



2025 Katy ISD Legislative Priorities #KatyISDEdLeg

STATE FUNDING

Increase State Funding that Addresses:

- ✓ The Basic Allotment per student
 - Inflation
 - Special education
 - Safety
 - Career & Technology Education and workforce development

TEACHER RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Teacher Recruitment & Retention Initiatives to:

- ✓ Raise teacher salaries and address rising healthcare costs
- ✓ Implement positive legislative changes that
 - Addresses behavioral issues in the classroom
 - Streamlines administrative tasks
 - Focuses on core subjects and limits requirements beyond the state's Foundation and Enrichment Curriculum

STAAR ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

STAAR Assessment & Accountability Reform to:

- ✓ Limit STAAR tests to the federally mandated requirement
- ✓ Shift all online testing to begin at 5th grade, rather than 3rd
- ✓ Provide additional STAAR alternatives for special education students

Increased State Funding for Basic Allotment



The Basic Allotment is the foundational funding amount allocated by the state per student, which is **currently \$6,160**. Since 2019, this allotment has remained unchanged despite increasing costs for school operations, teacher and staff salaries, and classroom supplies.

- **Inflation has risen more than 20% since 2019.**
- **The number of students needing special education services is rapidly increasing.**
- **Safety funding has only increased by \$0.28 per student and \$15,000 per campus, though with inflation and increased security mandates, these amounts are inadequate to meet legislative requirements.**
- **House Bill 1525 (2021) tied weighted CTE funding to specific courses that students must take and complete,** though the funding model does not account for the necessary certifications for CTE teachers or the rising costs of facilities and supplies.

Teacher Recruitment & Retention Initiatives



Higher salaries and lower cost benefits are vital for recruiting and retaining high-quality educators and addressing staffing shortages. Additionally, **working conditions must be improved by reducing the burdensome workloads that contribute to teacher burnout.** This includes preventing class size increases, providing more administrative support, limiting instructional requirements beyond the state's mandated Foundational and Enrichment Curriculum, and increasing funding for resources that allow teachers to focus more on instruction rather than non-teaching duties.

STAAR Assessment & Accountability Reform



The **number of STAAR tests must be reduced from 20 to the federally required 17.** The high stakes of these tests create significant stress for students, as they heavily influence school ratings, leading to a test-preparation-focused curriculum. This pressure also affects teachers, who must invest extra time in preparation, data tracking, and test management. **Additionally, STAAR tests for grades 3-4, which are currently administered online, should revert to a paper format. Accommodations must also be provided for any student receiving special education services.**