

TEA Superintendent Call

August 17, 2023

(originally published June 15, 2023)

Webinar Date

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| ■ Cybersecurity Improvements | Monthly |
| ■ HB 3 School Safety Video | August 24 |
| ■ HB 3 Implementation Supports Webinar | September 13 |
| ■ Other School Safety-related Supports Series | Fall |
| ■ HB 1605: Planning & Other Duties of Teachers | Fall |
| ■ HB 8 (Community College Finance) | Fall |
| ■ HB 3928 Dyslexia Evaluation, Identification & Instruction | Winter |
| ■ Instructional Materials: HB 1605 & HB 900 | Winter |

Bill Implementation Communications Recap

Updated
August



- Virtual Education
 - [Recorded Webinar](#) and [Support](#)
- Cybersecurity Improvements
 - [Recorded Monthly Webinars](#)
- Accelerated Instruction
 - [Recorded Webinar](#) and [Support](#)
- School Safety Facilities Standards Grant
 - [Recorded Webinar](#) and [Support](#)
- HB 3928 Dyslexia Evaluations, Identification & Instruction
 - [Recorded Overview Webinar](#) and [Support](#)
- Instructional Materials: HB 1605
 - [Recorded: SBOE Work Session](#)

Webinar Date

June 22

April, May, June

July 13

July 24

June 28

June 22

Property Tax Legislation 88th Second Special Session

Second Called Session

- Legislation included **\$18B** in property tax relief and reforms, effective for the **current tax year**:

Must be approved by voters as a constitutional amendment in November

Over \$12B to buy down tax rates

- *“Regular” compression*
- *Additional \$0.107 buy down**

\$100,000 homestead exemption

- *Increase from current \$40,000*
- *Benefits every homeowner (on primary residence)*

These have a direct impact on tax rates and state/local share

*Subject to equity band requirements (no district can have a rate that is more than 10% below any other district).

Impact on Setting ISD Tax Rates

- In a [June TAA](#) (prior to new legislation), TEA identified an anticipated state MCR of **\$0.7950** (with a floor 10% lower)
- Under SB2, the state MCR is now expected to be **\$0.6880** (with a floor 10% lower)
- TEA issued updated guidance this week

Impact on Setting ISD Tax Rates

- Districts should **enter data** into the LPVS application **based on current law**
 - \$40,000 homestead exemption for data entry
 - Survey closes at midnight on August 1
- Districts should **disregard preliminary MCR displayed in LPVS application** as it will not account for additional compression

Impact on Setting ISD Tax Rates

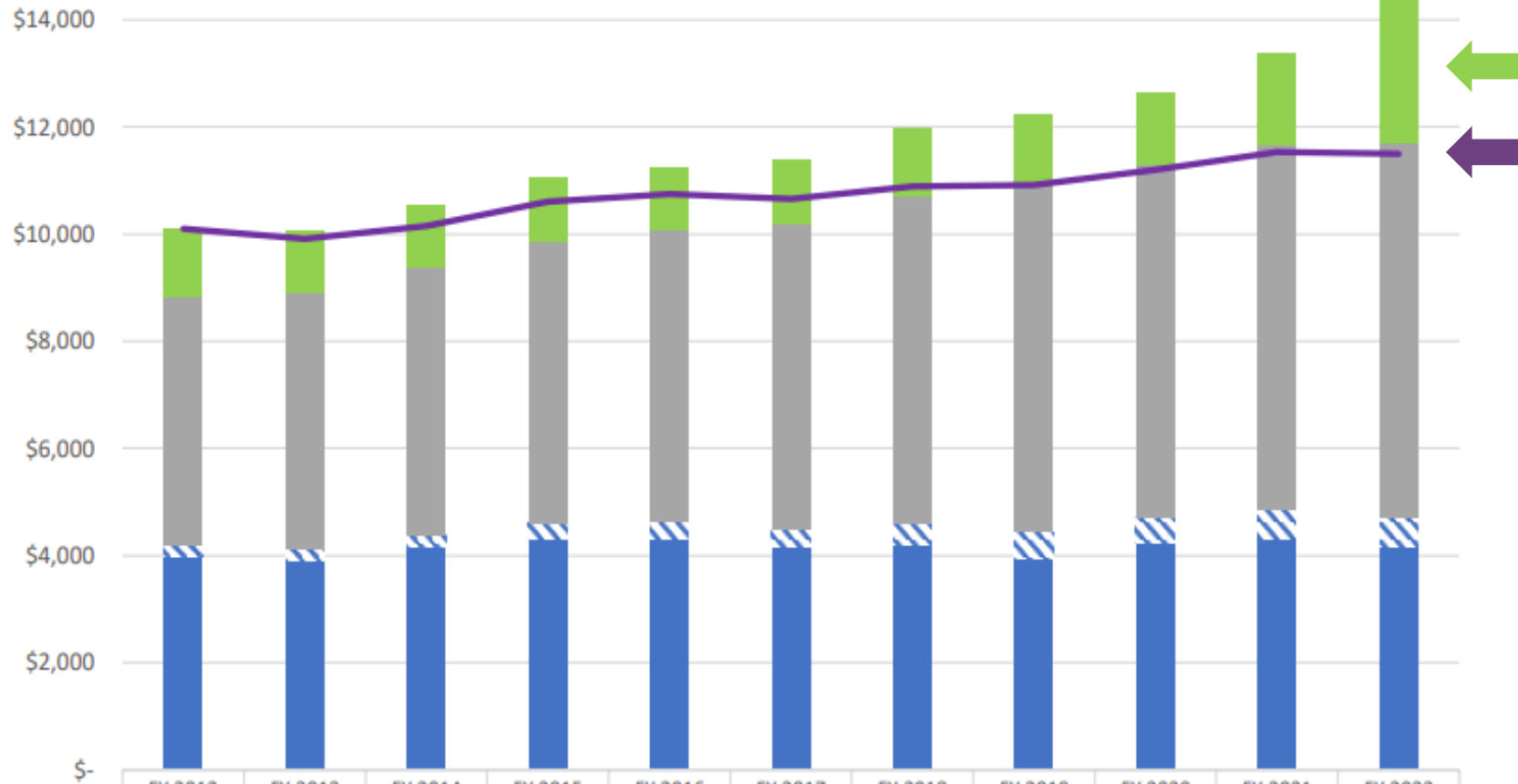
- **TEA will publish** MCRs on August 3 (via TAA) **based on new law**
 - Published rates will include additional compression under SB 2, at the new statewide rate and with up to 10% additional local compression
- Districts should **wait to adopt** tax rates until TEA publishes these MCRs on August 3

Homestead Exemption

- If approved by voters, state certified “T2” property values will reflect the \$100,000 exemption
 - Will be incorporated into Summary of Finance reports in February 2024 (change in local share)
- **Reminder: property tax relief does not impact entitlements, only state/local share**

Where does funding stand after the 88th Regular Session?

Total Annual Per-Student Funding (inclusive of FSP and other funding sources)



Total system funding per student reached over **\$14,400** in FY22...

...this was roughly flat when accounting for inflation, and federal COVID funds expire in FY24

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Total Statewide Federal Funding	\$1,276	\$1,154	\$1,149	\$1,169	\$1,175	\$1,178	\$1,255	\$1,342	\$1,370	\$1,728	\$2,708
Total Statewide Local Funding	\$4,634	\$4,793	\$4,997	\$5,271	\$5,454	\$5,721	\$6,121	\$6,451	\$6,571	\$6,774	\$7,003
Total Statewide Revenue from Recapture	\$221	\$207	\$219	\$287	\$314	\$322	\$384	\$506	\$444	\$554	\$555
Total Statewide State Funding	\$3,965	\$3,914	\$4,161	\$4,301	\$4,311	\$4,172	\$4,217	\$3,928	\$4,260	\$4,323	\$4,153
TOTAL	\$10,096	\$10,068	\$10,526	\$11,028	\$11,255	\$11,392	\$11,977	\$12,227	\$12,645	\$13,380	\$14,418
Total Statewide Funding Adjusted for Inflation	\$10,096	\$9,910	\$10,154	\$10,608	\$10,742	\$10,652	\$10,889	\$10,911	\$11,197	\$11,531	\$11,497
Annual Inflation Rate (TX CPI, FY avg)		1.6%	2.1%	0.3%	0.8%	2.1%	2.8%	1.9%	0.8%	2.8%	8.1%

FY23 data will be available in approximately March 2024

88th Regular Session Update – New State-Level Funding

Note: The FSP is driven by both state-level funding and local funding authorized by the legislature. This slide focuses solely on the state-level funding.

\$ Billion	FY22-23 GAA	Budget to Actuals	FY22-23 Base	FY24-25 GAA Art III & SB30	FY24-25 GAA Art IX*	FY24-25 Total*	Change \$ (%)
Foundation School Program	\$51.7	\$(3.9)	\$47.8	\$48.7	\$16.8	\$65.5	\$17.7 (37%)
All Other Programs	\$14.2	\$1.9	\$16.1	\$16.0	\$0.8	\$16.8	\$0.7 (4.6%)
Subtotal, TEA Approps.	\$65.9	\$(2.0)	\$63.9	\$64.7	\$17.6	\$82.3	\$18.4 (29%)

*Includes funding contingent upon legislation to be adopted in special session(s)

State funds for K-12 education are projected to increase \$18.4 billion (or 29%) over actual 2022-2023 biennial spending

Funding for education purposes appropriated through TEA represents close to one-third of all state funds in the budget.

