



# Denton ISD

Legislative Priorities  
for the 89<sup>th</sup> Session

November 12, 2024

# Important Dates

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89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative  
Session Begins  
**January 14,**  
**2025**

89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative  
Session Ends  
**June 2,**  
**2025**



140 days



# Meetings with local Policy makers

Senator, Tan Parker

Senate, District 12

Representative, Richard Hayes

House District 57

Representative, Andy Hopper

House District 64

Representative, Mitch Little

House District 65

A blue-tinted photograph of the Colorado State Capitol building, featuring a prominent dome and classical architectural details. The building is set against a cloudy sky. In the foreground, there is a well-manicured lawn with a central path leading towards the building. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent white box containing text.

# Approved Priorities:

- Adequate Funding
- Sensible Accountability

# Chapter 37 Coalition

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- Legislative expansion of Chapter 37 over time has led to an erosion of local control over school discipline.
- Texas Education Agency interpretation and enforcement of ambiguous language in Chapter 37 leads to agency lawmaking inconsistent with specified legislative intent.
- Schools must be provided the ability to ensure that disruptive students are not permitted to continuously disrupt the learning of other students or risk the safety of teachers or other students.
- Denton ISD has always valued the important of parental rights regarding the education of their children. As partners in the education process parents also have the responsibility to ensure that their children are participating productively in the educational system.

A blue-tinted photograph of the Colorado State Capitol building, featuring a prominent central dome and classical architectural elements. The building is viewed from a distance, with a well-manicured hedge in the foreground. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text "Questions?".

Questions?

# DENTON ISD PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING

Dr. Susannah O'Bara, Superintendent

Dr. Jeremy Thompson, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Deron Robinson, General Council



## The Places and Communities We Serve:

Argyle  
Aubrey  
Bartonville  
Copper Canyon  
Corinth  
Cross Roads  
Denton  
Double Oak  
Lantana  
Little Elm  
Oak Point  
Paloma Creek  
Prosper  
Providence  
Robson Ranch  
Savannah  
Shady Shores  
Union Park



186 sq. miles  
33,350 students  
4,690 Educators/Staff  
45 Campuses (PreK-12)



# Denton ISD Board Goals



# Congratulations

to the Class of 2024 Braswell High, Denton High, Fred Moore High, Guyer High, LaGrone Academy and Ryan High graduates!





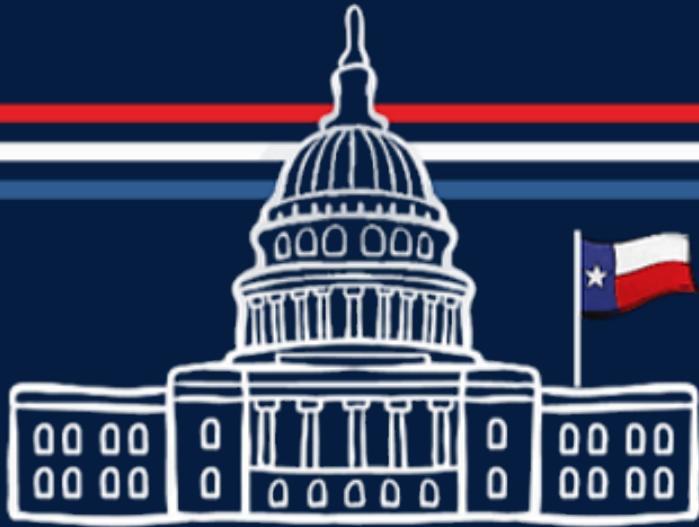
“A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature of the State to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools.”

