

2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

LISD Council of PTAs



1 MENTAL HEALTH

Monitor implementation of mental health legislation, including programs and services designed to help keep students mentally strong and prepared to cope, as well as systems to identify students in need of intervention.



2 SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

Monitor TEA's Special Education Strategic Plan and corrective action taken after an investigation by the Department of Education.



3 STAAR

Advocate for reduced emphasis on state mandated testing that penalizes the student and teachers rather than guides instruction and identifies learning problems.

4 RECESS

We advocate that all students receive a minimum of 30 minutes of recess and that recess not be used as a punitive measure. Recess provides a mental break and has a positive effect on attention, concentration, and classroom behaviors. Unstructured play is critical to development of imagination, creativity and conflict resolution. It also improves the social and emotional learning of all students.



5 SCHOOL SAFETY

Monitor school safety legislation, both implementation of laws enacted in 2019 and legislation filed in the 87th legislative session.



6 PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM

Maintain funding for all components of House Bill 3, the comprehensive public school legislation adopted by the 86th Texas Legislature. We also advocate that any new mandates receive adequate funding.