88th Regular Session Update – New Total Funding (in millions)

New Net Funding for Public Education – Appropriated & Issued

Recurring Funding Increases:

Increase to Instructional Materials & Technology Allotment (IMTA)	\$ 621	GAA III TEA Rider 8
Increase to entitlements & LEA grants for SBOE-Approved Instructional Materials	500	GAA IX 18.78
Increase to FSP payments & technical supports for school safety	300	GAA IX 18.78
Increase in Golden Penny Yield	2,367	GAA IX 18.78
Increase for New Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA)	60	GAA IX 18.78
Increase subsidy for public school employee retirement payroll taxes	673	GAA III TRS A.1.1

New One-time Funding:

School safety grants	\$ 1,100	SB30 4.02
Subsidy for ActiveCare	589	GAA III TRS A.3.1
K-12 cybersecurity initiative	55	GAA III TEA B.3.5

\$6.3B new funds fully approved

New Net Funding for Education – Appropriated & Contingent

Recurring Funding Increases:

FSP & grant increases for teacher pay, special education, and finance generally	\$ 3,997	GAA IX 18.78
Virtual school grant support	49	GAA IX 18.78
School Choice	500	GAA IX 18.78

New State Share Increases for Public Education

Recurring Funding Increases:

Property tax reductions – Appropriated & issued	\$ 5,305	GAA IX 18.79
Property tax reductions – Appropriated & contingent	12,295	GAA IX 18.79

88th Regular Session Update – FSP from Passed Legislation

Entitlement funding to school systems will increase as a result of HB 3 (Safety Allotment), HB 1605 (SBOE-Approved Materials), and HB 1 (Golden Penny Yield).

The impact on district entitlements based upon fiscal analysis performed during session is as follows:

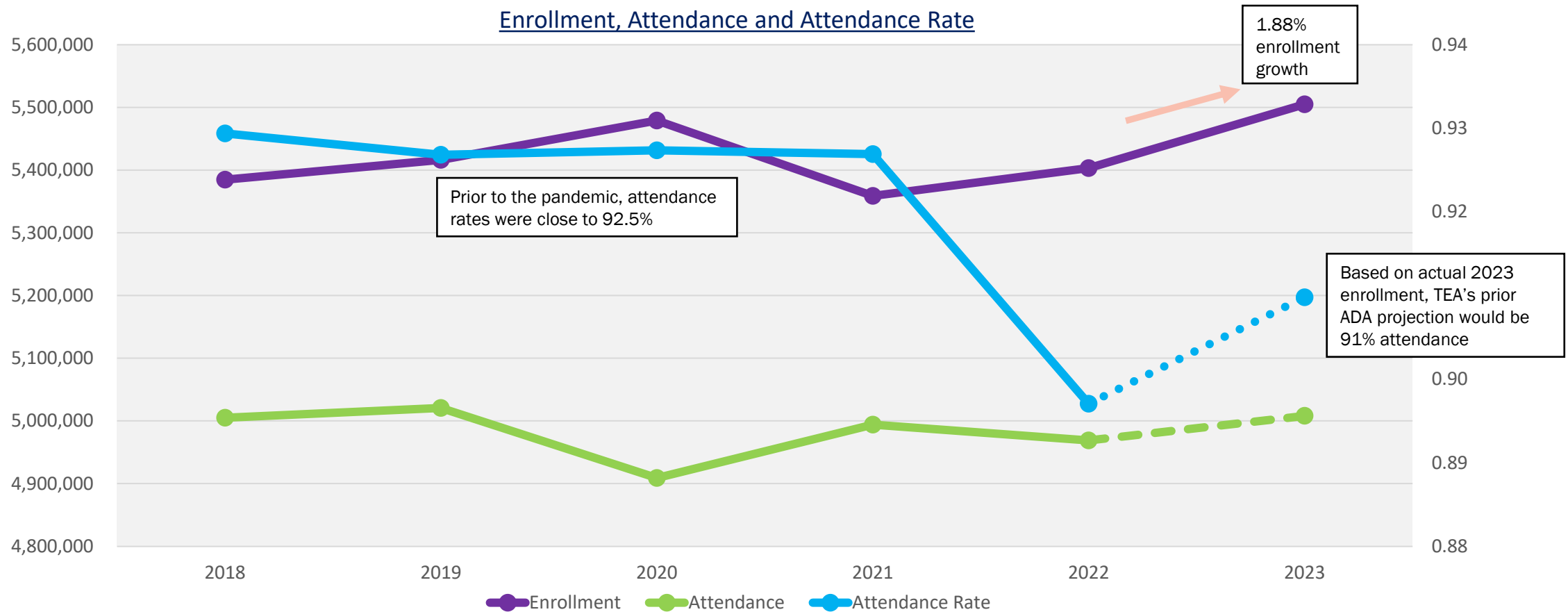
2024			
District type	Sum of ADA	Sum of Difference	Difference per ADA
Independent Town	211,236	\$62,795,529	\$297
Legislative	2,581	\$140,133	\$54
Major Suburban	1,539,459	\$463,648,008	\$301
Major Urban	765,158	\$241,323,148	\$315
Non-metropolitan Fast Growing	54,583	\$15,695,628	\$288
Non-metropolitan Stable	328,837	\$102,082,895	\$310
Charters	394,645	\$127,591,772	\$323
Other Central City	741,871	\$214,150,855	\$289
Other Central City Suburban	856,835	\$244,313,657	\$285
Rural	178,370	\$78,511,933	\$440
Total	5,073,575	\$1,550,253,556	\$306

2025			
District type	Sum of ADA	Sum of Difference	Difference per ADA
Independent Town	212,131	\$75,918,330	\$358
Legislative	2,905	\$161,833	\$56
Major Suburban	1,542,229	\$543,012,206	\$352
Major Urban	750,762	\$258,100,519	\$344
Non-metropolitan Fast Growing	58,800	\$21,835,544	\$371
Non-metropolitan Stable	328,896	\$125,606,007	\$382
Charters	414,440	\$160,572,154	\$387
Other Central City	739,964	\$242,479,504	\$328
Other Central City Suburban	869,321	\$304,942,935	\$351
Rural	178,388	\$88,904,455	\$498
Total	5,097,836	\$1,821,533,488	\$357

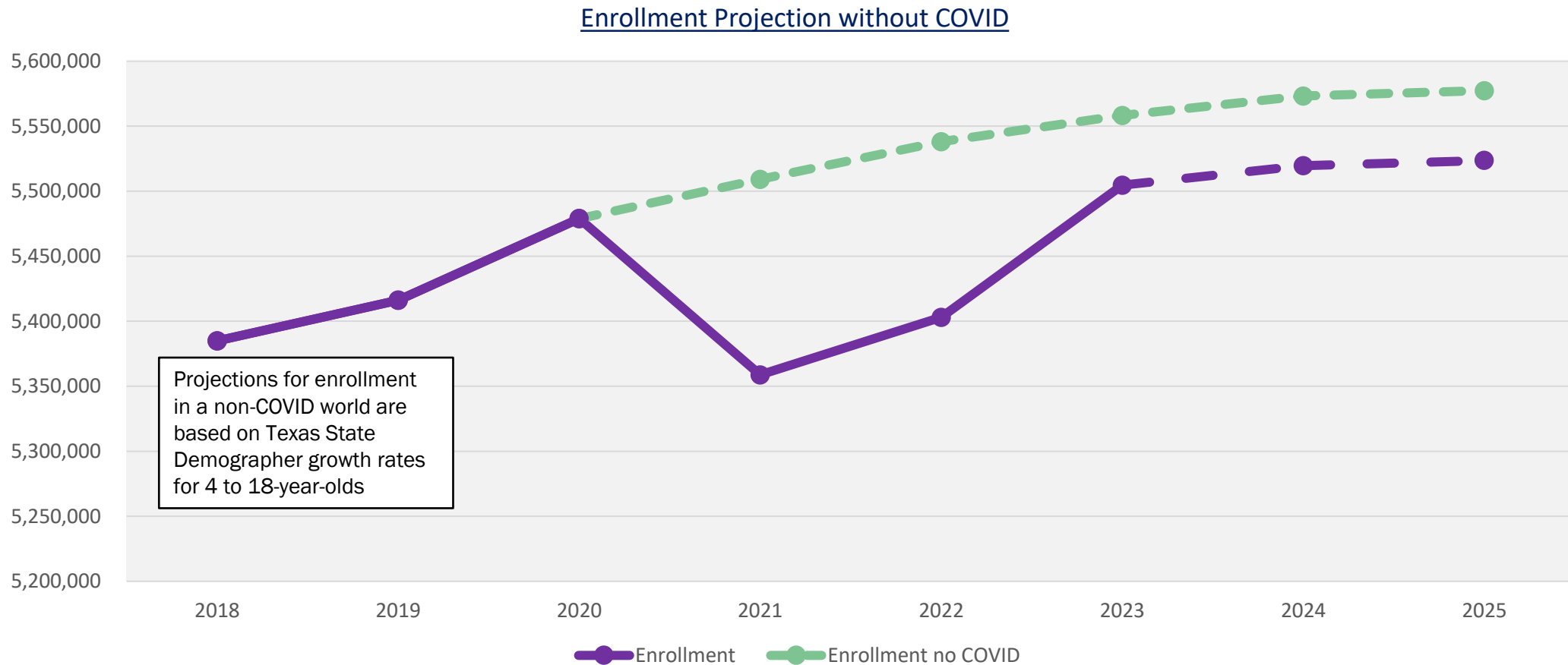
TEA encourages LEAs to incorporate the increase to the golden penny yield and the school safety allotment into their budget planning for the 2023-24 school year. Please note that the agency's school finance template has not yet been updated for this change; TEA expects to publish an updated template later this summer. Instructional materials funding is being added to the Instructional Materials & Technology Allotment Accounts, details are provided on a subsequent slide.

