



Denton ISD

Legislative Priorities
for the 89th Session



MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering lifelong learners to be engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global community.

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE...

We will advocate for public education across the state and nation.

“Super Six” Board Goals:



Important Dates

General
Election Day

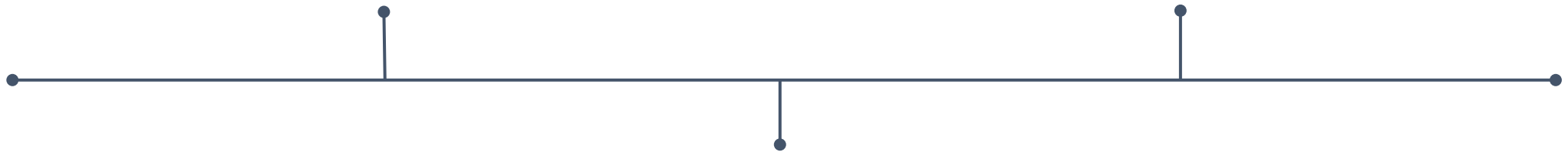
NOVEMBER 5, 2024

89th Texas Legislative
Session Ends

JUNE 2, 2025

JANUARY 14, 2025

89th Texas Legislative
Session Begins





Proposed Priorities:

- Adequate Funding
- Sensible Accountability

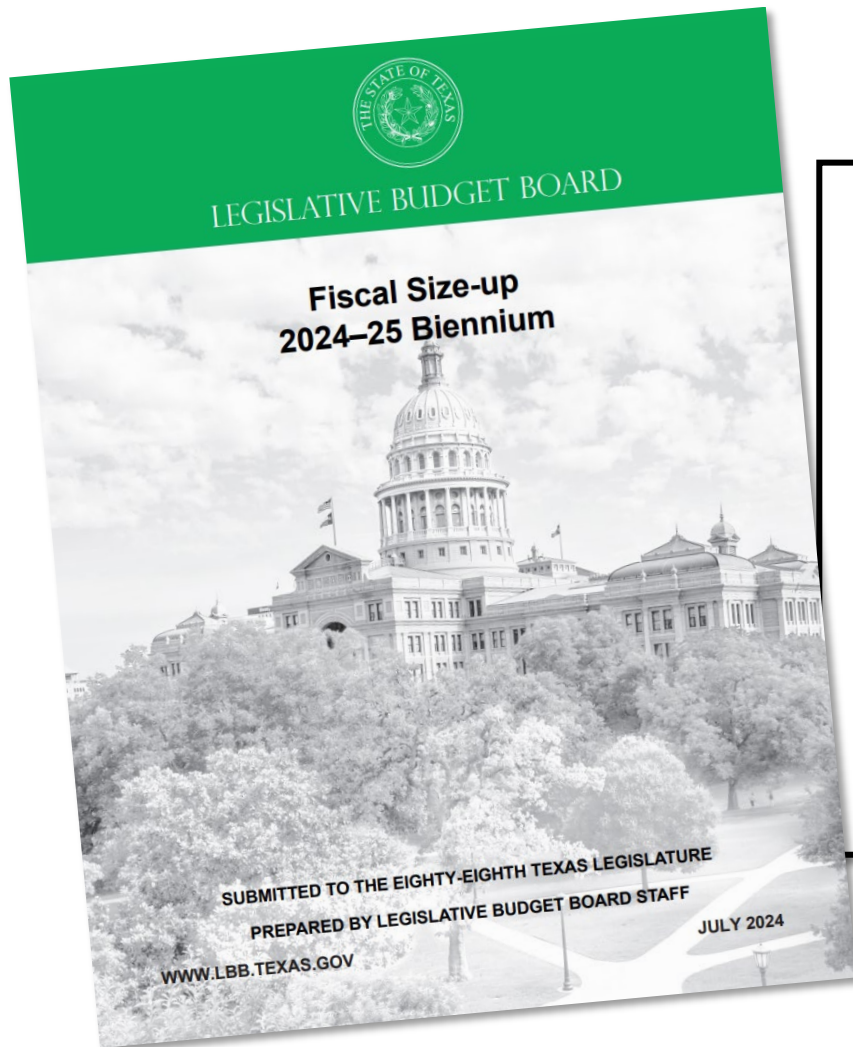
“Super Six” and Adequate Funding:

