

# HOUSTON

**QUESTION #1 REFLECT UPON THE PRESENTATIONS THAT YOU PREVIEWED BEFORE THE MEETING. WHAT ARE SOME KEY LEARNINGS OR IMPORTANT TAKE-A-WAYS THAT SHOULD SHAPE OUR CONVERSATION?**

*Green = Business Leaders      Red = Educators      Blue = Parents*

NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
2	Educators	Students learn in comfortable, safe environments in order to learn. The environment needs to be accessible and accommodate these learning activities to take place.
2	Educators	College readiness is the goal, and teachers are entrusted with properly preparing students.
1	Educators	There is an abundance of TEKS and teachers do their best to teach them all.
	Educators	Historical perspective
	Educators	Colleges not always seeing standardized test side
	Educators	Equity with EOC is not there
1	Parents	Financial and mental equality
	Parents	At risk groups are being identified and serviced
	Parents	Attempting to level the playing field
	Parents	We have a system of accountability within the state
	Parents	Hopefully if your child graduates from a Texas HS, they will be prepared
	Parents	Communication with post-secondary schools

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## QUESTION #2 WHAT IS THE ROLE/PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
6	Educators	Allow students to demonstrate their best. Not a balance of student strengths now.
1	Educators	Allow students to demonstrate collaboration, group, conversation
	Educators	Is there conflict with 100% college readiness and where students will go?
	Educators	More about demonstration and not retention

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## QUESTION #3 WHAT IS WORKING WELL WITH OUR CURRENT SYSTEM OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY?

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
2	Educators	Standardized testing should not dictate teaching
2	Educators	Sub-groups of students who had been previously disengaged or otherwise marginalized finally got attention
2	Educators	We have learned how not to test
1	Educators	More details breakdown of data
	Educators	Stakeholders have an equal voice
	Educators	Pacing
	Educators	Local Control
	Educators	Domain 5 - community input
	Educators	Postsecondary readiness direction
	Educators	Decrease (slight) on Standardized Assessments
	Educators	Appropriate growth measure
	Educators	College prep course
	Parents	Accountability for teachers
	Parents	Public, doesn't leave kids out, gives info on children, agreed upon = equity
	Parents	Performance gap gets credit at all levels; every kid has their own bubble
	Parents	Greater emphasis on growth!

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## QUESTION #4 WHAT FACTORS SHOULD THE NEXT GENERATION COMMISSION ON ASSESSMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONSIDER AS THEY MAKE THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS?

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
	Business	Simple/fair
	Business	What does a HS diploma stand for?
	Business	What does post-secondary mean? – Increase readiness?
6	Educators	Multiple forms – even with teacher input like TELPAS - Project/performance based; student choice; internship
6	Educators	Meaningful assessment to drive accountability - Based on high priority learning standards
4	Educators	Not annual assessments - Reading 3, 6, 10; Math 5, 8, 9; Writing 4, 7, 10; Science 5, 11; Social Studies 8
3	Educators	Formative assessment – push from state level
2	Educators	Fairness for Special Needs
2	Educators	STAAR Modified needs to come back
2	Educators	ESL accommodations
2	Educators	Sample testing for accountability
1	Educators	Accountability should support students and assessments should support teachers
1	Educators	Variance in learning style/information comprehension
1	Educators	Reduce pressure on children. Stop abusing kids.
1	Educators	Exempt severely disabled
1	Educators	No EOC; state fund PSAT, SAT, TSI, CTE certifications, AP
1	Educators	All questions should be meaningful
1	Educators	Accountability based on standards – not comparability (no bottom 5%)
	Educators	Exemptions for IB/AP exams
	Educators	Freedom to teach: do not teach to the test
	Educators	Misleading questions need to be removed
	Educators	Equity and Fairness for all
	Educators	Is a statewide assessment really necessary?
	Educators	Student choice for assessments
	Educators	Assessments tailored to endorsements

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
	Educators	True growth measure, even if not pass
	Educators	Example: MAP – Beginning of Year, End of Year – look at this gap for growth/professional development
	Educators	Enlistment in military - should be included
	Educators	Equity in resources for free/reduced lunch – and equity in ratings
4	Parents	Educators and companies that are hiring should evaluate the test
3	Parents	The state should be evaluated by the business and college community for TEKS separately
3	Parents	Environment of classroom Consistency, trust, communication to parents, lengthy exams, backgrounds make some tests more difficult, tests should mirror real world tasks, more flexible writing piece (examine it), limit bias within school districts, HS level being prepared for STAAR but not college level testing
2	Parents	Multiple data points
1	Parents	Goal of test
1	Parents	Alignment with instruction and assessments needs attention
	Parents	ELL students have less than one year before they are required to test
	Parents	How much time the students spend testing
	Parents	Move formative and interim focus-clearer standards
	Parents	The SAT scores reflecting the same things
	Parents	Are the tests developmentally appropriate for elementary students
	Parents	High stakes
	Parents	Different types and times of year testing
	Parents	Test teachers on taught information
	Parents	Teacher assessment of test and child's day of test taken
	Parents	Assessment & accountability is constantly changing; hard to keep up for all
	Parents	Good - extra points for specific things; look @ wide spectrum
	Parents	Should kids who do well be allowed to skip exams?
	Parents	Don't eliminate criterion questions that students most get right

