



# Denton ISD Legislative Update

April 11, 2023

Prepared for the Denton ISD Board of Trustees



# 2023 DENTON ISD LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## STRENGTHEN EFFORTS TO RECRUIT & RETAIN QUALIFIED TEACHERS

- Elevate the teaching profession
- Increase Basic Allotment
- Provide incentives
- Reduce STAAR testing pressure
- Provide funding to compensate student teachers

## MAKE INVESTMENTS THAT REFLECT THE TRUE COST OF EDUCATING STUDENTS

- Fund enrollment rather than ADA
- Increase and index Basic Allotment to inflation
- Eliminate unfunded mandates
- Restore state's share of funding to 50% allowing for property tax reduction

## REFORM STATE ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS TO BETTER MEASURE SUCCESS

- Expand accountability system indicators
- Remove overall summative rating; keep domain ratings
- Allow flexibility and local discretion to implement HB4545
- Allow students alternative methods to advance through courses without penalizing school districts

## ENSURE PUBLIC DOLLARS ONLY FUND ACCOUNTABLE & TRANSPARENT SCHOOLS

- Eliminate two parallel funding tracks for schools
- Schools that receive public dollars have equal, aligned & transparent accountability standards
- More freedom to offer unconventional learning methods & district schools of choice

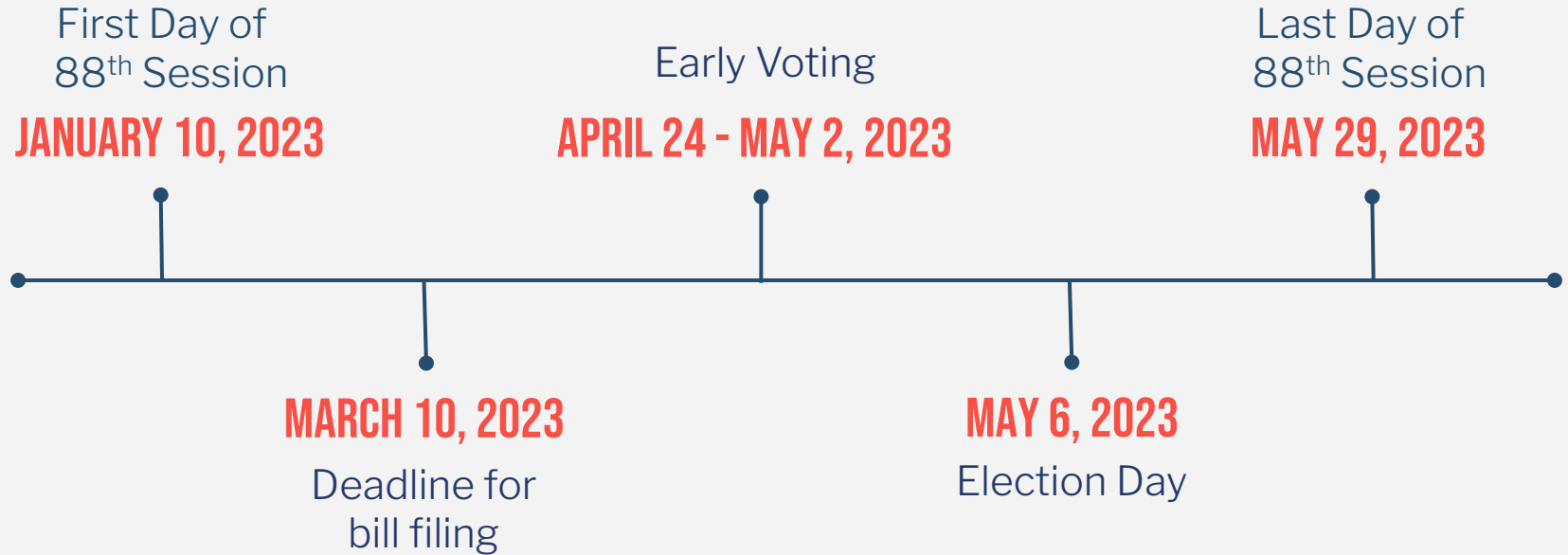
## ADVOCATE FOR QUALITY PRE-K PROGRAMING

- Fully fund pre-K programs by formula or increase in early childhood allotment
- Provide funding for pre-K transportation
- Advocate for pre-K facility funding

## PROVIDE RESOURCES & FLEXIBILITY FOR DISTRICTS TO IMPROVE CAMPUS SAFETY & SECURITY

- Increase School Safety Allotment
- Fund School Mental Health Allotment
- Provide flexibility in the use of state funds
- Increase outside resources for mental health

# Legislative Dates



A blue-tinted photograph of the Georgia State Capitol building, featuring a prominent central dome and classical architectural details. The building is viewed from a distance, with a well-manicured lawn in the foreground. A white rectangular frame is superimposed over the central part of the image, containing the text "State of the Session".

# State of the Session

## 88<sup>th</sup> Session by the Numbers

### **As of April 7, 2023:**

- 33 education bills scheduled for a hearing the week of 4/10-4/14
- 98 education bills have passed out of committee
- 14 education bills have passed out of the originating chamber





# Bills We're Watching

## House Bill 1

- \$302 billion budget bill
- Includes \$17 billion for property tax relief, \$4.9 billion in new money to fund current law requirements related to enrollment growth and an increase in the golden penny yield and an additional \$5 billion in new money for increasing public school funding
- This \$9.9 billion in new money remains short of the \$14.5 billion gap created by inflation over the last four years
- Status: Passed by House to the Senate on a 136 to 10 vote on 4/6/23

## House Bill 100

- Would establish a minimum salary schedule for classroom teachers and other specific school employees
- Would also transition most allotments made under the state's school finance system to being based on average enrollment, rather than average daily attendance
- Status: Heard in public hearing 4/4/23



## House Bill 3

- Would clarify how the Texas School Safety Center and the TEA are responsible for working together to develop and enforce school safety requirements and standards, and conduct safety audits on school campuses.
- Would require school districts to have a minimum of one armed security officer on each campus during regular school hours and allocate a minimum of \$15,000 to each campus every year for school safety measures.
- Status: Heard in public hearing 3/27/23

## House Bill 5

- Would create economic incentives for companies to base large-scale projects related to manufacturing, national security and energy infrastructure in Texas, to create new high-paying jobs and encourage economic development in the state
- Status: Scheduled for public hearing on 4/10/23

## Senate Bill 8

- Creates an education savings account
- Requires districts to provide parents with a process for reviewing instructional materials, includes various parental notification provisions, requires districts to develop and maintain instructional material parent portals
- Status: Passed by Senate to the House on a vote of 18 to 13 on 4/6/23

## Senate Bill 9

- Would provide a one-time compensation increase (\$2000) for teachers in 2023-2024 and requires districts maintain the raise in salary
- Would also eliminate SBOE sanctions for teacher resignations under certain circumstances, create a new Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) designation and increase TIA amounts
- Create grant program to assist with TRS costs related to hiring retired teachers
- Status: Passed by Senate to the House on 22 to 9 vote on 4/6/23

## Senate Bill 3

- Raises the Homestead Exemption from \$40,000 to \$70,000 pending voter approval of a proposed constitutional amendment (SJR 3)
- Includes a hold harmless provision for school district I&S funding
- Status: Passed Senate, received by House 3/23/23

## Resources for more information

**VOTETEXAS.GOV**



Texas Secretary  
of State



Denton County  
Elections



Texas Legislature  
Online



Bill Tracker