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## The Texas Constitution

Article 7, Section 1

# FUND PUBLIC SCHOOLS **FIRST**



# TEXAS RANKS IN THE BOTTOM 10 IN PER PUPIL SPENDING

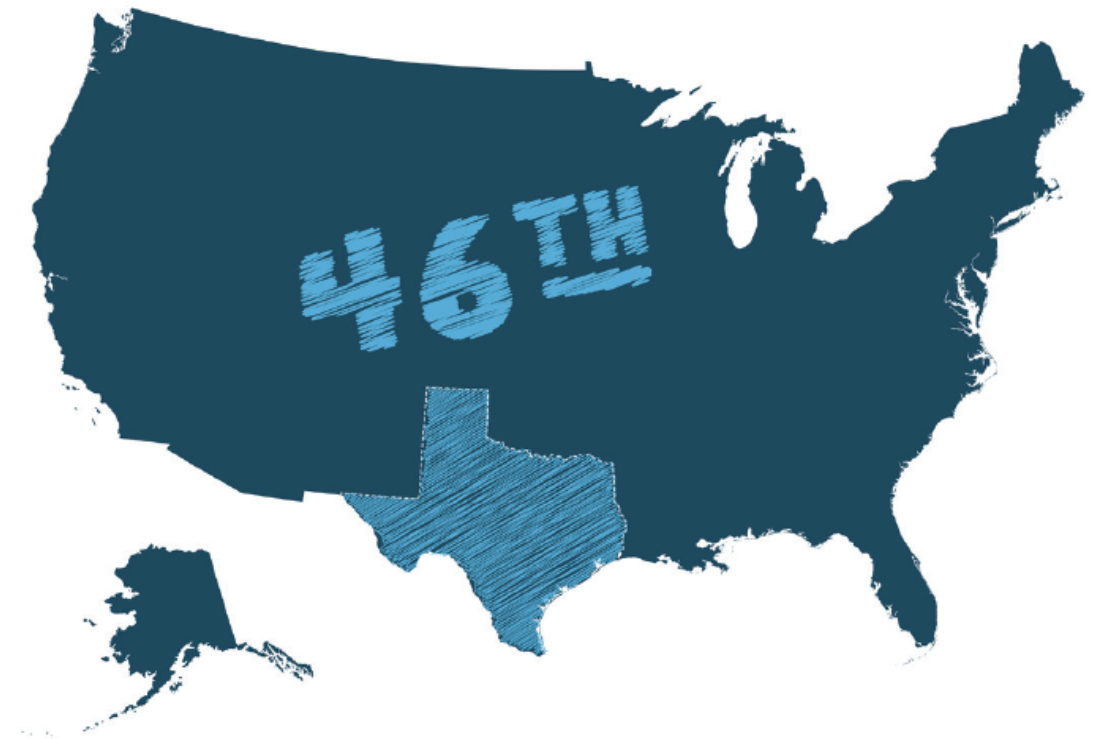
## Texas Continues to Rank in the Bottom 10 in School Funding

Texas continues to rank in the bottom 10 states nationally for state spending on education, trailing the national average by over \$4,400 per student.<sup>2</sup> The long-lasting impact of underfunding our public schools is profound.

Investment in education is crucial. The Legislature alone holds the power to adjust school funding to meet the demands of the 2025 economy and support students' unique and varied needs.

Every legislative session, the state saves billions from local home and business property value growth, but the Legislature is not reinvesting these billions of dollars back into public education. Texas has an equalized school funding system, meaning when local school taxes increase, the state has to contribute less money unless it increases school funding formulas. The state saved over \$8 billion last legislative session because it did not increase any of the major funding formulas driving our spending per student.

Texas Ranking: 2024 NEA State  
Rankings Report <sup>1</sup>



# WHERE DENTON ISD STANDS

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2024-2025 Expenditures: **\$342,048,541**

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2024-2025 Revenue: **\$322,131,145**

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2024-2025 Deficit Budget: **\$19,917,396**

# HOW WE GOT HERE

Since the beginning of the 23-24 School Year:

- **\$6,592,071** School Health and Related Services (SHARS) loss of funding
- **\$7,438,226** Transportation funding gap
- **\$4,440,228** Safety and Security requirements annual funding gap from House Bill 3, 88(R)
- **\$256,338** Denton County Appraisal District cost increase
- **\$2,529,103** (and climbing) Utilities cost increase
- **\$1,545,452** Property Casualty Insurance cost increase
- **\$10,000,000** in raises in 2023 based on assurances that the \$4 billion in the state budget would be flowed to public schools

