



Protect Local Control

Advocate that our locally-elected officials, those closest to our community members, maintain the decision-making authority that they have, avoiding overreach of regulation by state lawmakers.

We oppose further state regulation of:

- local school district elections, including measures that require:
 - ballot language that is confusing for voters,
 - a certain percentage of registered voters to vote in an election for a measure to pass, and
 - that a measure passes only if a particular percentage exceeding 50% of the voters vote for the measure
- local tax rates, and
- local tax appraisals.

Adequately fund Aledo public schools and support educators

Advocate that the state make public school funding a priority and infuse more funding into the state's public school system so that funding is adequate for Aledo ISD students to achieve expected outcomes.

We advocate that the state:

- take on the work of creating a revamped school finance system,
- fund the New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA) so that every new campus in the state is allocated \$1000 of funding per student for operational start-up costs,
- fund full-day pre-K for every qualifying student in the state,
- fund any new requirements placed on public school districts, including those related to safety and security,
- increase funding for the Teacher Retirement System health insurance programs, and
- continue the Teacher Retirement System's defined benefit pension program.

Require accountability and transparency in the use of local tax dollars

Advocate that the state make clear to taxpayers how increasing local property values really impact (or don't impact) Aledo ISD schools and require that all use of taxpayer dollars be transparent and accountable.

We advocate that the state:

- be transparent about how increases in local property values continue to allow the state to decrease the amount of funding it provides to public schools,
- be transparent about how it uses the increase in local property values to fund state programs other than education,
- invest state dollars equitably and only on public schools that are held to the same financial accountability and transparency rules as traditional schools by:
 - making per-student funding for charter schools equal to (rather than higher than) the per student funding that local school districts receive,
 - requiring that the state implements a transparent process for the approval of new charter schools and campuses, and
 - disclosing charter financial dealings to the public regarding leases, mortgages, contracts, and bond debt.

Allow our local community to hold Aledo ISD accountable

Advocate that the state allow the Aledo ISD community to measure the success of its schools as determined locally.

We advocate that the state permit school accountability systems to:

- be crafted by the local community,
- be constructed of measures of student success that reflect the local values and priorities of our community,
- deemphasize performance on a multiple choice, standardized test that a child takes on one day, and
- remove all A-F labeling.