HB 1 Impact on LPE

We now have 2023 enrollment indicating that students are likely returning to public schools

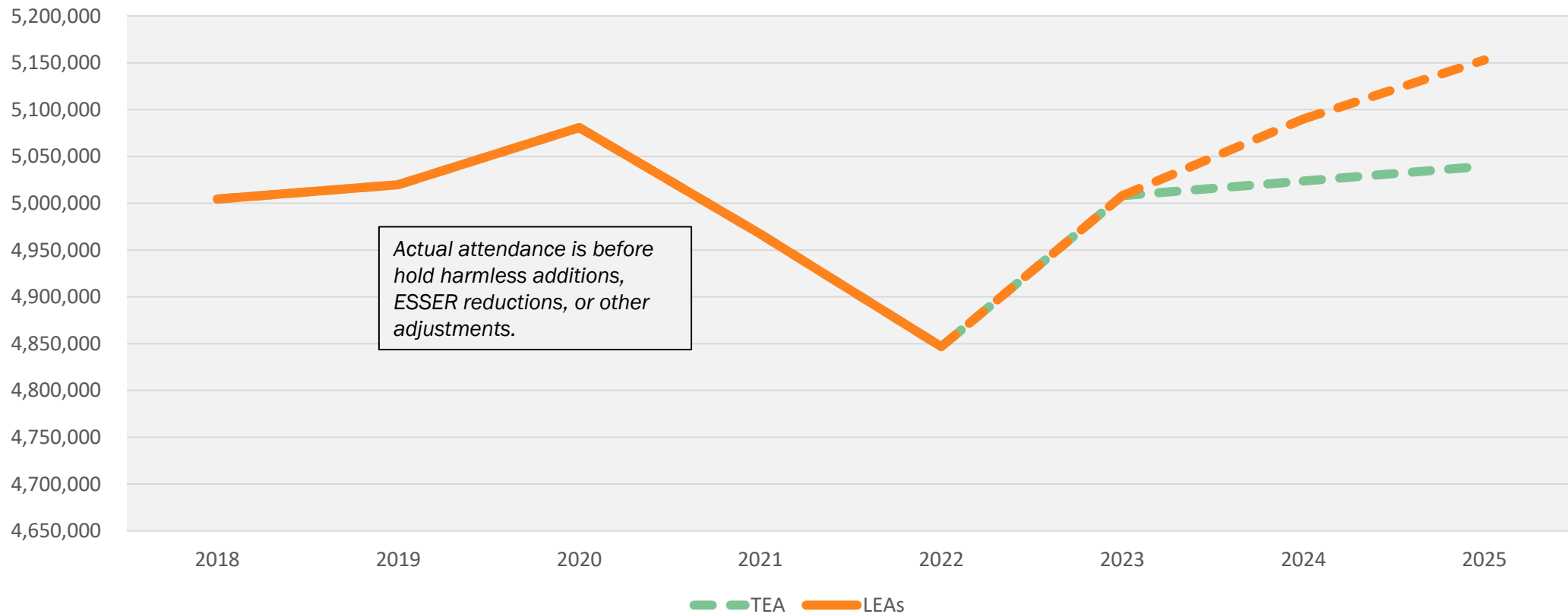


However, State Demographer projections for school-aged children seem to indicate there are still 50,000 fewer students enrolled than if COVID hadn't happened



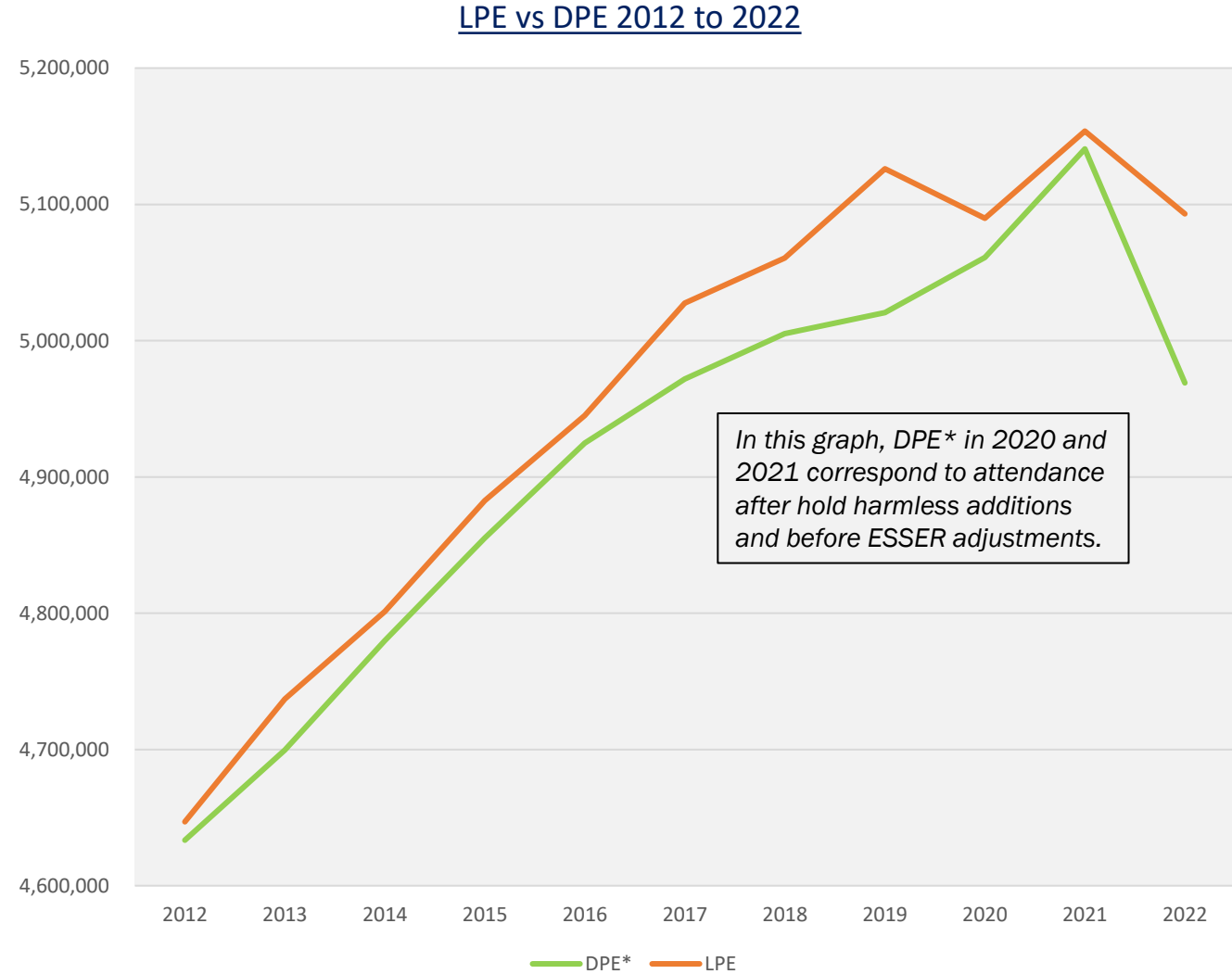
LEA attendance projections were notably higher than TEA's projections

Actual and Projected ADA



Since about 2017, there has been a wide gap between attendance projections (LPE) and final attendance (DPE).