**\$32,801,418**  
**TOTAL**  
**BUDGET**  
**IMPACT**



# DEFICIT AREAS IN DENTON ISD



**Pre-K Programing**

**\$2,490,955**



**Special Education**

**\$9,859,333\***



**Transportation**

**\$7,438,226**



**Safety and Security**

**\$4,440,228**

# DENTON ISD PRE-K FUNDING GAP

- Cost of providing pre-k program in 2023-24: \$10,758,463
- State funding received : \$4,201,120
- Early Education Allotment: \$4,066,388
- Denton ISD Pre-K funding gap: **\$2,490,955**





# DENTON ISD PRE-K DATA

	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020 Full day begins	2020-2021 COVID	2021-2022 COVID	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025 As of 9/13
<b>Total Students</b>	1205	1215	1250	1292	1137	1223	1347	1624	1592
<b>Total Teachers</b>	49	50	51	76	80	87	92	95 112 Paras	98 112 Paras

# DENTON ISD SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING GAP

Under IDEA, schools are required to provide certain services and afford additional protections to special education students.

- Cost of providing services: approx. \$52,260,136
- Funding received from state grants, federal grants, state weighted funding to implement these services : \$42,400,803
- Denton ISD special education funding gap: **\$9,859,333**



IDEA

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act



# DENTON ISD TRANSPORTATION FUNDING GAP

Texas schools are not required to provide transportation to all students, the fact that schools are funded on attendance and not enrollment creates the need to ensure students have a way to get to school.

- To provide these services costs: \$9,628,493
- The funding received to implement these services: \$2,190,267
- Denton ISD transportation funding gap: **\$7,438,226**



# DENTON ISD SAFETY AND SECURITY FUNDING GAP

House Bill 3 increased the school safety allotment but also the required safety expenditures.

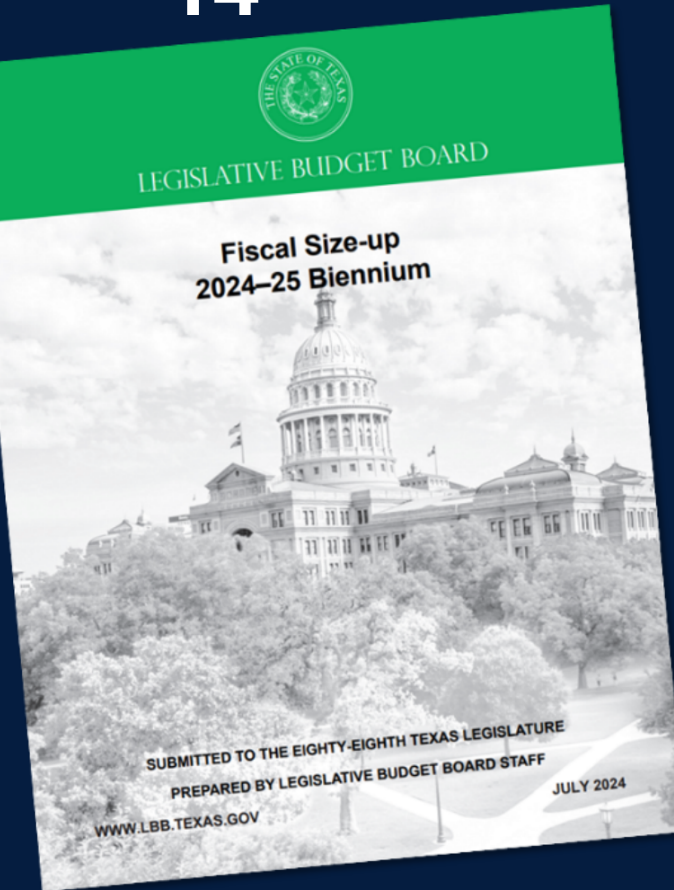
- Denton ISD's funding: \$985,750
- Implementing HB3 costs Denton ISD approx. \$5,425,978
- Denton ISD Safety and Security funding gap: **\$4,440,228**



# LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD: UPDATED AUGUST

14

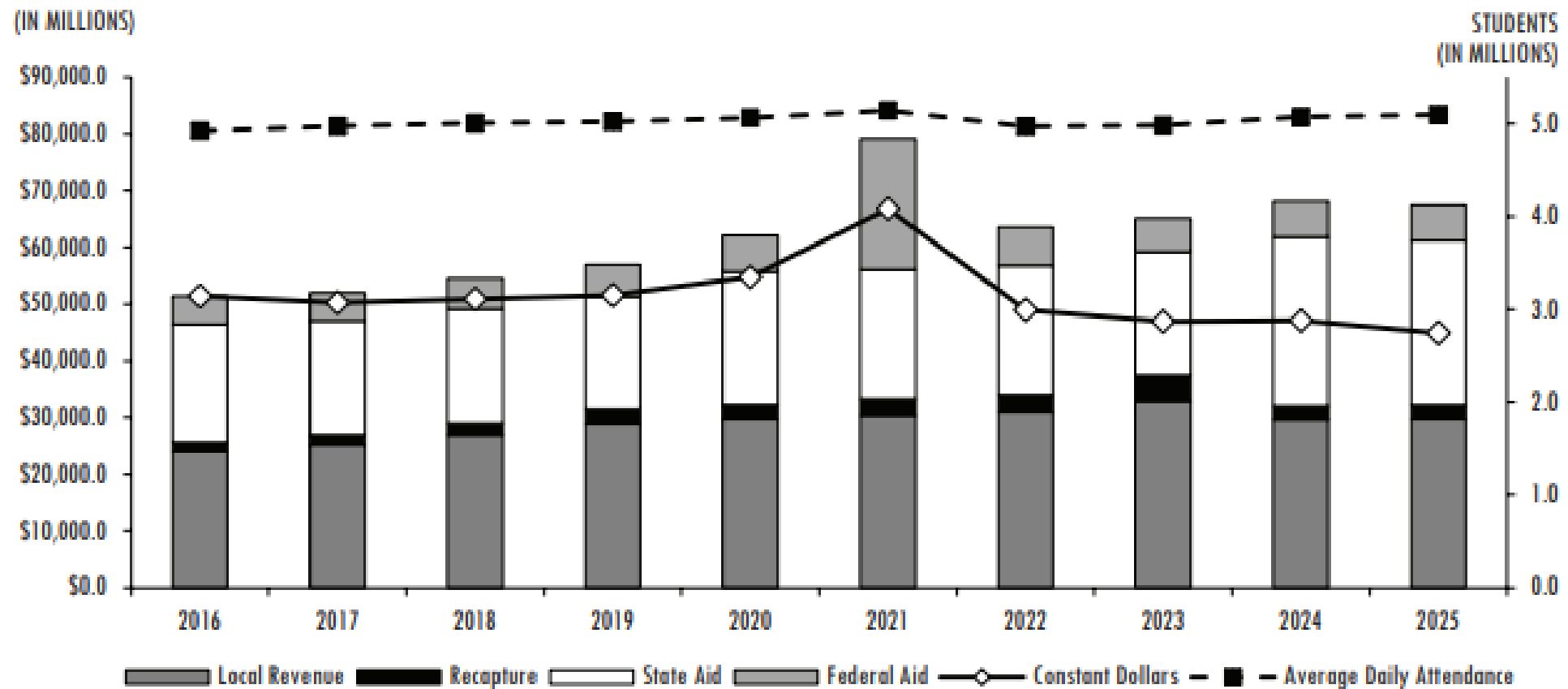
PREKINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FUNDING IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT DOLLARS FISCAL YEARS 2016 TO 2025 Source: FIGURE 151, pg 221



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	\$50,227.6	4,972,376
2018	\$26,939.2	\$2,004.9	\$20,213.4	\$5,380.7	\$54,538.2	\$50,888.9	5,005,005
2019	\$28,780.3	\$2,702.8	\$19,818.5	\$5,647.9	\$56,949.5	\$51,549.9	5,020,341
2020	\$29,661.9	\$2,556.7	\$23,505.9	\$6,409.2	\$62,133.6	\$54,764.5	5,061,017
2021	\$30,339.1	\$2,967.0	\$22,800.9	\$23,023.6	\$79,130.6	\$66,774.1	5,140,653
2022	\$30,984.2	\$3,007.4	\$22,763.7	\$6,825.9	\$63,581.1	\$48,966.6	4,969,086
2023	\$32,890.7	\$4,533.2	\$21,782.8	\$5,880.1	\$65,086.8	\$46,907.9	4,981,161
2024	\$29,598.9	\$2,476.0	\$29,775.7	\$6,253.5	\$68,104.0	\$47,078.1	5,071,347
2025	\$29,680.2	\$2,533.6	\$29,024.3	\$6,234.9	\$67,473.0	\$44,901.3	5,095,452

