

Consider approval of Region 20 Education Service Center Cooperative Commitments for the
2025-2026 School Year

1. Background

Annually, the Southwest ISD board of trustees considers entering or renewing various contracts with Region 20 Education Service Center cooperatives. Education Service Center Cooperatives allows the reduction of duplicate administrative services that are required for school districts. Over fifty area school districts in Region 20 participate in the various Region 20 Education Service Center cooperatives.

The following is a list of Region 20 Education Service Center Cooperative Commitments.

The District administration is recommending participating in the 2025-2026 school year:

- A. Human Capital Services Cooperative (\$6,900) - Provides help to determine the highly qualified status of teachers and provides several workshops on personnel issues. Assist the District with advertising vacancies and recruiting district staff through virtual and in-person assistance, job fairs, staff recruitment, personnel and legal training, and online job postings.
- B. Purchasing Cooperatives (\$1,647) – Provides access to the 2013 Purchasing Cooperative and the Texas 20 Purchasing Cooperative. The cooperatives provide substantial cost savings in the purchase of large quantities of items needed for the day-to-day operations of the District, including general supplies, commodity processing, food purchasing, and technology products.
- C. Bilingual and ESL (\$14,175) – Provides training for the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee as well as technical assistance for performance-based monitoring and campus planning. Provides review and certification preparation, and best practices information.
- D. Library Resources Cooperative (\$11,930) - Provides teachers with access to a lending library of films and other teaching media. In-service workshops and consultant assistance are made available. Additionally, the cooperative provides for staff development for district librarians.
- E. ESC 20 Texas Curriculum Management Program Cooperative (TCMPC) – TEKS Resource System (\$101,264) – Provides access to a customizable online curriculum management system that is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). TCMPC TEKS Resource System's high-quality curriculum and assessment components assist schools in meeting the high standard of rigor and relevance required in the TEKS and the STAAR / EOC assessments.
- F. School Counselor Cooperative (\$3,500) – Provides staff development required by the

state for counselors as well as hosting meetings to share best practices and changes in counselor programs.

- G. Gifted and Talented Services Cooperative (\$9,750) – Provides training in the identification, opportunities, curriculum, performance standards, and parental involvement requirements of the Gifted and Talented program. Provides staff development that meets state requirements and assists with program evaluation.
- H. Transportation Texas ESC Services (Cost varies by usage) – Provides program assistance for conducting on-site Annual School Bus Driver Physical Examinations, for ninety-five dollars (\$95) per examination, under current U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and Federal Highway Administration regulations. All pre-hire or random drug selection will be seventy-five dollars (\$75) per test. All alcohol tests will be fifty-five dollars (\$55) per test. All On-site post-accident/Reasonable Suspicion Testing will be two hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$225) per test.
- I. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Support Cooperative (\$7,875) – Provides technical assistance to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in the interpretation of CTE program needs and district data, developing and evaluating CTE programs. Provides planning, developing, and evaluating rigorous, relevant CTE programs that meet the needs of all students and the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins Grant. Offers training opportunities at a reduced registration rate.
- J. School Safety Cooperative (\$3,500) – Provides ongoing professional development and technical assistance for district law enforcement, school resource officers, and school administrators responsible for school safety.
- K. School Health Cooperative (\$3,500) - Provides ongoing professional development and technical assistance for school health professionals (RN, LVN, MA, EMT) and School Health Advisory Councils.
- L. TSDS/PEIMS Support Cooperative for Non-ASCENDER LEAs (\$8,763) - Provides direct support to school districts and charter schools in understanding and complying with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Data Standards. Data support services include, but are not limited to, data extracts, reports review, data maintenance, data integrity, PEIMS data standards, unique identification, unique identification enrollments, TREx (Texas Records Exchange), TSDS unique ID, TSDS PEIMS, TEAL access related to PEIMS, and TSDS Collections.
- M. Business Manager Cooperative (\$3,800) Provides technical assistance to Business Managers and Chief Financial Officers on topics of school finance, federal program compliance, and food and nutrition services. The cooperative includes 6 Critical Issues Sessions, 6 Touch Base Sessions, and 4 days of Investment Officer Training.

2. Process

Texas Education Code §44.031 allows for school districts to be part of agreements to provide for these services.

3. Fiscal Impact

The total cost for participating in the recommended Region 20 Education Service Center Cooperatives is approximately \$176,604, and \$126,814 of the cost will be paid using categorical funds.

4. Recommendation

The board approves participation in the Region 20 Education Service Center Cooperatives recommended by District administration for the 2025-2065 school year.

5. Require

Board Action