An increase in the basic allotment aligns with Board goals by supporting:

- School security and student safety
- Teacher pay raises, retention, and recruitment
- Inflation adjusted indexed funding
- Fund based on enrollment not on attendance
- Increase basic allotment which has not been increased since 2019
- Improve Texas from ranking 49th in state funding for public education
- Fully fund full-day Pre-Kindergarten program



2024-2025 Legislative Budget Board Fiscal Size-up, 07-2024, page 224:



Offsetting these major cost increases is a savings of approximately \$6.4 billion for the 2024–25 biennium due to the growth of local property values, which increases property tax collections and decreases the level of state aid required to fund school district FSP entitlement. (See the section regarding State and Local Revenue Contribution.)

PREKINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FUNDING IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT DOLLARS FISCAL YEARS 2016 TO 2025 Source: FIGURE 151, pg 221

YEAR	ACTUAL DOLLARS				TOTAL ACTUAL DOLLARS (2)	TOTAL CONSTANT DOLLARS (3)	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE (4)
	LOCAL REVENUE (1)	RECAPTURE (1)	STATE AID	FEDERAL AID			
2016	\$24,019.2	\$1,587.5	\$20,792.9	\$4,997.1	\$51,396.7	\$51,396.7	4,922,493
2017	\$25,223.7	\$1,721.9	\$20,098.2	\$4,907.2	\$51,951.0	\$50,904.1	4,972,376
2018	\$26,939.2	\$2,004.9	\$20,213.4	\$5,380.7	\$54,538.2	\$52,179.5	5,005,005
2019	\$28,780.3	\$2,702.8	\$19,818.5	\$5,647.9	\$56,949.5	\$53,495.5	5,020,341
2020	\$29,661.9	\$2,556.7	\$23,505.9	\$6,409.2	\$62,133.6	\$57,527.5	5,061,017
2021	\$30,339.1	\$2,967.0	\$22,800.9	\$23,023.6	\$79,130.6	\$70,929.8	5,140,653
2022	\$30,984.2	\$3,007.4	\$22,763.7	\$6,825.9	\$63,581.1	\$52,811.0	4,969,086
2023	\$32,890.7	\$4,533.2	\$21,782.8	\$5,880.1	\$65,086.8	\$51,456.7	4,981,161
2024	\$29,598.9	\$2,476.0	\$29,775.7	\$6,253.5	\$68,104.0	\$52,438.8	5,071,347
2025	\$29,680.2	\$2,533.6	\$29,024.3	\$6,234.9	\$67,473.0	\$50,689.0	5,095,452

Note that the table shows that in Constant Dollars (dollars calculated with compounded state population and inflation growth) funding from 2016 to 2025 decreased by \$707,000,000.

Average Attendance

School Year	Enrollment	Refined ADA/ Attendance	Actual ADA as Proportion of Enrollment
2017	5,359,127	4,971,740	0.9277
2018	5,399,682	5,005,203	0.9269
2019	5,431,910	5,020,360	0.9242
2020	5,493,940	4,908,831	0.8935
2021	5,371,586	4,993,826	0.9297
2022	5,427,370	4,969,072	0.9156
2023	5,518,432	4,982,301	0.9028
2024	5,531,236	4,999,390*	0.9038

*estimated

**Decreased 2%
since 2019**

Where does the **money** come from?