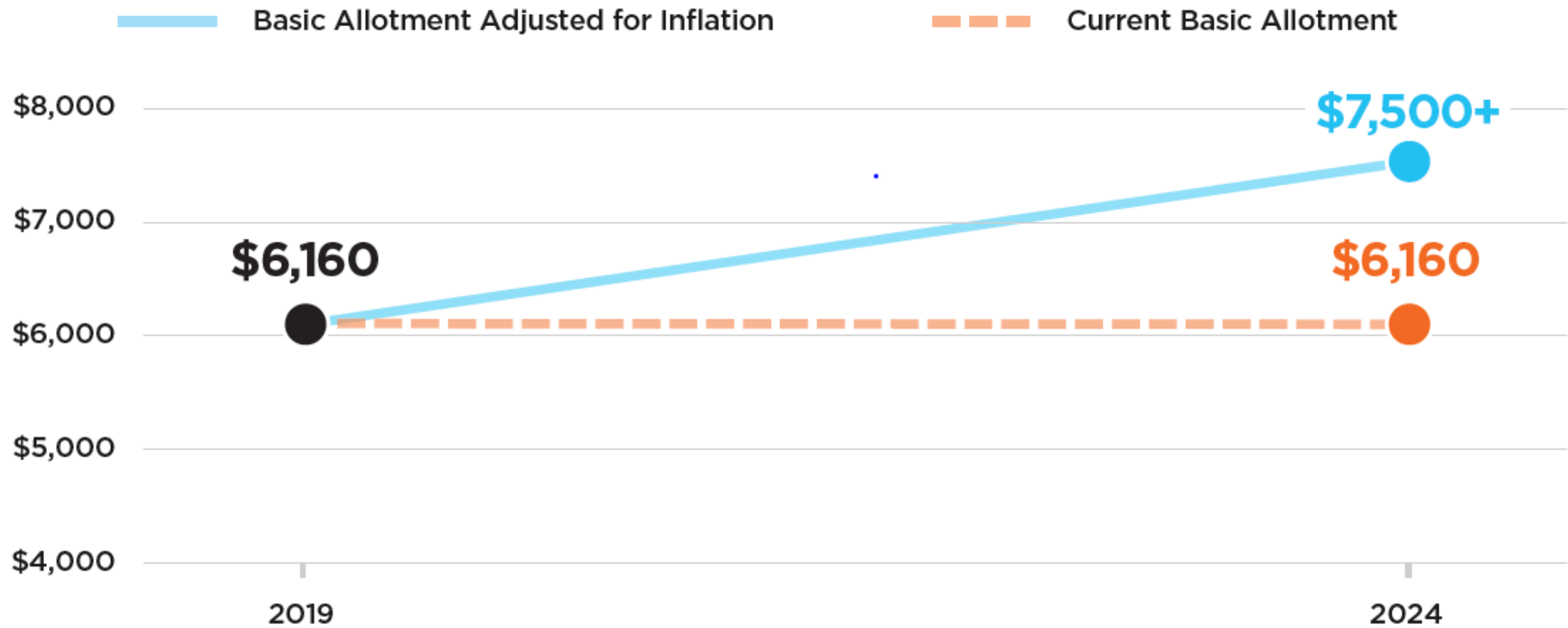
# FISCAL SIZE-UP

**FIGURE 151**  
**PREKINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FUNDING IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT DOLLARS**  
**FISCAL YEARS 2016 TO 2025**



# BASIC ALLOTMENT

Keep Pace with Inflation: Unlock Texas School Funding



# HOW MUCH DOES A DISTRICT RECEIVE?

A District is funded using a formula that is set in state statute and is 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** - \$6,160 per student and does not include an inflation factor
- **Average Daily Attendance (ADA)** – 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, but 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 approx. \$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 approx. \$2.1 million less in state funding.

