

Educate. Engage. Activate.

Unlocking the Power of Our Voices

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RAISE
YOUR HAND TEXAS



The Lege



Special Session #3

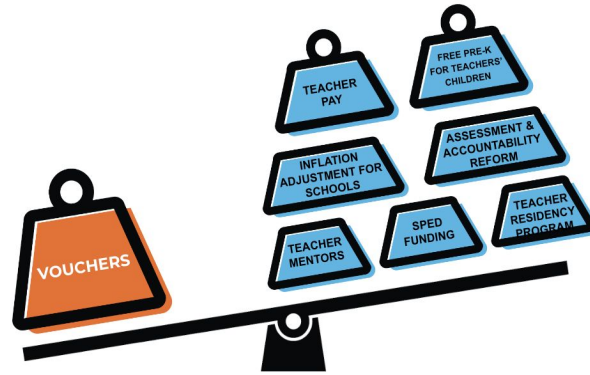
The call:

- Border Security
- Public Safety
- Ending COVID Restrictions
- Educational Freedom



88th Lege- What You Need to Know

- So much promise in January
 - Task force reports
 - Action items
 - Money



Major Education Legislation Fail May 30, 2023



None of the key education bills make it to the governor's office before Sine Die.

HB 1

Public education funding in state budget, including contingency riders total: **\$8.6 Billion**

EDUCATION PROGRAM	AMOUNT
Curriculum (HB 1605)	\$500 million
School Safety (HB 3)	\$300 million
Formula Funding and Teacher Pay (?)	\$3.99 billion
School Choice (?)	\$500 million
Virtual Education (?)	\$49.4 million
Subsidy for TRS Active Care (HB 1)	\$588.5 million
Golden Penny Yield Increase (HB 1)	\$2.36 billion
Increase to the New IFA (HB 1)	\$60 million
Instructional Materials (HB 1)	\$307 million

What Passed During the 88th (Regular)?

 PASSED	 FAILED
State Budget (HB 1)	Vouchers (SB 8, SB 1474, HB 100)
School Safety Allotment (HB 3)	School Funding (HB 100)
State Curriculum (HB 1605)	Teacher Pay and Workforce (SB 9, HB 100)
Library Materials (HB 900)	Property Tax Relief (SB 3)
Accelerated Instruction (HB 1416)	Special Education Funding (SB 1474)
Teacher Retirement (SB 10)	K-2 Testing (HB 2162)



- **HB 108** creates specialty license plates for classroom teachers with at least 15 years of service teaching public school students.
- The license plates must include the words "*Texas Teacher*" and depict a Texas public education logo.
- The department shall design the license plates in consultation with the Texas Education Agency.
- Establishes a fee of **\$10.00** for issuance of the classroom teacher specialty plates and **\$5.00** for the retired classroom teacher specialty plates.

Q & A

<https://presenter.ahaslides.com/presentation/4836277?presenting=true>

Outcomes & Impacts



Rural School Districts Are Facing Financial Ruin. Some State Officials Prefer It That Way.

