



The 86th Legislative Session

Post Legislative Summary

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Austin Independent School District

Overview

- Public Education and Safety key priorities
- Property Tax Relief
- Student Mental Health
- Strengthening the Public Information Act
- Little on Charters
- No Bathroom Bills Filed
- Two Voucher Bills Filed, but No Action Taken

Summary of Bills

- 7,324 bills filed
- 1,429 passed and sent to the Governor
- 56 vetoed
- Over 800 bills tracked by AISD
- 22 AISD staff submitted oral or written testimony on 16 bills
- Over 90 bills summarized & distributed to staff

HB 3 Overview

- Investment of \$11.6 billion
 - ▷ \$6.6 billion for public schools (\$4.5B new state aid; \$2B teacher salary/benefits)
 - ▷ \$5 billion property tax compression
- Recapture reduced by \$3.6 billion over biennium (47%) state-wide
- State's share of funding increased from 38% to 45%
- Funding elements from 1980's & 1990's updated

Additional Money

- BA increased to \$6,160 from \$5,140 (19.8%).
- Special Education mainstream weight increased from 1.1 to 1.15.
- New dyslexia weight of 0.10
- New dual language weight of 0.15 for ELLs and 0.05 for non-ELLs.
- Current 0.2 comp ed allotment to be based on 5 tiers - 0.225 to 0.275 - relative to degree of poverty measured by census block group.

Compensatory Education Allotment

- Commissioner will define groups of census blocks based on:
 - ▷ Median Household Income
 - ▷ Average Educational Attainment
 - ▷ % Single Parent Households
 - ▷ Rate of Home-ownership
 - ▷ Other??
- Lots of questions and unknowns with this calculation.

Full-Day Pre-K

- Districts required to provide full-day pre-K to eligible 4-year olds.
- Early education allotment provides funding.
- Weight of 0.1 for each economically disadvantaged and/or LEP student in K-3.
- Austin ISD already offers full-day pre-K, but will now get state funding to pay for second ½ of day.

Teacher & Employee Pay

- Districts must use 30% of the additional revenue per ADA between SY 2018–2019 & SY 2019–2020 for compensation (includes benefits) increases for full time, non-administrative staff, to be allocated as follows:
 - 75% for minimum salary schedule employees (teachers, nurses, counselors, and librarians)
 - Priority for teachers with 5+ years experience.
 - 25% for district employees (other than administrators)

AIISD Board Approved \$48 M in Raises

- 7 % compensation increase for teachers, counselors and librarians with more than five years of experience;
- 6 % compensation increase for all other staff;
- A \$500 stipend increase to our special education teachers, an investment of about \$500,000; and
- A \$1,000 stipend increase to our bilingual teachers, which reflects a \$1.2 million investment.
- Required 1.5% TRS investment of \$7.8 million (new) along with social security
- More than 2 times amount required by HB 3.

Additional Funding

- Outcomes-based funding for CCMR - \$5000 for disadvantaged students, \$3000 for non-disadvantaged students, \$2000 for SPED.
- CTE includes 7-12 grades, up from the current 9-12.
- Recapture districts eligible for transportation funding.
- Additional 30 days of half-day instruction for students enrolled in PK-5 (optional).
- NO outcomes funding for 3rd grade STAAR.

Impact of HB 3 on AISD

- Finance staff conservatively estimate an additional \$88 M in new revenue to AISD and potential investment earnings of \$5 M.
- Recapture payment estimated to be reduced by \$60.9 million – still high at \$612.2 million.
- Nothing certain – Commissioner rules, fall enrollment, property values, compounded allotment calculation, etc.

Challenge – Current Year Values

- HB 3 moves to current year values; recapture based on the property values from the prior year divided by student attendance in the current year.
- Prior year values reliable because they've been through the state Property Value Study and appraisal appeals process.
- Prior year values help districts predict what they will owe in recapture payments.
- Predictability matters because recapture-paying districts rely almost entirely on property taxes for funding.

Challenges – Sustainable Funding

- Robust economy and elimination of certain formulas and allotments, such as the cost of education index (\$2.9B), gifted and talented , high school, and staff allotments, current year values (\$1.8B) made increased funding possible.
- State can't rely solely on continued economic growth to maintain public education investments made in 86th.
- Additional, sustainable sources of revenue needed to support public education.

Safety - SB 11 – Broad Reach

- **Allotment** - \$9.72 per student.
- **Facilities Standards** – Commissioner shall adopt for secure & safe environment
- **Trauma-Informed Care** – District Improvement Plan must include policy on trauma-informed care and teacher CE must include grief and trauma-informed care.
- **Health Curriculum** – must include instruction about mental health conditions, substance abuse, emotion management skills, suicide prevention.

SB 11

- **Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs)** – numerous additions required, i.e., mandatory drills, training for substitute teachers, safety for students in portables.
- **Threat Assessment Teams** at each campus.
- **Notice of Bomb or Terroristic Threats** – to parents “as soon as possible.”

SB 11 - School Safety & Security Committee

“To the greatest extent practicable” must include:

- (1) rep of city or county office of emergency management;
- (2) rep of local police department or sheriff's office ;
- (3) rep of district's police department;
- (4) president of the district's board of trustees;
- (5) trustee other than the president;
- (6) the superintendent;
- (7) superintendent's designee(s), with at least 1 classroom teacher;
- (8) two parents; and
- (9) charter school rep, if district partners with open enrollment charter school.

School Safety & Security Committee

- Must meet 3 times per year (once per semester and once in summer)
- Comply with Open Meetings Act
- Recommend updates to emergency operations plan (EOP)
- Consult with law enforcement on increasing presence near campuses
- Revised policies to be in TASB Update 114

Students - Graduation

- Must complete FAFSA or TAFSA to graduate. Parents & students over 18 may decline. Beginning with students enrolled in the 12th grade in the 2021-22 school year,
- IGC's extended for 4 years.
- LOTE credit for completion of course in American Sign Language at elementary level.

Student Health

- District must provide info about cardiac arrest and electrocardiogram testing to students who participate in certain UIL activities. **HB 76**
- Bleeding control stations on campuses and training to SRO's, most personnel, and students in grade 7 or higher, on how to use. **HB 496**
- **SB 21** prohibits selling or giving cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or tobacco products to a person under age of 21. Exception for person at least 18 years old with military ID.

At-Risk Students

- HB 692 prohibits placing homeless student in out-of-school suspension; campuses to work with homeless liaison to identify alternatives.
- Districts to consider student's status as being in foster care, or homeless in determining discipline. **HB 811**
- Definition of students at risk of dropping out of school expanded to include students who have been incarcerated or have had a parent or guardian incarcerated. **SB 1756**

Mental Health – HB 18

- Requires specific elements of mental health training for educators;
- Health curriculum in K-12 to include instruction on mental health, substance abuse, positive relationships;
- Health curriculum to include mental health and awareness of e-cigarettes to substance abuse.

Mental Health Studies

- Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services to evaluate mental health services funded by state and provided at public schools (staff training, impact on violent incidents, suicide rates). **HB 906**
- HHSC and TDSHS to complete a study on suicide by May 1, 2020, to include age, gender, military status. **HB 3980**

Conclusion

- There are many more bills not covered here.
- There are many more details in these bills.
- Much rule-making authority given to Commissioner of Education.
- Studies and advisory groups are also mandated.