## ATTENDANCE RECORD

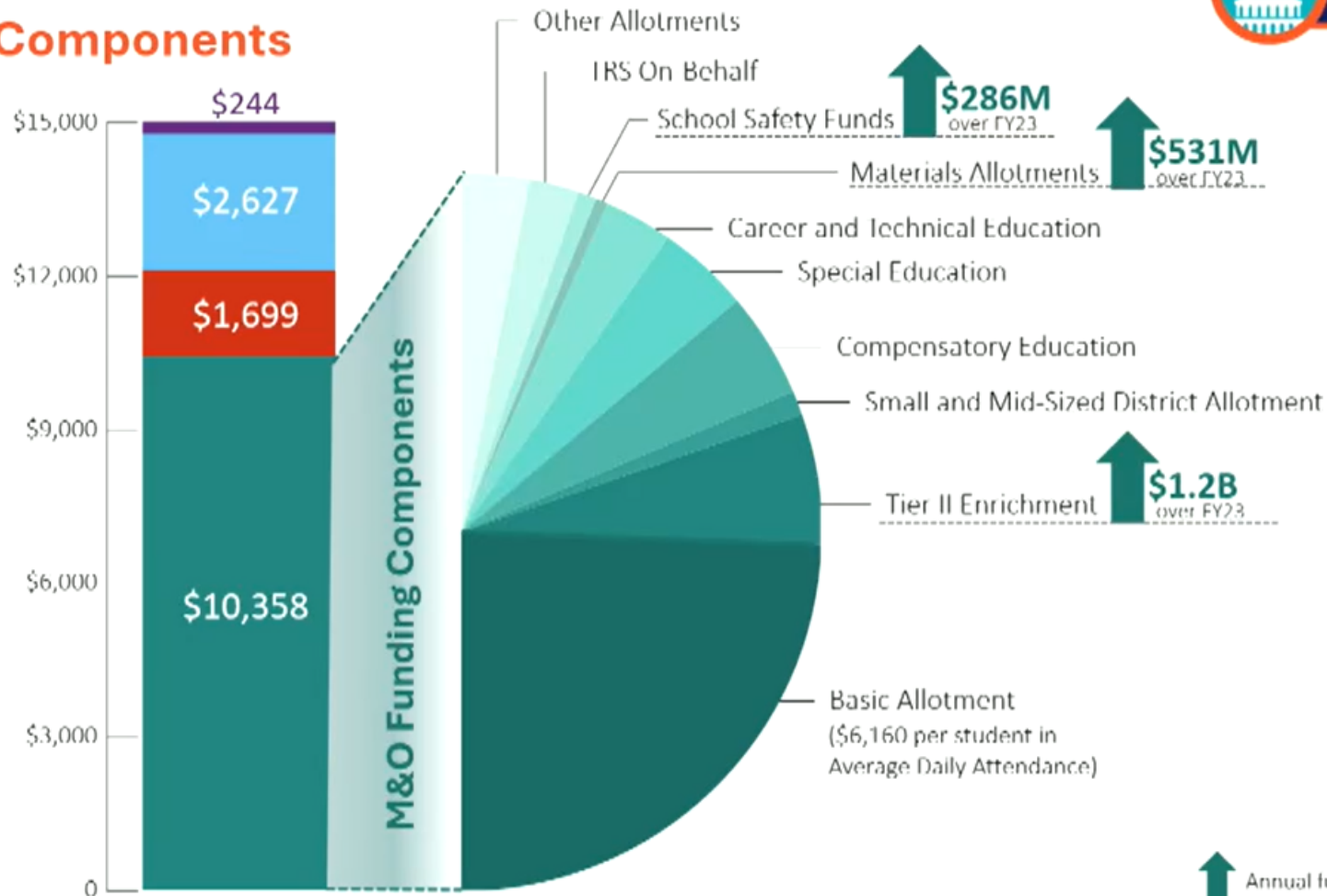
Date	Time



# 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Updates