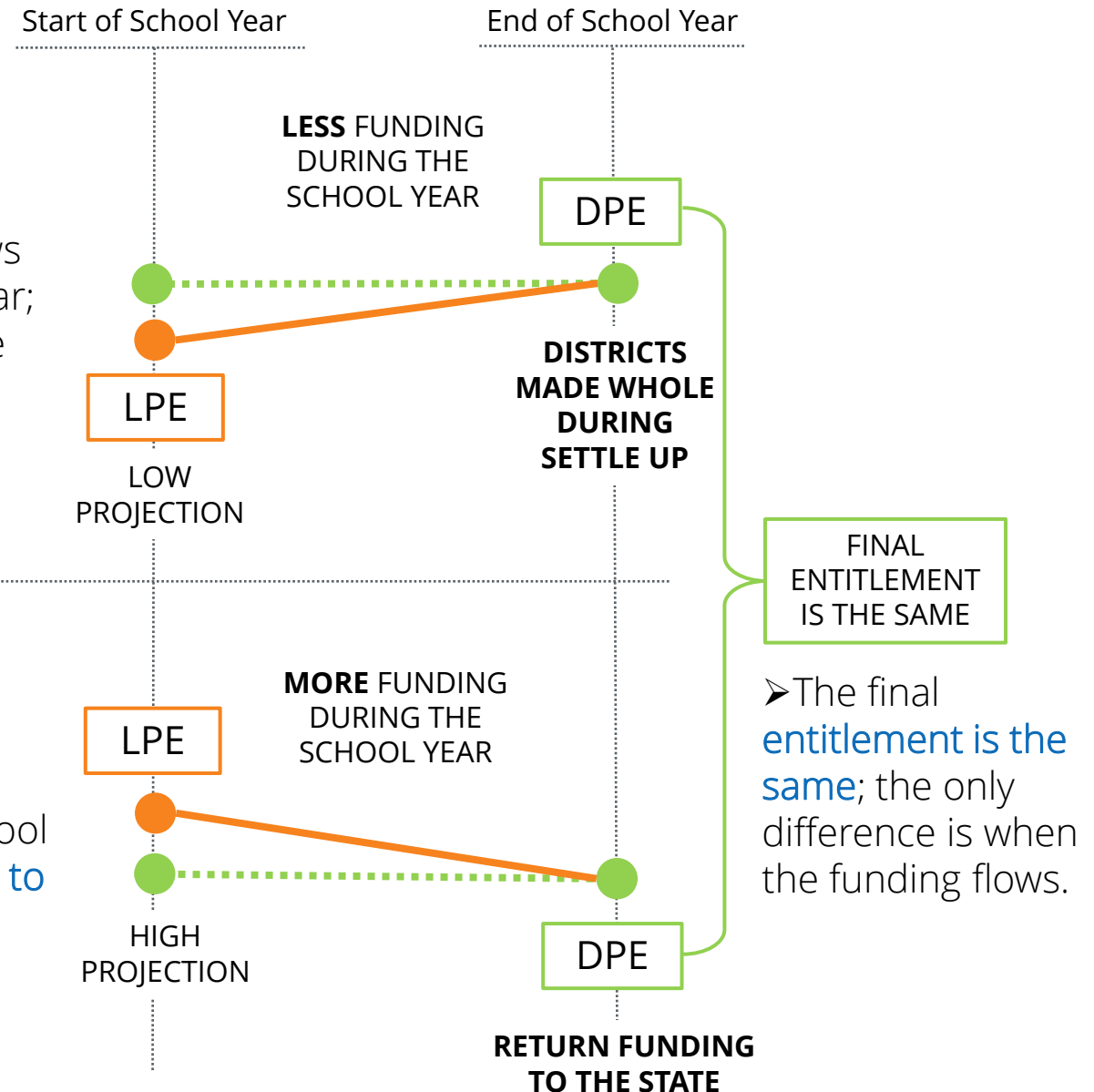
The exceptions are 2020 and 2021, when hold harmless adjustments brought DPE close to LPE (before ESSER adjustments).



What happens when there is a difference between LPE and DPE (for ISDs)?

➤ If attendance projections (LPE) are **low**, less funding flows during the school year; however, districts are **made whole** during settle up.

➤ If projections are **high**, more funding flows during the school year, but is **returned to the state** later.



What this means for projections

- To ensure **maximum benefit** to students and school systems, attendance projections used in appropriations decisions should be as accurate as possible.
- At the request of the Legislative Budget Board, TEA provided **supplementary analysis and an alternative projection** to support the legislative process and inform decision making.

Attendance projections are highly impacted by underlying assumptions

TYPICAL PROJECTION

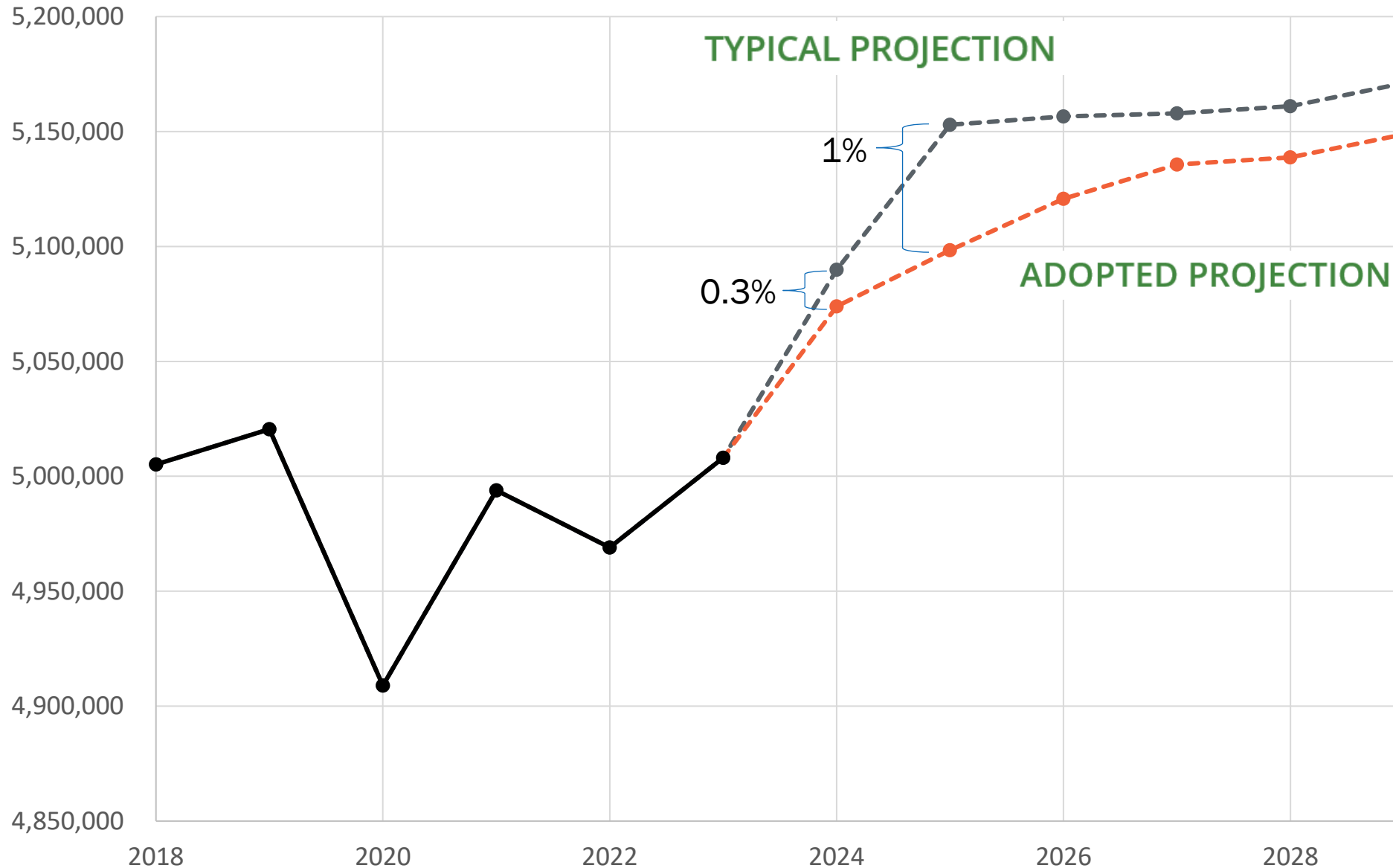
- Adopt LEA projections for FY24-25
- Increase projected attendance in FY26-29 by State Demographer growth rates

ALTERNATIVE PROJECTION

- Assume additional post-COVID returns to the public education system in FY24
- Increase enrollment for FY25-29 by State Demographer growth rates
- Assume gradual return to historical attendance rates

- The Legislature adopted attendance projections totaling 5,071,347 in FY 2024 and 5,095,452 in FY 2025.
- These figures are lower than LEA projections by 0.3% in FY2024 and by 1% in FY2025.

Comparison of Attendance Models



Reminder: Actual attendance will be funded regardless of LPE.

Final entitlements are unaffected.

The only effect is in the timing of how funding flows.

- The aggregate projection will be used to produce Legislative Planning Estimates (LPE) and to calculate payments to LEAs for 2024-2025.
- Note: A little over half of LEA attendance projections will be slightly revised down, impacting payments prior to settle-up.

- If an LEA's projection was at or below the alternative projection, the LEA's projection will be adopted.
- If an LEA's projection was above the alternative projection, the LEA's projection will be adjusted, but **no LEA will be reduced below TEA's October projection.**

<i>Maximum</i> Downward Revision	2023-2024	2024-2025
LEAs with ADA up to 1,600	0.3%	0.52%
LEAs above 1,600 ADA	1%	1.78%

- **Reminder: Final entitlements will be unaffected.**
- TEA will continue to reconcile (settle-up) district entitlements each year to ensure correct total payments based on actual ADA.
- Additional information is being provided via a To the Administrator Addressed letter.

HB 1 Instructional Materials Funding, HB 1605, and HB 900



HB 1605: High Quality Curriculum

- Establishes a process for the SBOE to review and approve materials, supported by TEA
- Additional funding (on top of IMTA) provided to districts who choose to use SBOE approved materials: \$40/student. An additional \$20/student for districts printing state-owned materials
- SBOE textbook approval no longer limited to 50% of TEKS, no longer bound to 8-year cycle
- Districts exempted from RFP processes if purchasing SBOE approved materials
- Publishers must offer parent portals for instructional materials transparency
- Local curriculum reviews are established, funded, and can be initiated via parent requests, with SBOE approval of grade-level rigor rubric
- SBOE must add book/word list to the ELAR TEKS
- Teachers cannot be required to use bi-weekly planning time to create initial instructional materials unless there is a supplemental duty agreement with the teacher
- Requires the TEA to develop state-owned textbooks in certain grades & subjects, which are subject to approval by SBOE
- Provides optional teacher training on state-owned textbooks for districts to utilize, and grant program to educator prep programs to support
- Prohibits three-cueing in early literacy instruction

Instructional Materials and Technology Account

The Instructional Materials & Technology *Allotment* was restored in HB 1 to traditional levels (roughly \$1B per biennium). HB 1605 establishes two new FSP entitlements for SBOE-approved instructional materials, in addition to the Allotment. These new FSP funds will be managed in each district's Instructional Materials and Technology *Account*.