The Campaign to Sabotage Texas's Public Schools

Houston ISD struggles with special education services after cutting workers

What's Keeping People From Becoming Teachers? An Eye-Popping To-Do List, for One

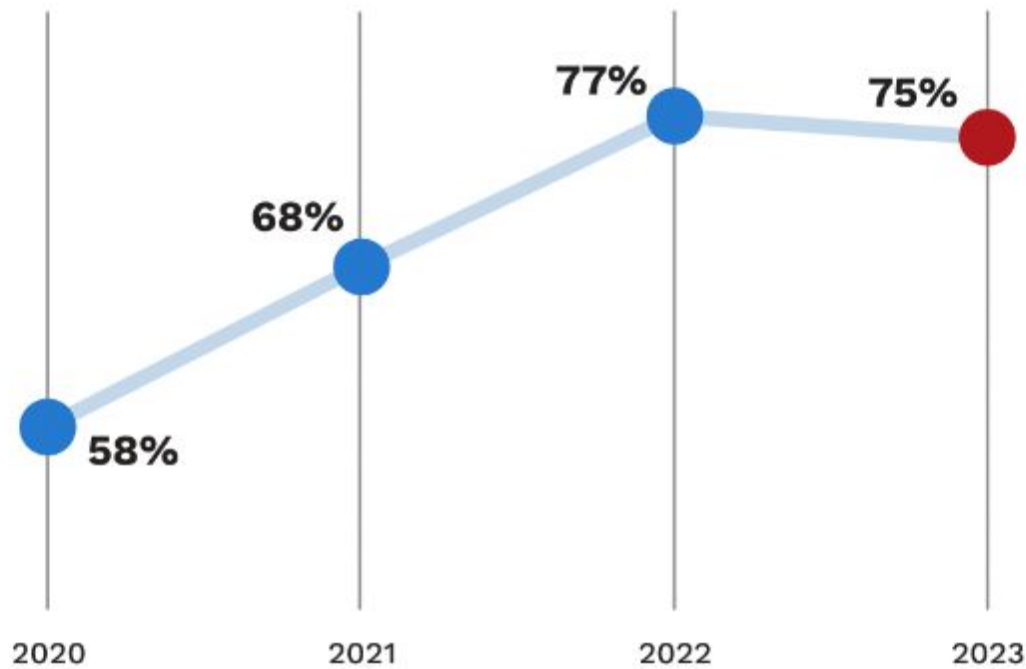
Teachers With Guns: District by District, a Push to Arm Educators Is Growing

School book bans show no signs of slowing, new PEN America report finds

"Government schools seem to exist for the purpose of employing otherwise unemployable adults." -X

Teachers Considering Leaving the Classroom

% Texas teachers seriously considering leaving



Teachers' Mental Health in Relation to Their Job Varies by Age

% Texas teachers describing their mental health
and emotional well-being

	All teachers	Under 30 years old	30-39 years old	40-49 years old	50-59 years old	60 years and older
% excellent/ very good	31%	11%	24%	32%	44%	51%
% good	27%	29%	26%	24%	30%	24%
% only fair/ poor	41%	60%	50%	43%	25%	23%

- Overall, the national numbers for bachelor's edu certifications are down almost 50% in most of our lifetimes (US DoED)
- Certifications down over 30% in Texas over last decade (TEA)
- Decline in majors from 2010 to 2019, marked uptick in fall 2020 as COVID saw “yea!” teacher affect then a drop...generally 20+/-% afterwards
- One School of Ed in Texas went from almost 14% of all incoming freshmen majors to only 3% in the last decade
- Major regional ed prep program had 8% of all course enrollment in ed 2022 vs. 16% ten years before
- New certifications since the pandemic have largely come from out of state teachers relocating, about 25% since 2020

Dependence upon each other

Public schools need YOU

- To train quality teachers

- To research and identify new teaching methods

- To support ongoing excellence in teaching

You need strong public schools

- To foster future teachers

- To serve as placements for your students

- They employ most of your graduates

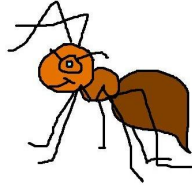
Strong public schools make the teaching profession attractive.

Amazing Symbiosis: Ant Army Defends Tree | National Geographic



<https://youtu.be/Xm2qdxVVRm4>

Unlock your inner ant!



There are threats to our tree!



Take notice - Take action

The Power of US



You are the experts

With colleagues, associations,
Community, officials, students

You are training the future experts

On students, on policy, on the real
work happening in classrooms

Drivers

- “Austin doesn’t get it!”
- “Did anyone ask a teacher?”
- “They have no clue what it is like to be a teacher”
- “That rule is crazy; who thought that made sense?”
- “Someone with experience should have a seat at the table”

Barriers

- “I don’t know enough”
- “I don’t want to lose my job”
- “I don’t have time”
- “No one will listen to me”
- “Nothing will ever change”



Advocacy starts with Relationships

- This is not adversarial work
- Grassroots to Grasstops
 - Community leaders to elected officials to local groups
- Be a positive, reliable resource
- Never pass up a chance
- Tell stories, offer solutions
- Recognize your true reach
- Extend invitations
- Lege Staff



Some Tools of Advocacy

- Amplify voices
- Elevate the profession
- Attend or host events
- GOTV
- Connect advocates
- Cultivate a “team”
- Mobilize/take action



Power Mapping

Advocacy is about relationships. At its most effective, advocacy is organized.

So let's map your advocacy avenues and make a plan.



Education in Texas is in an urgent moment...the clock is literally ticking.

Today, in the next hour-

Call your legislator.



Thank you for all you do!

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