

Federal/Special Programs Department

2026 February School Board Meeting Overview

Title Programs/State Compensatory Education/Other Grants

- No compliance reports are due at this time.
- While not technically a grant, HISD has been awarded the PREP Program Allotment from T.E.A. PREP stands for “Preparing and Retaining Educators through Partnerships” and is meant to strengthen teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentorship by providing support for our new teachers and their mentors. Planning for 2026-2027 will begin this semester with Region 7 and HISD.

Backpack Program/Homeless/At-Risk

- There are currently 47 students that qualify for McKinney-Vento homeless services. This is up from 12 at this time last year.
- Funds for the Nutritional Backpack program are steady and we will have enough to finish this year and begin next year.

Counselors/Section 504

- Campus transition plans are in the process of being created at each level and parent information sessions will be provided virtually and in person.
- High school and Jr. High counselors are working on HS graduation plans.

DEIC

- The DEIC met February 3rd to begin the district needs assessment. Teams looked at data from across Federal and State programs to give initial feedback on goals and potential enhancements. Additionally, a meeting with the TVAH team took place February 9th to better serve their campus and unique needs.
- Campuses will conduct their own needs assessments throughout the semester.

Emergent Bilingual

- Online TELPAS will begin this month. Students in grades 2-12 test online in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The first testing day will be February 17th and the final available testing date is March 27th. Each campus designed their own testing schedule based on their needs and each is set to be complete prior to Spring Break.
- Students in grades K-1 are graded holistically by their teachers.
- Plans for summer learning are underway. HISD will offer the required PK/K summer school and will continue to offer 1st-4th grades, even though it is not required by the State.

Gifted & Talented

- The GT department is in the process of assessing 196 students for the gifted and talented program.
 - Kindergarten and First Grade selection took place February 5th and services will begin no later than March 1st for kindergarten.
 - Other grade levels will be selected in April, as their services do not begin until the 2025-2026 school year.
 - The 7th grade field trip to SFA was cancelled due to inclement weather but is being rescheduled for April.

Health Services/Nursing Services

- Health services met February 13th for common planning.
- The next SHAC meeting is March 24th; 11:30 at HHS.