



TLEEC Policy Agenda for the 2021 Legislative Session

Advocate Meaningful Assessment and Fair Accountability

- Eliminate state-required tests that exceed federally required assessments (per ESSA).
- Remove high-stakes accountability sanctions to schools and students (i.e., grade promotion graduation requirements).
- Promote meaningful, diagnostic and formative assessments designed to assess students' learning without punitive measures attached.
- Extend individual graduation committees for high school graduation approval without expiration.

Invest in Public School Students

- Maintain full funding for education; oppose education cuts and maintain hold harmless provisions for 2020-21 attendance funding.
- Invest in public education and critical services that support families (e.g., assistance to resolve digital divide, healthcare).
- Protect against privatization efforts that compromise public school resources (e.g., charters, vouchers, virtual charters).
- Prioritize funding for historically marginalized students, such as English learners, students receiving special education services, and students from limited incomes.
- Channel federal stimulus funds for education equitably toward districts and students that have been most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Promote Quality Bilingual Education

- Support diverse teacher preparation programs, especially for bilingual teachers.
- Monitor, support, and expand high-quality, effective programs for English learners, including dual language programs.
- Protect and increase student-weight funding for English learner students in all instructional programs.

Prepare All Students for College Readiness and Success

- Ensure that a rigorous college preparatory curriculum is available to all students, especially for students of color and from lower-income households.
- Expand access to and affordability for postsecondary education through an increase in-state financial aid, expansion of eligibility for gift aid, and protections for student borrowers.
- Make institutions of higher education more equitable in their faculty pay structures, internet infrastructure, and student services and resources.

- Protect in-state tuition and aid eligibility for undocumented students.
- Protect the Top Ten Percent Plan.

Promote Educational Equity in All Aspects of Student Learning

- Adopt ethnic studies and support implementation through state standards.
- Engage families in the policies and practices for school reopening.
- Support greater mental and behavioral health resources for students, teachers and staff.
- Support wraparound services that address all needs of school community (e.g., full-service community schools model).
- Develop a robust, racially diverse teacher workforce and educational leadership.
- Accurately and transparently collect and monitor data disaggregated by race-ethnicity regarding, but not limited to student engagement, discipline, and achievement to assess racial equity in schools.
- Promote authentic methods of two-way, family-school engagement.
- Advocate policies for racial justice in schools, including dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline, promoting professional development in racial justice and culturally responsive pedagogies and practices, and district adoption of racial equity policies.

The Texas Legislative Education Equity Coalition (TLEEC) is a collaborative of organizations and individuals with the mission to improve the quality of public education for all children, with a focus on racial equity. The coalition convenes organizations and individuals who advocate in the interest of public school students at the local, state and national levels.

TLEEC Member Organizations

ARISE Adelante	Texas American Federation of Teachers
Breakthrough Central Texas	Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE)
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD)	Texas Association for Chicanos in Higher Education (TACHE)
Dr. Hector P. García G.I. Forum	Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC)
Easterseals Central Texas	Texas Center for Education Policy, University of Texas – Austin
Every Texan	Texas Hispanics Organized for Political Education (HOPE)
Houston Community Voices for Public Education	Texas League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA)	Texas NAACP
McNeil Educational Foundation for Ecumenical Leadership	Texas State Teachers Association (TSTA)
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)	The Education Trust
Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA)	UnidosUS (formerly known as NCLR)
National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) – Tejas Foco	UP Partnership
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	