to School Funding

## School Funding Components

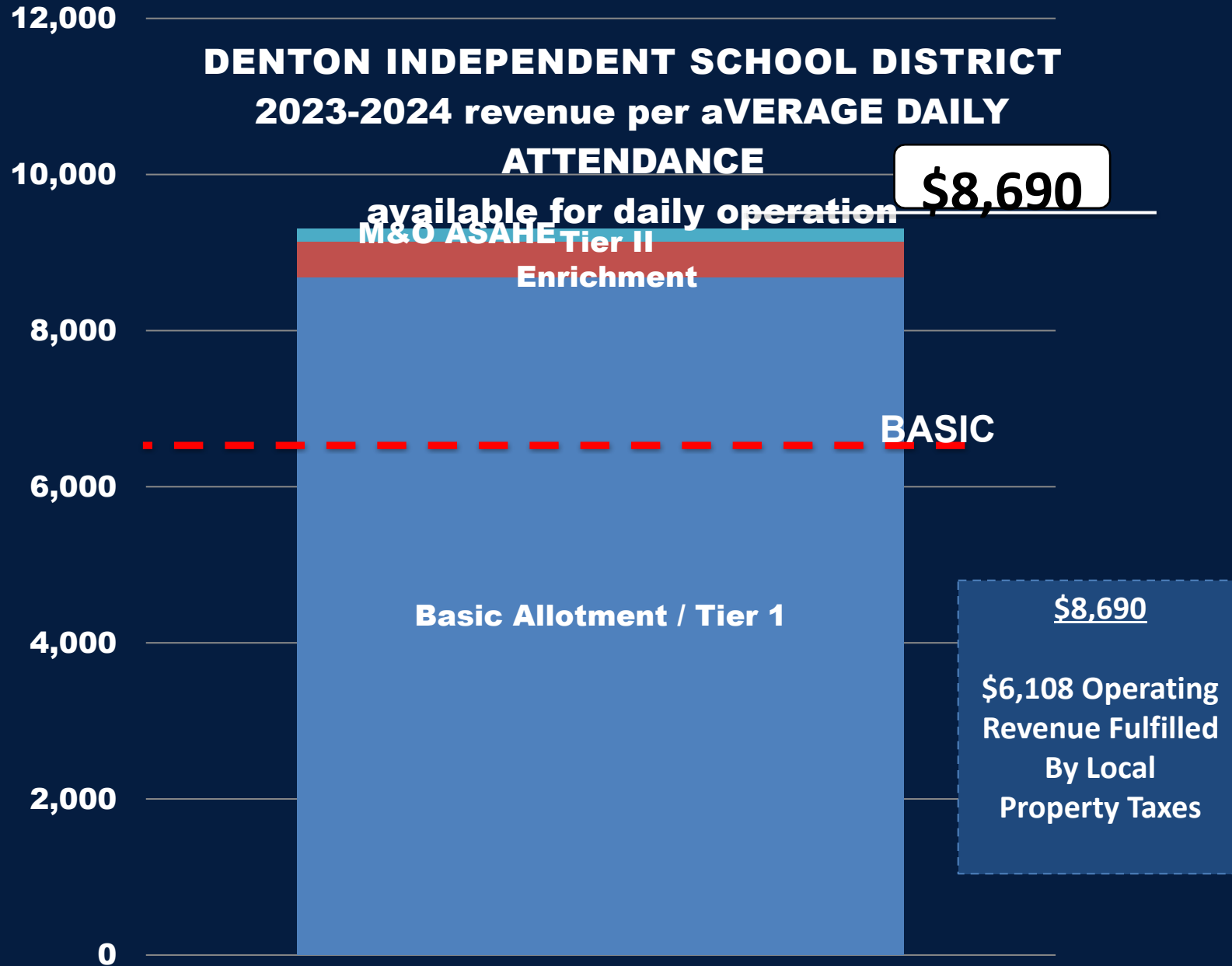
**\$14,928**  
2021-22 FUNDING  
PER STUDENT