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## QUESTION #5 WHAT SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF OUR CURRENT SYSTEM WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE COMMISSION?

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
	Business	Pay attention to the other sector standardization examples/loose-tight
	Business	Stop yielding to the test-makers
	Business	What skill set do graduates need?
	Business	Too much content?
5	Educators	A way to measure progress for students who improve but still don't pass
2	Educators	Exempt severely disabled
	Educators	Who goes to college and how successful they are
	Educators	State assessment scores should be shared with teachers
	Educators	Visit classrooms, see what's happening. Gain qualitative perspective of objectives/expectations
	Educators	Decrease # of assessments. Give choice
	Educators	More \$
	Educators	Meaningful testing. Tests not relatable
12	Parents	Parents should be given the results of above mentioned tests in the same grade-results should be specific to help parents understand what their children have missed
3	Parents	Assess how comfortable the children are with their teachers via student based surveys
3	Parents	Take out the trickery - quality
3	Parents	Electronic portfolio
3	Parents	Some proof of a specific skill in addition to tests
1	Parents	Measure/compare outside of the state
1	Parents	Use teacher input – give teacher a % of the input of the test
1	Parents	Recommend performance based assessments
	Parents	Use nationally norm-based testing, like the SAT
	Parents	Do not use students to help develop tests
	Parents	Teachers should not be allowed to reference the test beforehand and stress the students out
	Parents	Be thoughtful on how the results are reported to parents and students – support the kids, etc.

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<b>NUMBER OF VOTES</b>	<b>GROUP'S RESPONSE</b>	<b>RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION</b>
	Parents	The tests should be only to help the students improve
	Parents	Change the way we assess special education students
	Parents	Relevancy
	Parents	Demonstrate your own measures that are equitable
	Parents	Certifications be a part of student portfolio
	Parents	Too much benchmarking - balance

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## QUESTION #6 WHAT GOALS FOR (1) ASSESSMENTS AND (2) ACCOUNTABILITY WOULD YOU RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION THAT WOULD SHAPE THEIR WORK?

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NUMBER OF VOTES	GROUP'S RESPONSE	RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION
	Business	Listen to community
	Business	Increase college/career readiness
	Business	Timely and deliverable product
2	Educators	Students served by special education deserve differentiated, non-standardized assessments of the IEPs
1	Educators	Assessments - Multiple assessment measures
1	Educators	Accountability - Re-weigh percentages of 5 domains
1	Educators	Less painfully stressful for kids, families, schools
	Educators	Assessments - Real life applications and critical thinking (portfolios)
	Educators	Assessments - Professional development L
	Educators	Assessments - Positive, not punitive assessment
	Educators	Accountability - Inform instruction and less testing
	Educators	Accountability - T24
	Educators	Accountability - Re-think district grading system based on % of improvement, not on arbitrary goals
	Educators	Truly summative assessments – less cramming, more learning
	Educators	More meaningful for students speaking more than English
	Educators	Simplify TEKS
	Educators	Incentives for growth relative to individual student success
7	Parents	Make sure the curriculum is meaningful and developmentally appropriate
7	Parents	How do we compare on nationally normed tests
5	Parents	Reduce time preparing for the test/teaching to it
5	Parents	Assessments to ensure equity for all kids; challenge all students, pushed to next level
4	Parents	Useful information for teachers and parents
3	Parents	Put a grade on post-secondary readiness determined by professors (not only in TX)
2	Parents	Resources to teachers to meet goals

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<b>NUMBER OF VOTES</b>	<b>GROUP'S RESPONSE</b>	<b>RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTION</b>
1	Parents	Funding for interventionists to help struggling kids
1	Parents	Actually test the TEKS
1	Parents	Provision for alternative assessments; ensure alignment
1	Parents	Performance task – ways to measure besides the test
1	Parents	Diagnostic and informative
1	Parents	Teacher held more accountable for each child + parent and student accountable
	Parents	State funding
	Parents	Reduce time testing
	Parents	Tests returned quicker