	Instructional Materials and Technology Allotment	SBOE-Approved Instructional Materials	SBOE-Approved OER Instructional Materials
2022 & 2023 Biennium	\$ 61.72 per student + \$ 11.32 per EB student	n/a	n/a
2024 & 2025 Biennium	\$ 171.82 per student + \$ 15.58 per EB student	\$40 per student each school year	\$20 per student each school year
Timing	Biennially	Annually	Annually
Carryover of Funding	Yes, unexpended balances carryover	Yes, unexpended balances carryover	No, unexpended balances do not carryover
Allowable Use of Funds	Any instructional materials and technology needed to implement those instructional materials	Only SBOE-approved instructional materials from the new process established in HB 1605	Only costs associated with printing SBOE-approved open education resource (i.e. state-owned) instructional materials

Total allotment for the 2024 & 2025 biennium including new state FSP funding is **\$1.562 Billion** or **\$275.41 per-student**




HB 900: School Library Books

- The Texas State Library and Archives Commission, with approval by the SBOE, will adopt standards for school library collection development policies.
- The standards adopted will be reviewed every 5 years and must prohibit harmful material, sexually explicit material, and pervasively vulgar or educationally unsuitable material.
- Library material vendors must issue appropriate ratings for sexually explicit and sexually relevant materials previously sold to school districts.
- Vendors may not sell any books with sexually explicit content moving forward and must report list to TEA of books already sold to libraries.
- Codifies guidelines for vendors to use in determining book ratings.

- The State Board of Education must take a series of actions under HB 1605 in order to approve instructional materials. These actions will likely occur over multiple years.
 - In June 2023, the SBOE held a [work session](#) discussing the background and implementation timeline implications associated with HB 1605, which impact when new additional funds will be available for school systems to use when purchasing SBOE-approved materials. View the [work session presentation](#).
- The State Board of Education will approve the new required library standards, likely sometime over the next year. Additionally, by April 1, 2024, library vendors must submit to TEA lists of library materials rated as sexually explicit or sexually relevant.
- **Upcoming HB 1605 Webinar Topic (Coming Fall 2023):**
 - **Planning and Noninstructional Duties of Teachers:** Overview of the statutory protections of planning time for classroom teachers in HB 1605 and guidance on the supplemental duty agreement with a teacher. [TEC, §11.164 and TEC, §21.4045]

Possible Instructional Materials Timeline for SBOE


Updated
August

Components	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
 <p>Instructional Materials Review & Adoption</p>	Discuss new SBOE IMRA Process and Criteria for first content areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt new SBOE IMRA Process and Criteria for first content areas • Conduct first IMRA Process and adopt first set of materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt SBOE IMRA Criteria for additional content areas and conduct the IMRA Process in these content areas • Continue to conduct IMRA Process for content areas with Criteria previously approved 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to conduct IMRA Process for content areas with Criteria previously approved • Conduct IMRA Process and adopt materials in ELAR due to the updated ELAR TEKS Addendum 	Continue to conduct IMRA Process for all content areas on an ongoing basis, and in any content area when TEKS are changed	Continue to conduct IMRA Process for all content areas on an ongoing basis, and in any content area when TEKS are changed

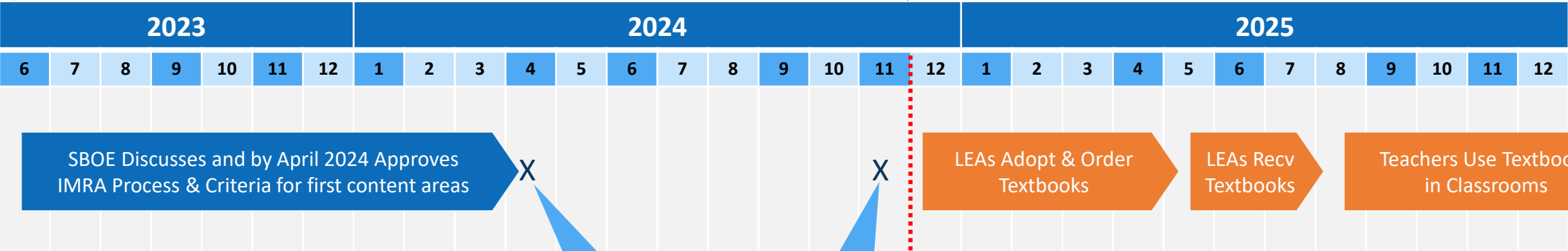
HB 1605 – Near Term Timeline Implications

Updated
August



Components	2023	2024
 Instructional Materials Review & Adoption	Discuss new SBOE IMRA Process and Criteria for first content areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt new SBOE IMRA Process and Criteria for first content areas• Conduct first IMRA Process and adopt first set of materials

There are key deadlines between now and November 2024 in order for schools to begin using SBOE-approved materials in the 2025-26 school year



IMRA Process must begin for first content areas

SBOE deadline to adopt materials

What to Expect in December 2024

Updated
August



A new website to assist school districts in locating and selecting instructional materials including:

- List of instructional materials reviewed as part of the IMRA process
- IMRA results and agency recommendations
- SBOE determination on reviewed materials
- Technology required to use the materials
- Pricing for these materials
- Other relevant information to assist in materials selection



An updated EMAT for instructional materials procurement, reporting and LEA account management

- Improved user experience design
- New reporting features to manage LEA instructional materials and technology accounts and reporting requirements
- The applicable \$40- and \$20-per-student allotments for SBOE-Approved instructional materials will be visible in EMAT with requisition functionality for the approved materials in early Spring of 2025

School Safety Legislation



HB 3: School Safety

- Establishes the Office of School Safety and Security in TEA to working in coordination with the Texas School Safety Center and with regional education service centers to provide ongoing support and oversight of LEA safety practices
- Increased the annual school safety allotment in the FSP: \$15k per campus plus \$10 per ADA
- Requires district employees who regularly interact with students to complete an evidence-based mental health training program.
- Requires districts adopt a policy requiring at least one person acting as an armed security officer be present during regular school hours at each campus.
- Clarifies required data sharing & confidentiality obligations related to student safety records

HB 3: School Safety Overview and Implementation Video

- Posting on School Safety webpage and TEA YouTube on August 24 and will include guidance on:

Transfer of School Records

Armed Security Officers

Office of School Safety and Security

Mental Health Training

Other School Safety Requirements

Funding (School Safety Allotment
and SAFE Grant)

Armed Security Personnel – Good Cause Exception

New
August



A board of trustees must ensure that at least one armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each campus.

The board may claim a good cause exception from the requirement if noncompliance relates to funding or lack of qualified personnel.

If a good cause exception is claimed, the board must develop an alternative standard. This standard may include providing a person to act in place of security personnel (e.g., school marshal or guardian).



The district must document compliance with this requirement, including any good cause exception, and they must provide this documentation to the agency upon request.

Armed Security Options

New
August

School Based Law Enforcement (ISD PD/SRO/MOU) TEC, Section §37.081

To provide a law enforcement / security presence on campuses to detect, deter, and prevent criminal activity.

Requires all the necessary trainings, certifications, and commission as a licensed peace officers.

These officers cannot be assigned administrative or routine disciplinary duties.

COSTS: \$75K – 100K Annually

School Marshal TEC, Section §37.0811 (Good Cause Exception Req.)

Certification allowing school staff to possess and carry a firearm in the absence of law enforcement.

Training required:

80 hours, including the following topics -

1. Physical security
2. Improving campus security
3. Use of force
4. Active shooter response
5. Weapon proficiency

COSTS: \$5K - \$15K Annually

Guardian Option Government Code, Section §411.1901 (Good Cause Exception Req.)

To provide school communities with an armed self defense option prior to the arrival of law enforcement in the event of an active shooter.

Training Required:

16 hours, including the following topics -

1. Crime prevention and deterrence
2. Mental preparedness
3. Use of force
4. Interaction with law enforcement
5. Recovery after an event

COSTS: \$5K - \$15K Annually

COMBINATION OF OPTIONS



Armed Security Webinar

New
August

Save the Date: September 13th

Join Chief Scott as he talks with superintendents about their successes with the different armed guard options. The live webinar will discuss the various implementation options, costs, personnel decisions, and best practices.

- ISD Police Departments & School Resource Officers
- School Marshals
- Guardian Option
- Combination of multiple options

Time and registration information will be posted on August 24th along with HB 3 Video recording

Safety and Facility Enhancement (SAFE) Grant

\$1.1B

one-time funding through the supplemental appropriations bill to address new minimum school safety standards and other facilities-related safety improvements.

Cycle 1 (~September 2023)

Discretionary non-competitive grant process that will require LEAs to demonstrate a need for the funds to include, rationale, site plans, and vendor contracts.

Intended to ensure that full funding is provided so that all campuses in Texas fully comply with the minimum school safety facility standards, even if they do not currently comply.

Only LEAs that have applied to the current grant AND have not certified compliance will be eligible for the first cycle of this grant. Allowable costs will only consist of items aligned to the School Safety Standards.

Cycle 2 (~January 2024)

Formula grant to all LEAs to support additional safety needs identified by the district, beyond the minimum safety facility standards. Eligibility is open to all public school districts and open enrollment charter schools.

