

2023 LEGISLATURE DELIVERS MEASURED FUNDING INCREASES FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION, FALLING WELL SHORT OF SCHOOLS' NEEDS

The Texas Legislature made some specific investments in Texas public schools during the 2023 regular legislative session, including the following two-year spending increases:

\$2.4 billion for the Golden Penny yield

Increased the amount of money to which schools are entitled for certain pennies on their tax rate. Some districts do not benefit from this funding.

\$1.4 billion for school safety measures

Put \$1.1 billion into one-time grant funding for campus safety projects, plus \$300 million to increase the school safety allotment

\$500 million for state-mandated curriculum and instructional materials

Funding increase for HB 1605, provided that schools use the funding only on state-mandated curriculum and instructional materials

\$588.5 million for limiting teachers' health premium increases

Even with this funding, educators' premiums expected to grow by 6.4 percent

\$307 million for technology and instructional materials

Restoration of a funding reduction made during the 2021 legislative session

LEGISLATORS MADE MODEST INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DESPITE A \$33 BILLION SURPLUS, A SEVERE SHORTAGE OF EDUCATORS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND 17.2 PERCENT INFLATION OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS

- ✗ No increase in the Basic Allotment**, the largest unit of funding for schools in Texas. Already in the bottom 10, Texas is likely to sink further in state rankings of per-pupil spending
- ✗ No increases for teacher salaries**, despite the fact that Texas pays teachers well below the national average and teacher vacancies have mushroomed across the state
- ✗ No replacement for the Formula Transition Grant**, which provides needed funding for districts that saw little help from House Bill 3 in 2019. The FTG is set to expire in 2025.



**TEXAS SCHOOL
COALITION**