Local

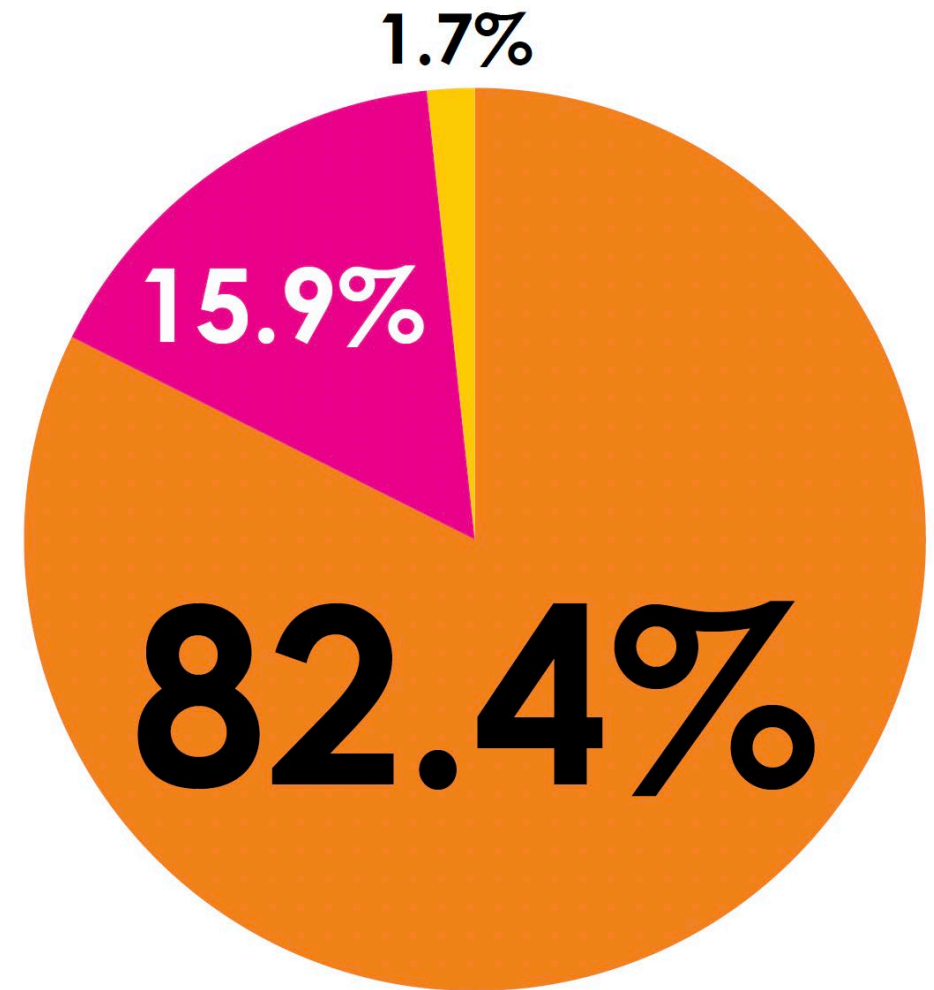
Property taxes paid by homeowners and businesses make up the majority of revenue Denton ISD receives, or about 82.4% of Denton ISD's operating budget revenue. Property values are determined by the Denton County Appraisal District (DCAD).

State

Texas school districts receive funding from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) based primarily on student attendance. State revenue makes up the difference between total revenue earned and local tax revenue. About 15.9% of Denton ISD's operating budget revenue comes from the state, but the state's share has been decreasing due to Denton ISD's increasing property values. In addition, the state has not increased the basic allotment of \$6,160 per student since 2019, and it has also not been adjusted for over 15% inflation. The funding formula is set in statute.

Federal

Federal revenues are directed toward reimbursements only and make up 1.7% of the operating budget revenue.



LOCAL

STATE

FEDERAL

How much **money** does the district get?

The district is funded using a formula that is set in statute and based on the number of students enrolled, student demographics, attendance and the school's participation in special programs.

The district funding formula includes:

- **Basic allotment** – The basic allotment is \$6,160 per student and does not include an inflation factor.
- **Average daily attendance (ADA)** – the average number of students who come to class on any given day.
- **Weighted-student units** – student populations that need more educational resources including those classified as at-risk, economically disadvantaged, bilingual, special education, gifted and talented, career and technical education and dyslexia.

Student attendance is important!

When students come to class, they not only increase their learning opportunities, they also increase their district's state funding for the year.

If the district increased its average daily attendance by only 155 students, the district's state funding would increase by approximately \$1.2 million, which means more funds for the activities that are important to you and your family

However, a decrease of 310 students in average daily attendance for the school year would earn the district approximately \$2.1 million less in state funding.



