

Board New Business Agenda Item

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

June 7, 2022

Approval of the Denton ISD Proposed Legislative Resolutions & Priorities for the TASB Advocacy Agenda

SUMMARY:

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has invited the Denton ISD Board of Trustees to submit resolutions to be included in the 2022-24 Advocacy Agenda.

In consideration of the TASB Advocacy Agenda efforts, the Denton ISD Board of Trustees approves and submits the following proposed resolutions:

1. Advocates for improved and sustainable funding of the school finance system/maintenance or increase of state share.
2. Advocates for improved mental health resources for students, teachers, administrators, and support staff.
3. Advocates for providing additional resources for school security and student safety.
4. Advocates for the continued ability for school districts to lobby on behalf of constituents, parents, and students.
5. Advocates for legislation which opposes any attempt to establish a voucher that will divert scarce public education funds from public schools.
6. Advocates for support and solutions for staff recruitment and retention.
7. Advocates for reduced testing.
8. Advocates for stopping the expansion of charter schools in high performance school districts until such time as charter schools have outcomes, accountability, and financial transparency standards equal to traditional public schools.
9. Advocates for disaster response.
10. Advocates for continued local control over school building projects and providing taxpayers the ability to develop infrastructure through local elections.
11. Advocates for the requirement that ballot language be truthful.
12. Advocates for universal pre-k programs that will give all families with preschool-aged children the opportunity to voluntarily enroll their child in a publicly funded education program.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The board annually discusses and adopts resolutions for submission to the TASB Advocacy Agenda.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The call for resolutions runs from April 1, 2022, until 11:59 p.m. on June 15, 2022. Proposed resolutions are first reviewed by the TASB Resolutions Committee and then by the TASB Board. In September, the Delegate Assembly will adopt approved resolutions.

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SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

As the District continues to express concern and advocate for policy changes to address the capacity of public education to provide an equitable education for all Texas students, we recognize the need for continued support of those organizations supporting our community. The District also realizes the power of a unified voice and the critical intertwining of these organizations in advocating for policies impacting our students, families, and community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None noted.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Support our partnership with the Texas Association of School Boards as we advocate for legislation, which supports the communities of the Denton Independent School District.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None noted.

ALTERNATIVES:

None noted

OTHER COMMENTS:

None noted.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends consideration and approval of resolutions, which represent the position statements of the Board of Trustees for Denton ISD.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Dr. Gwen Perkins, Area Superintendent
Deron Robinson, General Counsel

ATTACHMENT:

- TASB invitation to participate in the TASB 2022-24 Advocacy Agenda
- Proposed resolutions for the TASB 2022-24 Advocacy Agenda