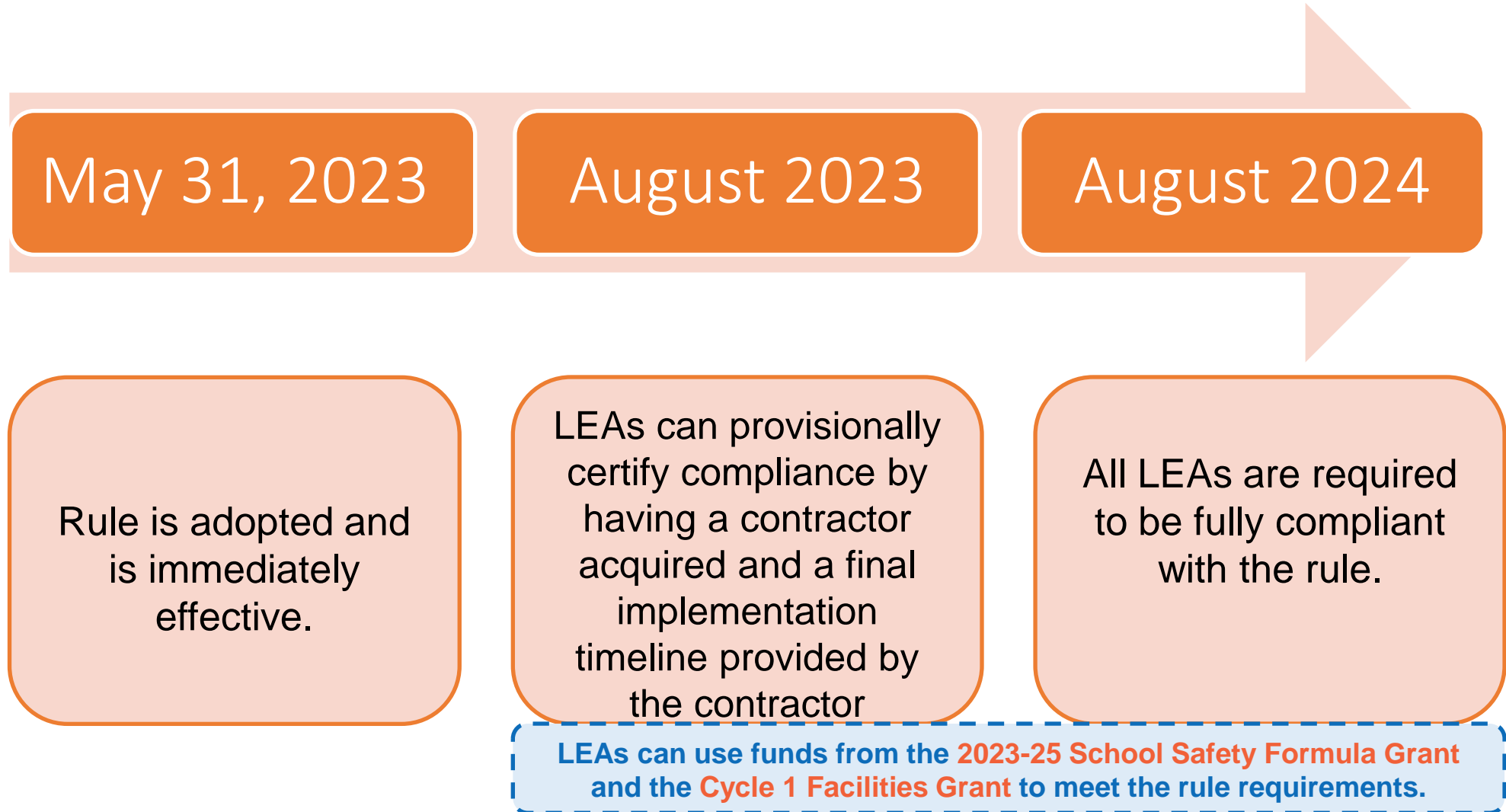
Safety and Facility Enhancement (SAFE) Grant

Cycle 1 Needs Assessment and Application

New
August

- **Cycle 1 Needs Assessment Launch on August 24**
- Required for all Cycle 1 eligible applicants
- LEAs will need to submit real costs from contractor bids or actual work performed
- Funding submitted is not guaranteed
- Announced via To The Administrator Addressed Letter, Grants Listserv, and posted on [School Safety page](#).
- Deadline to submit required information: **September 21, 2023**
- Allocations posted and eGrants application opens by September 28.

Standards Implementation Timeline



Intruder Detection Audits

New
August

During the 88th legislative session, HB 3 passed which shifts the Intruder Detection Audit process to TEA

Changes are taking place to streamline the process and make it more effectual

The IDA phases will remain the same

- Phase 1 – Attempt entry through three random exterior doors
- Phase 2 – Verify weekly door sweep logs
- Phase 3 – Perform campus exterior door sweep with a campus leader
- Phase 4 – Check interior doors if the district has a local policy in place.

Tentatively set to start late September

Intruder Detection Audits – Key Changes

New
August

Communications

- Shift from a call script to key points of information the ESC will need to share during their notifications to the district.
- A centralized ESC contact will now make the calls

Law Enforcement Notifications

- No longer be a requirement to notify local law enforcement agencies.
- ISD PDs are still required to be notified.

Findings vs Local Flags

- Findings will be tied to what is required by the state while local flags will only "flag" items that are part of best practices or local policies.
- **Interior door policies will still be checked but will only be a local flag and not a finding and not to be required to be reported to the board.**

School Safety Committee Meetings

- School Safety Committees will be required to discuss any findings during their regularly scheduled times and will not be required to hold a special meeting each time there is a finding.

Scheduling

- ESCs will have the autonomy to create their own schedules based on local knowledge of their region and to create effectual routes to maximize audits while on the road.


Appeals


- There will be an appeal process for possible audit discrepancies.

Intruder Detection Audits - Dashboard

New
August

SCHOOL SAFETY DASHBOARD



[IDA DASHBOARD](#) [FINDINGS](#) [REPORTS](#) [ADMIN](#) [FINALIZE](#) Brooks Straub - Logout 

[Admin Tools](#) | [Campus Reports](#) | [Financial Tools](#)
[Current Month Assignments](#) | [All Assignments](#) | [Findings Report](#)

- Creates transparency and streamlines communication
- Centralized location for all IDA information and action steps
- Superintendent dashboard to see district data and per campus findings
- Up to four additional superintendent designee accounts per LEA
- Directly upload corrective action documents and track progress

Rule Revisions at Adoption

Section	Description	Amendment
(c)(9)	Emergency responder building access	All facilities must include one or more distinctive, exterior secure master key box(es) designed to permit emergency access to both law enforcement agencies and emergency responder agencies from the exterior <u>OR</u> provide all local law enforcement electronic or physical master key access to the building(s).
(c)(10)	Communications infrastructure	<p>An alert must be capable of being triggered by campus staff, including temporary or substitute staff, from an integrated or enabled device.</p> <p>School systems shall comply with state and federal Kari's Laws and federal RAY BAUM's Act.</p>
(h)	Records retention	School systems must adopt a 3-year records control schedule that complies with the minimum requirements established by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission schedule.
(i)(3)	Certification	TEA may modify rule requirements or grant provisional certification for individual site needs as determined by the agency.



Exterior doors, exterior classroom doors, and portable doors should operate as intended, are required to remain closed, locked, and latched and allow for emergency egress from the inside (while remaining locked).



Windowed doors on the ground level or windows that are adjacent to or near a door and are large enough to allow someone to enter if broken must be reinforced with entry-resistant film unless within a secured area.



Exterior door sweeps must be conducted weekly to certify that all doors are properly closed, locked, and latched.



The school system must perform maintenance checks twice annually to ensure that the facility components within the rule function properly and as intended.



Disclaimer: Fencing not required but is offered to provide some operational flexibilities.

School Safety Standards and Funding

July 24

Covers the adopted TAC 19 §61.1031, Commissioner's Rule on School Safety Standards and the latest Facilities Grant opportunity.

House Bill 3 (HB 3) Overview

August 24

Provides an overview of HB 3 and will include some initial guidance and best practices, to include armed officers on campus.

HB 3 Implementation Webinar

September 27

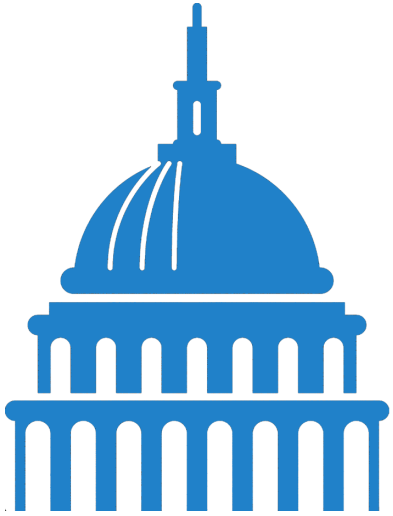
Discussion with several district leadership teams on best practice approaches to implementation of HB 3 security requirements.

Additional Webinars

Fall

Additional live webinars covering key components of other school safety bills and ongoing implementation support for school safety practices under HB 3 will be held throughout the fall.

Dyslexia Evaluations, Identification & Instruction Legislation



HB 3928: Dyslexia Evaluations, Identification & Instruction

- Requires someone with specific knowledge on dyslexia and related disorders on the evaluation team and ARD committee when dyslexia is suspected/identified.
- Board of trustees/governing board of charter must adopt a policy requiring that the district or school follow all state and federal requirements for the evaluation, identification, and services for dyslexia.
- State Board of Education must revise its Dyslexia Handbook by 6/30/24 to remove references to "standard protocol dyslexia instruction" so that it is not distinct from all other types of dyslexia instruction.
- Requires specific notification about the parent's right to request special education evaluation when student is placed in DAEP and when returning to school after DAEP.

