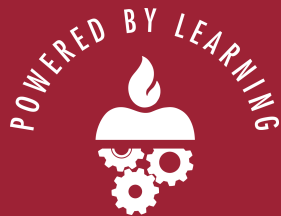


# Advocacy Update

Work Session  
March 23, 2021





# 2021



PLANO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Legislative Priorities

# Legislative Events

## Recent

- North Texas Commission Superintendent Advisory Cmte. - March 10
- 2021 TASA/TASB Legislative Conference - March 12
- House Public Education Committee Meeting - March 16
- Senate Education Committee Meeting - March 18
- Legislative Power Hour with Representative Jeff Leach March 18

## Upcoming

- Collin County Days - March 24
- Plano Chamber Legislative Days Virtual Summit Series - March 25
- House Public Education Committee Meeting - March 23

Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Education Agency announced that the State of Texas will provide a hold harmless to Texas schools for the rest of the 2020 - 2021 academic school year.

March 4, 2021

# Extension of Hold Harmless

## ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief)

- ESSER I approximately \$1.3 Billion for Texas K-12 schools; most was supplanted through reduction in state funding (Plano ISD received \$0)
- ESSER II approximately \$5.5 Billion for Texas K-12 schools
- ESSER III approximately 12.4 Billion for Texas K-12 schools

Funding is intended to address one-time costs associated with learning loss and other challenges related to the pandemic. We need to communicate how our district will use these funds to address our district's needs to our legislators.

**Federal funds intended for K-12 schools should be sent directly to school districts.**

# Federal K-12 Covid Relief

# Current Topics to Watch

- **Cap on district fund balance** to 110 days. Specific restrictions on spending excess or else state funding is decreased by same amount; no bond proposals
- **HB3 Clean Up Bill** (HB1525 and SB 1536)
- **Teacher and staff development** for special education curriculum
- **Mental health services** for students at school-based health centers
- **Electronic database** shared among districts to be added to threat assessment team set up in SB11 in 86th legislative session

## Considerations for all bills discussed

- Watch the **fiscal impact** of each piece of legislation (“fiscal notes”)
- Watch for **unfunded mandates**, e.g., additional reporting or training hours for staff
- Watch for hidden items in clean up or catch-all bills (vouchers, charter expansion)

# Upcoming Current Topics for House Public Ed 3/23/21

- **IEP supplemental reporting** for students receiving certain special ed services
- **Restricting use of student information** and exemption for national test providers
- **Individual Graduation Committees** for certain students
- **Public School Finance** HB 1525 to clean up of HB3 items. Companion bill is SB1536 Also includes: special ed funding for charter schools, prohibits M&O tax rate to be used to pay down debt
- **Mental health** data collection and TEA reporting, as well as suicide prevention
- **School district hearings** regarding complaints

**Trisha Windham, Trinity Consultants, will provide a detailed update at our April 6 Board Meeting.**

- Board Member  
Advocacy Updates





PLANO ISD PROUD