ATTENDANCE RECORD

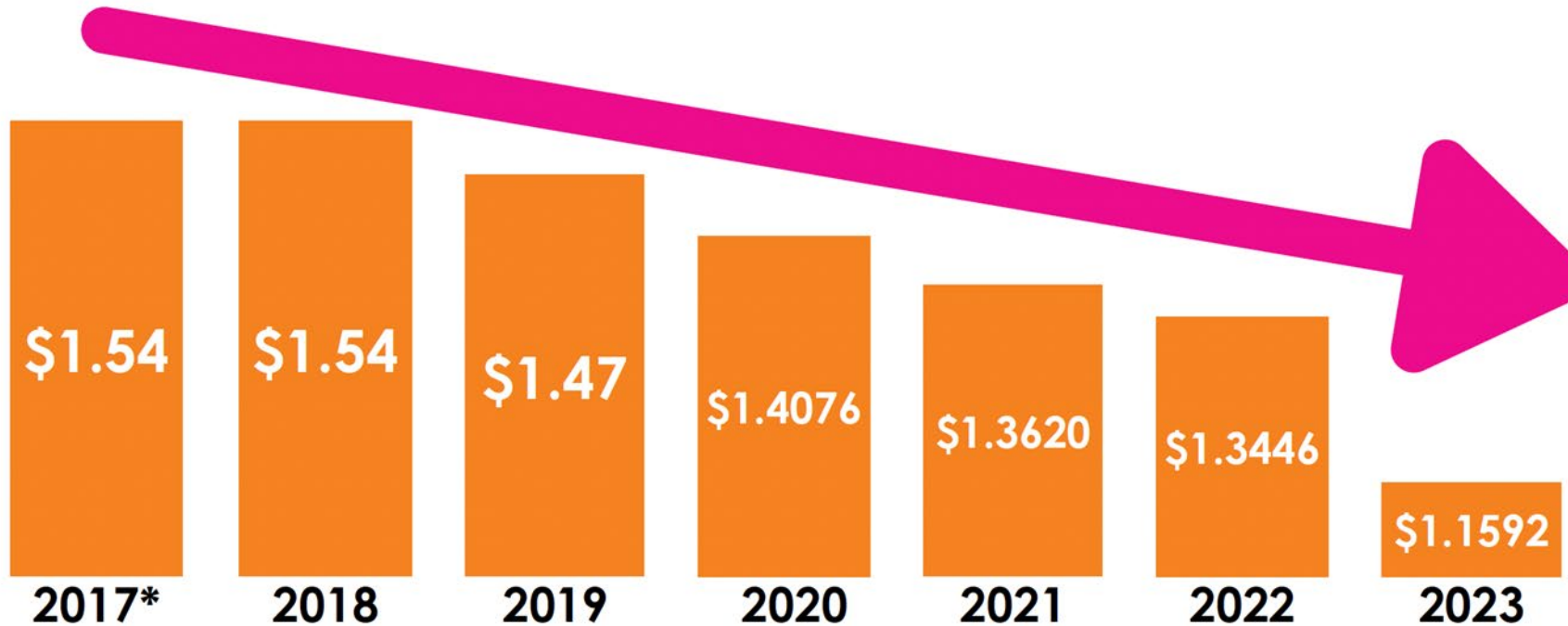
[illegible]

What is the **tax** impact?



A state homestead exemption reduces a home's taxable value by \$100,000. Therefore, the taxable value of an average home in Denton ISD (about \$465,000) would be \$365,000.

Denton ISD Adopts Lowest Tax Rate in More Than a Decade



*tax ratification election (TRE) passed to adjust tax rate and receive more state funding

School taxes, by the glass

Since the district's property values have been increasing, Denton ISD receives less funding from the state.

Less State Aid

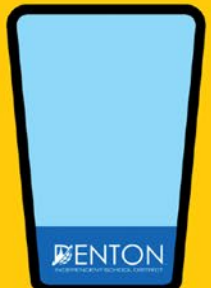
Greater
Property Tax
Revenue



Local property taxes fill the glass first, and the state fills in any space that is left.