TEA provided an overview webinar and support info. In the Winter, TEA will provide another webinar to support implementation of this bill.

Dyslexia Evaluation, Identification, and Instruction – HB 3928

New
August



The need for **dyslexia instruction is considered a special education service.**

- There is **no distinction between standard protocol dyslexia instruction** (a term defined in the Dyslexia Handbook — also referred to as an evidence-based dyslexia program) **and all other types of dyslexia instruction.**
- For details, see the FAQ.

HB 3928 – FAQs

Posted August 3, 2023

FAQs: Dyslexia Evaluation, Identification, & Instruction House Bill (HB) 3928



Posted: Aug. 3, 2023

Dyslexia Evaluation, Identification, and Instruction – House Bill (HB) 3928

HB 3928 prompts changes to the *Dyslexia Handbook, 2021 Update*, adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE), and the Questions and Answers document related to the handbook that is housed as Appendix A. While the SBOE goes through the rule making process to make the necessary changes to the Handbook, TEA is providing this document to assist in the implementation of HB 3928, as the law is currently in effect.

TEA has modified Appendix A to retain only questions and answers that are likely unaffected by future Handbook changes and the bill. Once the SBOE revises the Dyslexia Handbook, Appendix A will be revised to incorporate both the guidance provided in this FAQ and the changes made by the SBOE.

Disclaimer: TEA is issuing this FAQ and interim guidance expeditiously for the field and parents/guardians to know current requirements and recommended best practices as close to the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year as possible. Note, however, that these questions and answers are subject to modification and revision as the field, TEA, and parents/guardians learn more about the bill's impacts and the upcoming decisions of the SBOE.

Definitions

It is important to provide certain definitions for terms used in this FAQ. Those are:

- **Child with a disability** – The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) defines child with a disability as a child evaluated as having at least one of 13 disabilities, and by reason thereof, needs special education and related services. Therefore, in this document, the use of this term means both the presence of an eligible disability and the need for special education and related services. The need for special education and related services includes the need for instruction through the local educational agency's (LEA's) evidence-based dyslexia program based on the identified disability of dyslexia.
- **Dyslexia Handbook** – This is one component of how the SBOE complies with its statutory authority to adopt rules and standards for screening, testing, and serving students with dyslexia. Sometimes referred to as simply "the Handbook" throughout this FAQ, it is officially the 2021 update adopted by reference in SBOE rule at 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §74.28. All LEAs are required to follow the Handbook.
- **Evidence-based dyslexia program** – This term refers to one or more evidence-based reading programs or curriculums purchased or developed by an LEA, as required by 19 TAC §74.28(e), that is/are aligned with all instructional methods and components for dyslexia instruction as described in the Dyslexia Handbook. Evidence-based dyslexia programs include instructional methods that are simultaneous and multisensory (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile); systematic and cumulative; explicit; diagnostic and taught to automaticity; synthetic; and analytic (pages 42-43 of the Dyslexia Handbook). In addition, evidence-based dyslexia programs must address all of the required critical, evidence-based components of dyslexia instruction (phonological awareness, sound-symbol association, syllabification, orthography, morphology, syntax, reading comprehension, and reading fluency) [pages 40-42 of the Dyslexia Handbook].

Evidence-based dyslexia programs are considered specially designed instruction (SDI) (i.e., a special education service). An admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee will ensure, for a student with dyslexia eligible under IDEA, that the SDI contains all elements of an evidence-based dyslexia program as outlined in the Handbook. Accommodations (e.g., additional practice, smaller groups or individual instruction, longer time to progress) may be listed in the student's individualized education program (IEP) and provided based on student

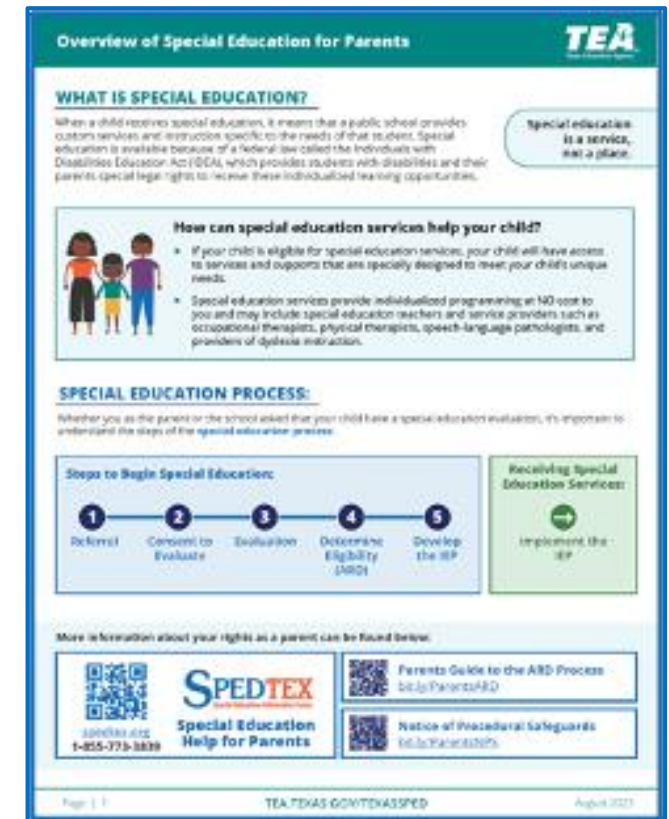
For more information contact: Special Education Programs | SPED@tea.texas.gov



Website Link: tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/dyslexia-and-related-disorders

- Section 504 committees for students who are currently receiving the district's evidence-based dyslexia program through a Section 504 plan need to begin holding meetings to discuss the student's continued need for the program. **If the need is still present, a referral for a special education evaluation must be made.** (Expectation is that LEAs will do this as soon as possible but no later than the end of the 2024-2025 school year, absent any other SBOE decisions).
- **When a disability is suspected in a child, a form must be distributed to the child's parents** explaining the rights available under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that may be additional to those under Section 504. The form has been created and posted on the website below.

IDEA Rights Form



Website Link: tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/dyslexia-and-related-disorders

Remote Instruction & Virtual Schools

HB 3643 (87R) : Texas Commission on Virtual Education

- Held 10 meetings from February to December
- Heard over 35+ hours of testimony from 45+ experts, district and school leaders, teachers, students, and parents
- Issued six key policy recommendations in their report released December 2022



Final Report

SB 15 (87-2): Local Remote Learning Programs

- Allowed LEAs rated C or higher to offer virtual courses outside of the Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN)
- LEAs could receive ADA-based funding for local remote learning delivered synchronously or asynchronously for grades K - 12
- **Expires September 1, 2023**

While multiple bills were filed, a bill to continue virtual education options and address the TCVE's recommendations did not pass.

Extending Virtual Options Through the TXVSN

Updated
July



- **Waiver Process**

- Announced by Governor Abbott on June 12, 2023
- Directs the Commissioner to waive specific requirements for LEAs to continue offering virtual options for the next two school years (23-24 and 24-25)

- **LEA Eligibility**

- Any full-time, online program offered in 2022-2023
- TEA virtual accelerator participants in 2022-2023

- **Waiver Program Details**

- Must sign up to be a full time TXVSN school this summer
- Requires the school to be operated with a separate CDCN
- Funding is provided through TXVSN's completion-based funding model
 - The waiver will allow funding under the TXVSN formula for students enrolled in grades Kindergarten through 12.

- **Recorded [Webinar and Slides](#)**

HB 1416: Accelerated Instruction



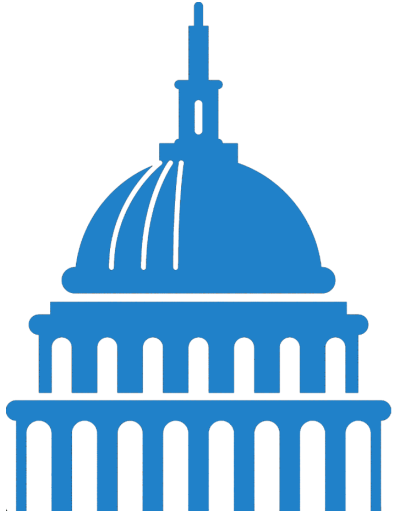
HB 1416: HB 4545 (87R) “clean-up” - Supplemental Accelerated Instruction

- Eliminated the accelerated learning committee (ALC) requirement and clarified parental "opt-out" protocols.
- Decreased the maximum # of subjects to 2 while prioritizing RLA/math and reducing requirements to 15 hours for some students.
- Increased student to tutor ratios from 3:1 to 4:1; Ratio waived with use of approved automated/online curriculum (list available in Spring 2024).
- Maintains placement w/ a designated TIA teacher to satisfy requirements.

[TEA Accelerated Instruction Webpage](#)

Recorded Webinar and Slides

HB 1: Cybersecurity



Article III. Rider 78. Interagency Cybersecurity Initiative for Public Schools

- **Data Privacy:** \$55M for the biennium for third-party cybersecurity risk assessments, regional technical assistance, and cyber-defense tools (software & hardware)
- Administered through the Department of Information Resources (DIR). This will require participating LEAs to become members of the DIR shared services co-op.

TEA Cybersecurity Webpage
Monthly webinars scheduled

■ What supports to school systems will this provide?

