocacy Agenda.
- The TASB Advocacy Agenda consists of two parts:
  - Advocacy Priorities
  - Advocacy Resolutions
- Deadline for submission is 11:59 p.m. on June 15, 2018
- Follow up with the Board on June 12, 2018

Thoughts?  
Questions?  
Suggestions?