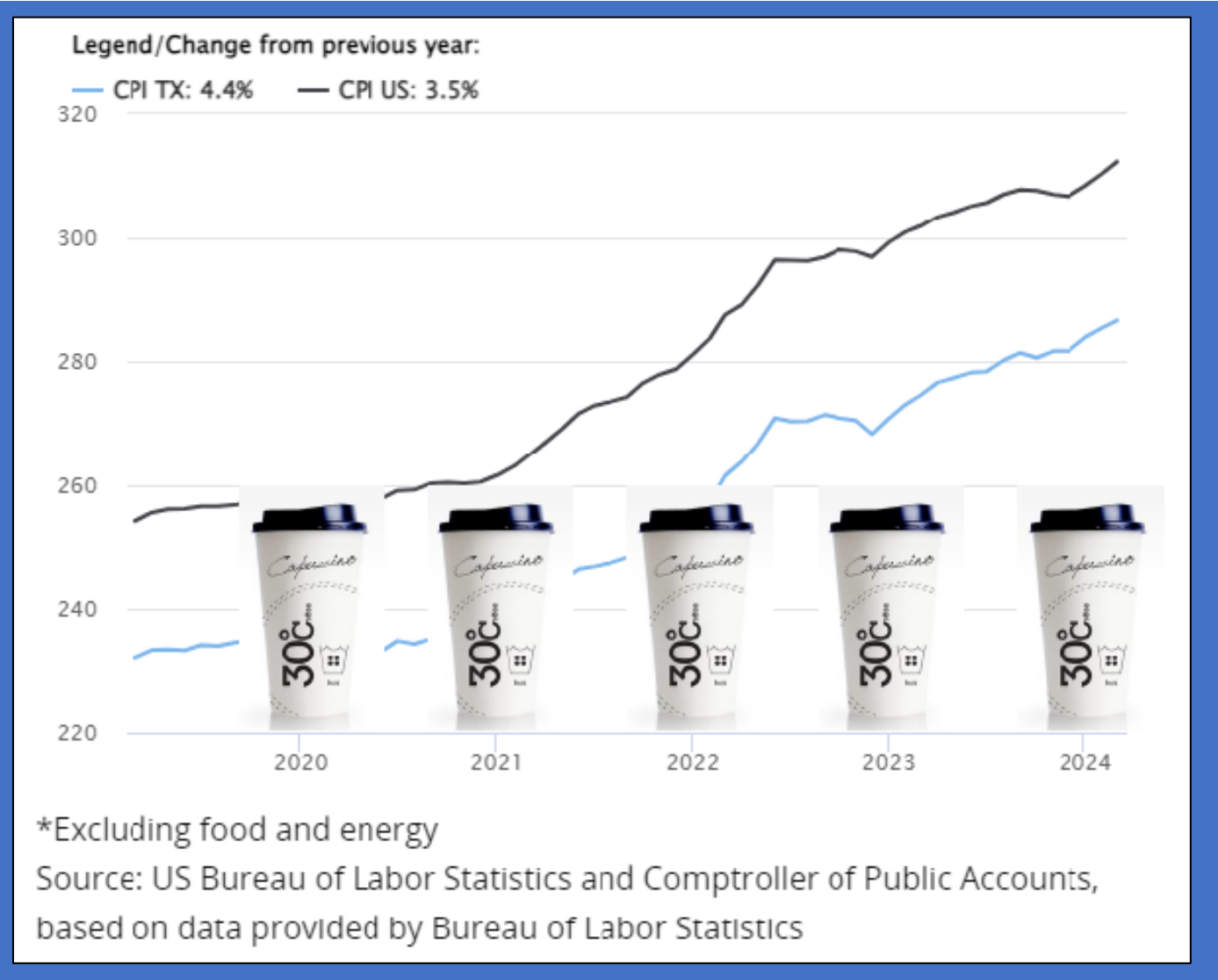
State Aid

Property Tax
Revenue



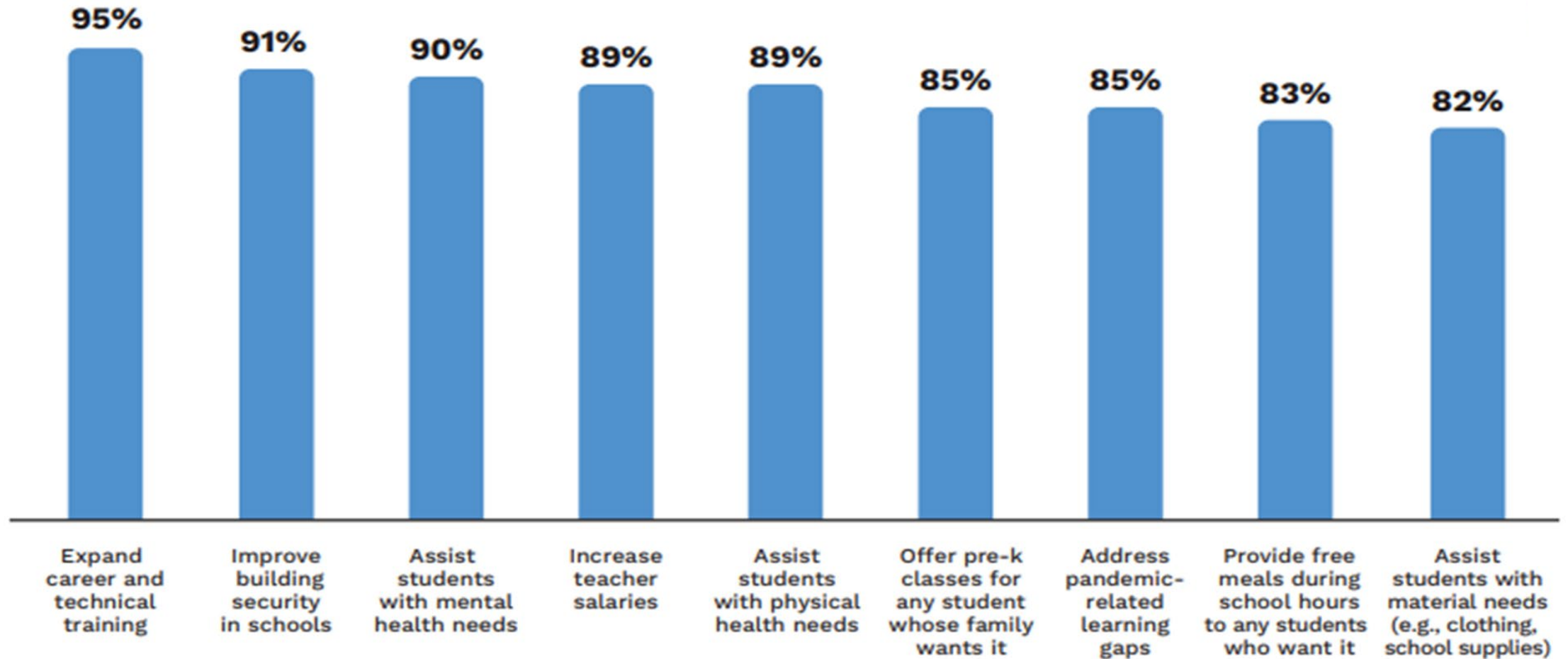
Inflation

Adjusting the basic allotment for change in the consumer price index between September 2019 and August 2023 would require an increase of about \$1,100 (19% change).



Texans Favor Increased State Funding for Public School Priorities

% of Texans who somewhat or strongly support increasing state funding for each initiative



“Super Six” and Sensible Accountability:

Sensible accountability aligns with Board goals by supporting:

- Enhanced understanding and engagement by families and communities
- Local control and locally determined accountability frameworks
- Reduction in mandatory state assessments
- Reducing high stakes in the A-F rating system that impact students, teachers, and schools





What Schools Provide



What the State Measures



83%

of Texans believe that
TEA should not base
A-F school letter
grades entirely on the
STAAR test.

What Gets Measured Now?

