

North East ISD 2017 Legislative Agenda

Position Paper: Accountability and Assessment

Board of Trustees

Shannon Grona
President, District 5

Brigitte Perkins
Vice President, District 7

Sandy Hughey
Secretary, District 1

Tony Jaso
Trustee, District 6

Jim Wheat
Trustee, District 4

Edd White
Trustee, District 2

Sandi Wolff
Trustee, District 3

Executive Staff

Brian G. Gottardy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Ron Clary
*Associate Superintendent
for Operations*

Pauline Dow, Ed.D.
*Associate Superintendent
for Instruction and
Technology Services/CIO*

Donna Newman, Ed.D.
*Associate Superintendent
for Campus Administration
and Human Resources*

Dan Villarreal, CPA
*Associate Superintendent
for Business Services/CFO*

Aubrey Chancellor
*Executive Director of
Communications*



Community-Based Accountability

Background

Texas is a diverse state with more than 5.2 million students in public education and 1,200 local school districts that range in size from 25 students to more than 200,000 students. The complexity of the Texas accountability system makes it difficult to truly understand the quality of schools, and it fails to adjust to school communities with more challenging environments.

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, Texas will implement a new accountability system that uses a five domain process for measuring: 1) student achievement, 2) student progress, 3) closing performance gaps, 4) postsecondary readiness, and 5) community and student engagement. The complexity comes from each of the five domains having its own list of indicators and targets that will be used to determine A-F letter ratings for each domain and an overall composite rating. The majority of the overall performance rating will be based on student performance from a single-day standardized test, STAAR, which was designed to rank order students and not assign judgments of quality.

Positions

Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach to statewide accountability, a community-based accountability system can empower school districts to design their own internal systems of assessment and accountability that, while meeting general state standards, allows districts to innovate and customize curriculum and instruction to meet the needs and interests of their students and communities. The NEISD Board of Trustees offers the following recommendation:

- Support a fair state accountability system that provides educators, parents and patrons with accurate information about school quality, recognizes the diversity of the state, and aligns with the federal accountability system.

Summary

Accountability is necessary for the public and policy makers to understand and support education. An accountability system should include valid and transparent metrics that help clearly identify what students have learned and areas for improvement. In a community-based accountability system, the metrics reflect the community values, district mission, and state and federal standards.

Some Texas school districts are already using community-based accountability systems. Examples are available at www.tasanet.org//site/Default.aspx?PageID=840.

*Scan below for
more NEISD
legislative info*

