

SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 81ST SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on July 28, 2008

FINANCE

Spring Branch ISD believes that the current funding system needs to be modified to provide funding to meet cost increases caused by

- Inflation
- growth, and
- changes in student demographics.

To meet these needs, the school finance system must include

- a biennially updated index that captures all district costs
- annual increases in State funding to meet cost increases due to the combination of growth and inflation.

In addition, the finance system should

- permit unlimited local voter-approved enrichment to allow school districts to supplement funding to meet community expectations, and
- eliminate Chapter 41 recapture, including the recapture of voter approved local enrichment.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Spring Branch ISD believes that it is time to replace the current accountability system with an accountability system that

- has as its sole focus the goal of ensuring that all students complete high school and are prepared, without remediation, to obtain a two-year Associate's Degree, a technical certification, or a four-year Baccalaureate Degree
- assesses students based on annual academic, non-academic growth and development of 21st Century workforce skills
- utilizes multiple assessments
- rewards success based on overall student performance, and
- mandates corrective action for chronically deficient performance in student sub-populations.

SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 81ST SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on July 28, 2008

FINANCE

Spring Branch believes that the current funding system needs to be modified to provide funding to meet cost increases caused by inflation, growth, and changes in student demographics. To meet these needs, the school finance system must include a biennially updated index that captures all district costs and increases State funding annually to meet cost increases due to the combination of growth and inflation. In addition, the finance system should permit unlimited local voter-approved local enrichment to allow school districts to supplement funding to meet community expectations. Finally, the finance system should eliminate Chapter 41 recapture including the recapture of voter approved local enrichment.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Spring Branch believes that it is time to replace the current accountability system with an accountability system that utilizes multiple assessments and has as its sole focus the goal of ensuring that all students complete high school and be prepared, without remediation, to obtain a two-year Associate's, a technical certification, or a four-year Baccalaureate Degree. To that end, the accountability system should assess students based on the following criteria: annual academic and non-academic growth and student development of 21st Century workforce skills. The accountability system must reward success based on overall student performance and mandate corrective action for chronically deficient performance in student sub-populations.