Student Achievement Domain

Elementary/Middle Schools

STAAR (Approaches, Meets & Masters
Grade Level)

Weight

100%

High Schools

STAAR

40%

College, Career, and Military Readiness
(CCMR)

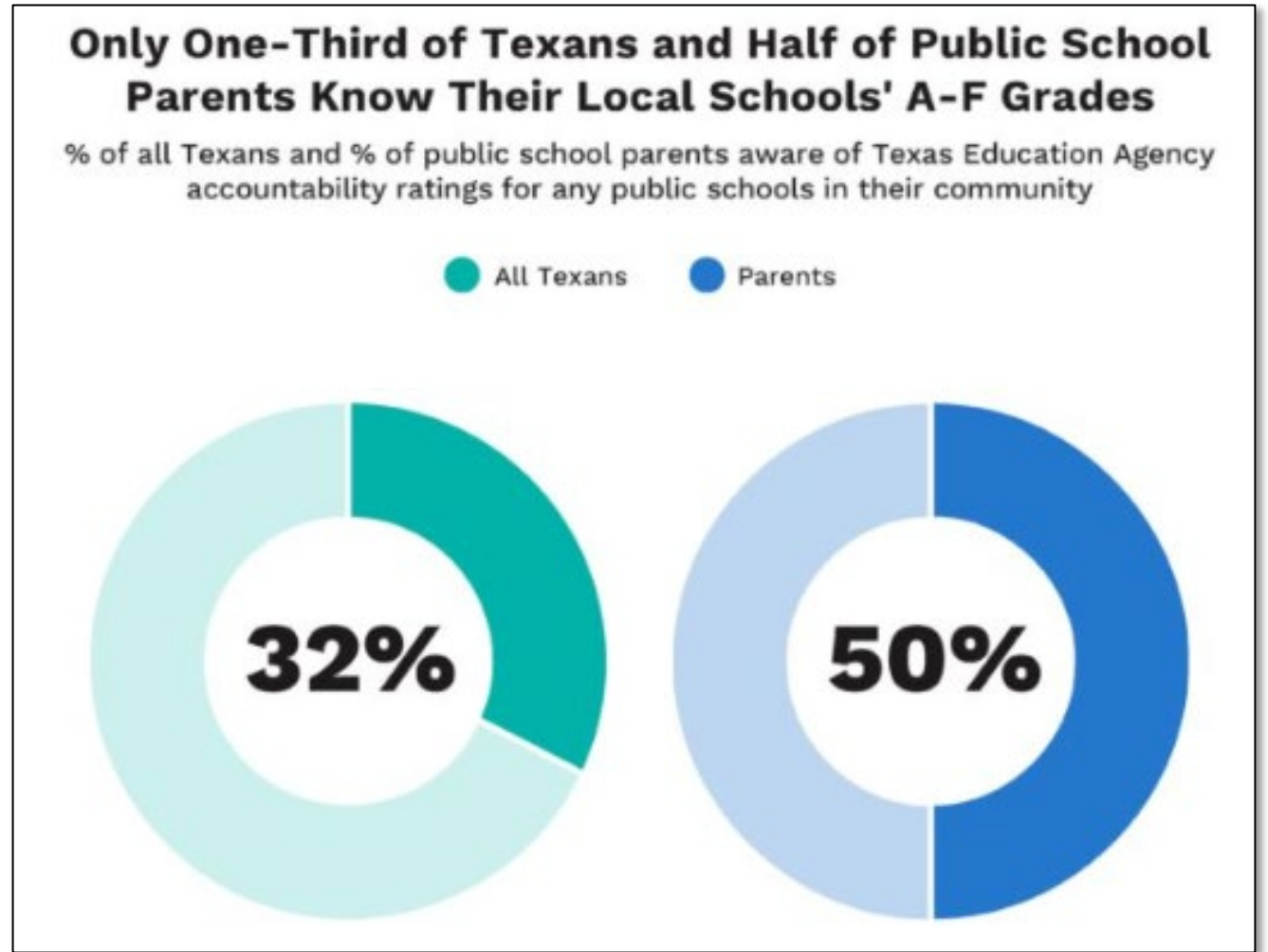
40%

Graduation Rate

20%

There is doubt about the effectiveness of state standardized tests to measure student learning

- Only 42% of Texas believe the STAAR tests effectively measure student learning.
- Less than half of Texans (47%) believe state letter accountability grades for school campuses accurately reflect the quality of local public schools.





Questions?