

State Board of Education –87th Legislative Priorities

Assessment and A-F Accountability

- A. Expand the authority of the SBOE to develop guidelines for pre-apprenticeships and determine which career and technical education (CTE) certification programs qualify for a performance indicator in the A-F Accountability System. **(Georgina Perez)**

Charter Schools

- B. Restore statutory authority of the State Board of Education (SBOE) to allow the SBOE to approve the Commissioner’s proposed charter expansion amendments– to ensure that there is an elected and voter-accountable body. **(Georgina Perez)**
- C. Ensure sufficient funding for a statewide enrollment management system for charter schools. This funding would provide for the creation and maintenance of a real-time system to track waitlists of charter schools (approximate cost would be \$1.5-\$2.0M per biennium). **(Tom Maynard)**

Counselors/Mental Health Services

- D. Increase funding for counselors and mental health services. **(Georgina Perez)**

Education Vendor Contracts

- E. Require vendors for K-12 Texas schools and libraries to filter inappropriate content, such as obscene and pornographic images for minors. **(Ken Mercer)**

Safe and Healthy Schools

- F. TEA to create an advisory council on family engagement and empowerment to inform all state and local policymakers on best practices on family and school partnerships. **(Mrs. Bahorich)**

Technology and Instructional Materials (TIMA)

- G. Increase funding for the technology and instructional materials fund (TIMF) to ensure districts can provide adequate technology and instructional materials to meet higher standards for students and oppose any carve-outs from the TIMF that decrease the amount of funds to school districts, including efforts by the state for rating instructional materials. Funding for “quality” reviews should be allocated from a source other than the TIMF. **(Georgina Perez)**

- H. Give the SBOE rule-making authority over all instructional materials, including, but not limited to Commissioner-adopted materials, that collect or use student data online (reference Subchapter D Chapter 32). **(Georgina Perez)**
- I. Include in the SBOE review process a requirement that a submitted material align with 100% of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the designated standards as compared to the current level of 50%. **(Mr. Rowley)**
- J. Ensure sufficient legislative appropriations to increase staffing at the Texas Education Agency, particularly in the curriculum division, to provide adequate personnel to oversee and support the TEKS review and implementation process and the textbook adoption process. **(Mrs. Cargill)**

Miscellaneous

- K. Change language in waivers to include "non-credit certificates" - Expand the tuition and fee waiver for foster students for any public college or university due to the students aging out of foster care. If the student wanted to pursue any degree program or credit certificate, then the tuition would be covered. **(Barbara Cargill)**
- L. Ensure sufficient funding for TEA Reading and Mathematics Achievement Academies. **(Barbara Cargill)**
- M. Ensure support for TEA's LAR Exceptional Item: Ensuring Equity in Opportunity through Targeted Supports (\$20M).
 - **Attract and train effective, diverse educators** to the profession who better reflect the student population in Texas communities, ensuring equitable distribution of educators and educator training focused on accelerating the academic achievement of student groups that have historically fallen behind and are expected to experience further learning loss due to COVID-19.
 - **Targeted interventions and campus supports** to reduce achievement gaps within district and school environments, including providing equitable access to and effective implementation of high-quality instructional materials that have been shown to reduce the achievement gap.