



# CFISD COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



## ESTABLISH ADEQUATE & EQUITABLE FUNDING

- Revise and simplify funding formulas to reflect the true cost of educating Texas children, accounting for increased costs and district growth
- Oppose diverting funds to private schools through vouchers, savings accounts, scholarships, credits, etc. or to other non-education expenses
- Increase state cost sharing levels to reduce over-reliance on local property taxes
- Provide adequate funding for all mandated programs and safety enhancements
- Eliminate the penalty on districts that grant taxpayers the “optional” homestead exemption



## PREPARE STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

- Establish and fund full-day Pre-K programs and facilities for all eligible children as part of the foundation school program
- Eliminate testing that is not federally required and replace STAAR with meaningful, nationally normed student assessments that gauge student learning with no high stakes (ITBS, Stanford, ACT, SAT, etc.)
- Permanently adopt Individual Graduation Committees as an alternative to satisfy graduation requirements



## ENSURE SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS

- Fund and support adequate compensation, retirement, and benefits to attract and retain quality teachers
- Support and continuously improve the safety of students and staff
- Ensure that all schools receiving public funds, including charter schools, are held to equivalent accountability, transparency, governance, and safety standards
- Eliminate high stakes testing in school accountability in favor of more meaningful, balanced methods



## INCREASE LOCAL CONTROL

- Enable independent school districts to establish and address priorities based on local needs
- Enlist local community input before approving charter school expansion or charter school use of bond funds
- Direct public funds only to public districts that serve all students and are governed by a community-elected Board of Trustees