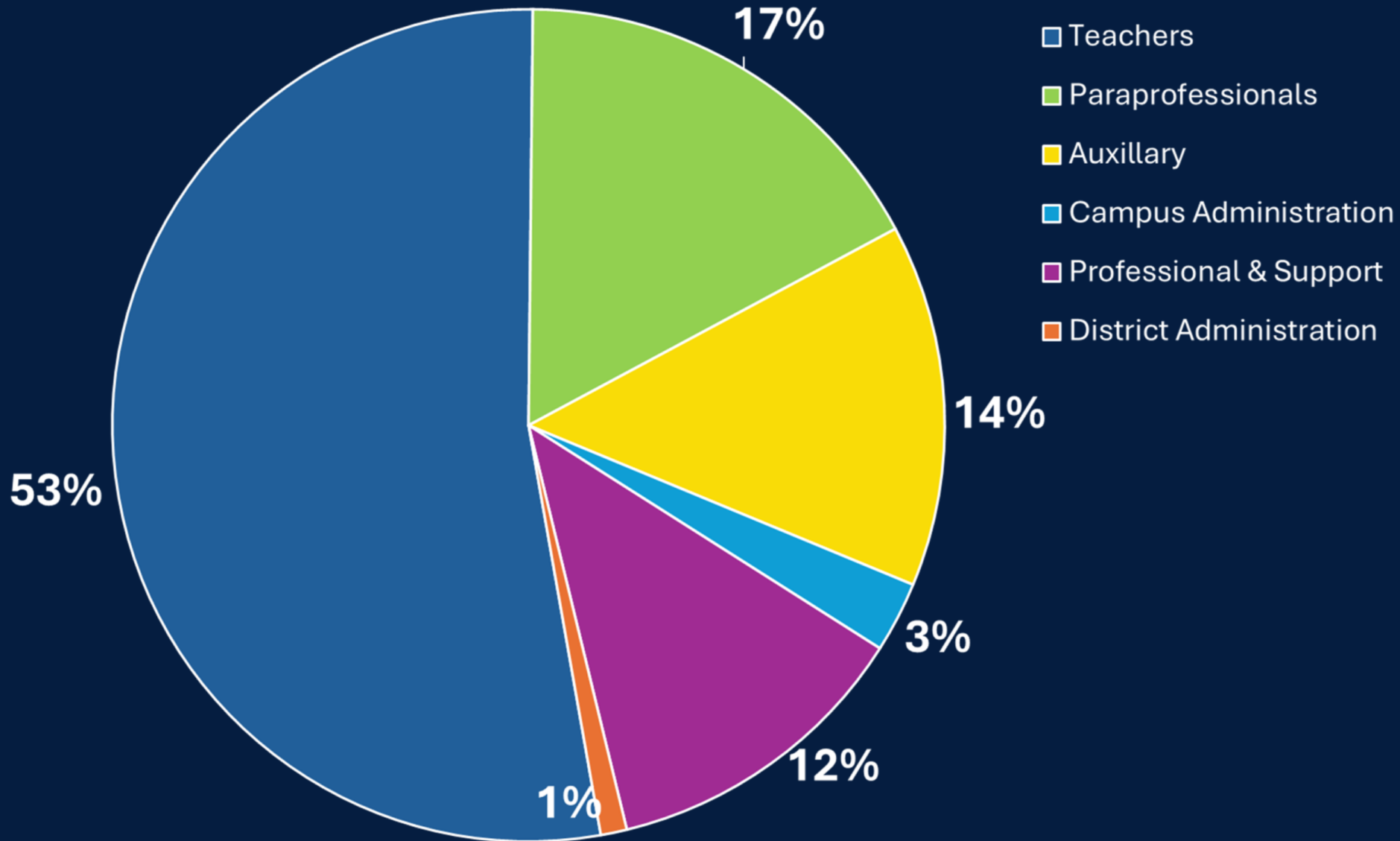
- Other
- Federal
- Interest & Sinking
- Maintenance & Operations

↑ Annual funding increase from 88th legislature

# DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-2024 revenue per aVERAGE DAILY



# DENTON ISD STAFF COMPOSITION



**QUESTIONS?**