Service Type	Availability Scope	Next Step Timeline
Cybersecurity technical assistance provided by ESCs	Entire state	As stood up by ESCs over the next 6 months
Free third-party cybersecurity assessments	First come, first served	Application to open in September
Free Endpoint Detection & Response (EDR) subscriptions through the end of the 2024-25 SY	Prioritized for small & midsize LEAs	Application to open in September
Free Network Detection & Response (NDR) hardware & software through the end of 2024-25 SY	Pilot group of LEAs and ESCs	Application to open in September

■ Next Steps

- Ensure your cybersecurity coordinator joins monthly cybersecurity webinars
- Between now & August:
 - Signup for DIR inter-local Shared Technology Services (STS) co-op
 - Within STS, signup for DIR Managed Security Services
- In September: Signup for three services: cybersecurity assessments, EDR (if relevant), and NDR
 - Instructions to signup will be provided in August cybersecurity webinar

Previous Sessions:

April - Introduction to TX K-12 Cybersecurity Initiative:

<https://youtu.be/1Blh2eFSpFI>

May - Review of service offering – Crowdstrike (EDR) and Dorkbot:

<https://youtu.be/Ot4QwJyMslI>

Upcoming Session:

August 23, 2023 - How to request funded services

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8234183618339320587>

Other bills passed in the 88th session

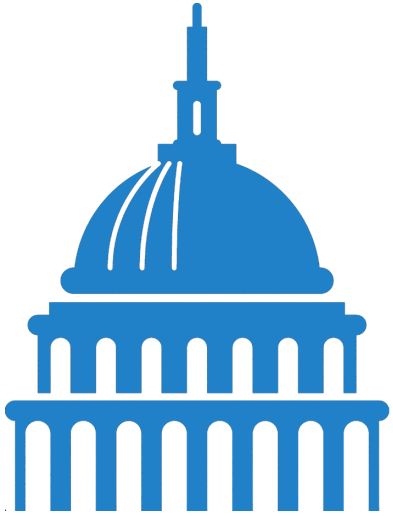
The Texas Legislature typically files about 1,000 education-related bills every session

1,474 Education Bills filed this session



- **50** Hearings on Education Related Bills
- **127** Bills Heard in House Public Education Committee
- **160** Bills Heard in Senate Education Committee
- **140** Passed both Chambers, 100 signed by Governor Abbott as of June 14th. *Veto Period ends June 18th.*

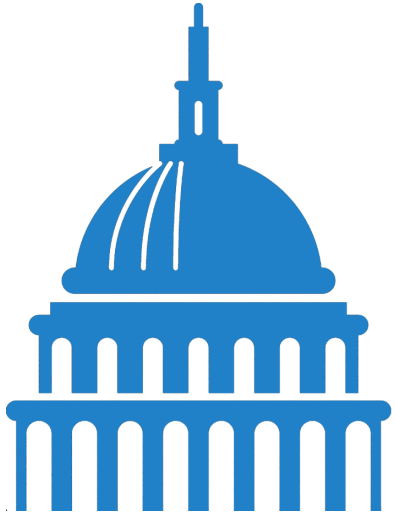
The following slides provide detail on a few of these bills.



HB 8: Community College Finance

- Entitles a junior college district to performance tier funding for the number of credentials of value awarded and the number of students who complete a sequence of at least 15 semester credit hours or the equivalent for dual credit or dual enrollment courses that apply toward academic or workforce program requirements at the postsecondary level
- Establishes a Financial Aid for Swift Transfer program to allow eligible educationally disadvantaged students to enroll at no cost in dual credit courses.
- Requires TEA to work with the TWC and THECB to obtain wage information and educational requirements for in demand jobs in Texas, baccalaureate degree and associate degree or certificate programs with the highest average annual wages following graduation and post the data on the TEA website for students and schools to access more easily.

TEA will provide a detailed webinar in the fall to support implementation of this bill



SB 2124: Advanced Math

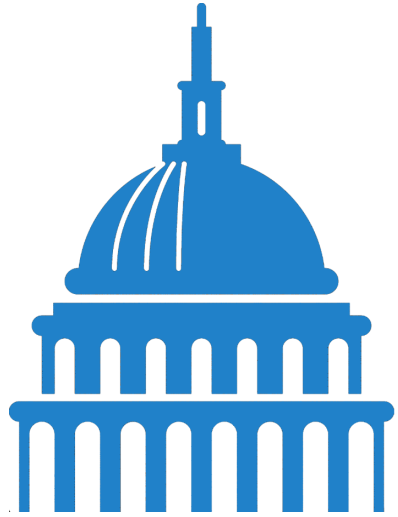
- As soon as practicable, school systems must enroll 6th grade students in an advanced math course if they performed in the top 40% of the state on the 5th grade STAAR math assessment or similar local measures
- This will require advanced math courses (e.g., Alg I) be offered in middle school if those courses are not currently offered
- Parents may opt their children out of this requirement

TEA will provide more info about rules under this statute later this summer

HB 1225: Paper STAAR Test

- School districts may administer assessments in a paper format to students upon request of parent, guardian, or teacher, up to 3% of district enrollment.
- The 3% excludes any student whose ARD committee determines that the student requires an accommodation that must be delivered in a paper format.
- Request must be submitted to district not later than 9/15 for fall administration and 12/1 for spring administration of assessments.

[TAA](#) released August 17th with more info.



HB 1926: Supplemental Special Education Services Continuation

- Removes the September 2024 expiration date of the SSES Program.
- Removes the \$30M per year limitation on funding appropriated.

SB 2294: Texas First Scholarship

- Expands eligible higher education institutions and requires school systems to allow students to participate in and graduate from high school under the program

HB 2892/1959: Transfer of Children of Military & Police

- Districts must allow children of active military (HB 2892) and peace officers (HB 1959) to enroll in a campus or district even when they live outside of campus attendance zone (intra-district transfers) or the district (inter-district transfers).
- Transportation is not required under this statute.
- The Student Attendance Accounting Handbook & PEIMS will be updated reflect this new requirement. Other guidance documents will be also published soon.



SB 763: Chaplains as Supports in Schools

- Each board of trustees and governing body of a school district/open enrollment charter school must take a record vote not later than six months after the effective date of the bill on whether to adopt a policy authorizing a campus to hire or accept as a volunteer a chaplain
- A school district/open-enrollment charter school may employ, or accept as a volunteer, a chaplain to provide support services for a school
- The board of trustees or governing body of a school may determine support services needed

HB 3803: Parental Election for a Child to Repeat a Course

- A parent or guardian may elect for a student in a grade up to grade 8 to repeat the grade in which the student was enrolled during the previous school year or for a student to repeat a high school course
- For high school courses, the school district/open enrollment charter can deny if it is determined the student has met all requirements for graduation



SB 10: TRS Benefits

- One-time \$7,500 stipend for eligible annuitants who are 75 and older.
- One-time \$2,400 stipend for eligible annuitants between 70-74 years.
- 6% COLA – Effective Date of Retirement: On or before 8/31/2001
- 4% COLA – Effective Date of Retirement: On 9/1/2001-8/31/2013
- 2% COLA – Effective Date of Retirement: On 9/1/2013-8/31/2020

HJR 2:

- COLA does not take effect until HJR 2 is approved by voters on November 7, 2023.
- Stipends are not dependent on HJR 2 and will be paid by the end of September 2023.

*For more information and updates on SB 10 please visit: <https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/benefit-enhancements-2023.aspx>

K-12 Funding-Related Bills that Did Not Pass in the Regular Session



Key funding-related bills that did not pass in the Regular Session

- School finance (HB 100) & Teacher pay (HB 11, SB 9)
Special Education funding (HB 3781 and SB 1474)
ESA (SB 8)
 - Combo bill with modifications (HB 100)
- Virtual Education (HB 681, HB 3141, and SB 1861)
- Property Taxes (HB 2, SB 3, SB 4)
 - **Added to First and Second Called Sessions**

Close to \$17B was appropriated for these purposes; however, further legislative action is needed to access the funding.

88th Regular Session Update – Bills That Did Not Pass

The Senate and House Passed different versions of HB 100, and the legislation was not ultimately adopted. The bills impacted FSP funding to school systems. The impact was modeled during the legislative session, and each chamber's final versions are noted here:

House Version

	2024	2025
District type	New Funds per ADA	New Funds per ADA
Charters	\$ 355	\$ 446
Independent Town	\$ 620	\$ 757
Legislative	\$ 188	\$ 891
Major Suburban	\$ 263	\$ 439
Major Urban	\$ 457	\$ 538
Non-metropolitan Fast Growing	\$ 610	\$ 937
Non-metropolitan Stable	\$ 898	\$ 911
Other Central City	\$ 328	\$ 570
Other Central City Suburban	\$ 445	\$ 635
Rural	\$ 2,222	\$ 2,284
Total	\$ 468	\$ 621

Senate Version

	2024	2025
District type	New Funds per ADA	New Funds per ADA
Charters	\$ 401	\$ 502
Independent Town	\$ 249	\$ 445
Legislative	\$ 188	\$ 200
Major Suburban	\$ 135	\$ 239
Major Urban	\$ 175	\$ 270
Non-metropolitan Fast Growing	\$ 450	\$ 767
Non-metropolitan Stable	\$ 565	\$ 799
Other Central City	\$ 148	\$ 308
Other Central City Suburban	\$ 217	\$ 368
Rural	\$ 1,597	\$ 1,901
Total	\$ 265	\$ 406

Questions?

Next call: Thursday, September 21