

PARENTS: KNOW WHAT'S CHANGING IN TEXAS PUBLIC ED

TEXAS EDUCATION 911



PARENTS JOINED VOICES, HEARTS & HANDS

For the past two Legislative sessions, Texas Education 911 has worked alongside allies to inform and support Texas families going through serious problems within their public schools. We've helped inform state lawmakers about some of these problems, like violations of trust and due process, failure to comply with existing law and board policies, abuse, data collection, concerning mental health overreach, and the lack of pro-citizen investigative structure within the state. Below are a few laws that go into effect 9/1/25.

SB 12

Encompasses work from many parties to clarify and codify existing (including God-given) parental rights, many of which ISDs have regularly violated.

SB 13

Corrects some of the flaws with existing library safety legislation. Schools can no longer be secretive or exclude parents of minor children on what they're exposing children to.

HB 4623

Allows for civil action in cases of sexual abuse at school, gross negligence.

SB 413

Requires all board meetings to be recorded; reduces secrecy carveouts

SB 571

Addresses gaps in what happens after there's an allegation or evidence of abuse by a school employee.

SB 412

Eliminates the "it was educational" legal excuse for the sorts of actions often involved in sexual grooming or abuse of minors.

SB 835

Parties (including school districts) will no longer be able to seek or secure "Nondisclosure Agreements" to silence victims or witnesses of certain sexual crimes.

SB 314

Removes additives from free and reduced school lunches.

SB 25

Recess can't be removed as a punishment. Requires food labels for "toxins."

SB 379

Excludes candy & sugary & artificially sweetened drinks from taxpayer-funded food assistance.

KNOW ABOUT HB 6

Student Discipline. Removes dangerous children. Parents may have to fight for due process for innocent kids.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

TEXAS EDUCATION 911

SB 12

REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY

Finally, school districts must ENFORCE the board policies legislature requires them to adopt!



SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED

Parents have fundamental rights which come from God and are upheld by the United States Constitution, the Texas Constitution, and the laws of this state. Parents have the right to direct their children's moral and religious training and make decisions concerning education, and consent (or not) to medical, psychiatric, and psychological treatment of their children. This is made CLEAR along with the inability of schools to withhold information from their children (with limited exceptions).

SEX & SEXUALITY

Student clubs can't be sexually-geared.

Secrets can't be kept from parents.

- parents must opt in if their children want to join a student club.
- parents must give written informed consent before a child receives sex education.
- No social transitioning.

ENDS ANTI-PARENT USE OF DOI

ISDs can't use "District of Innovation" to exempt themselves from these requirements:

- SHACs and SHAC-related provisions
- Duty to notify parents when their children have an **uncertified** teacher.

LIBRARIES

Parents must be told they have the right to review library and instructional materials, and know what their children are checking out.

INCLUDE & INFORM PARENTS

School boards must develop a plan for parental participation in the district to improve parent and teacher cooperation, including in the areas of homework, school attendance, and discipline.

ISDs must inform parents (in writing) when school starts, of their rights regarding:

- vaccination exceptions and requirements
- data collection practices
- the grievance process
- library and instructional materials
- school services and choices
- G/T, health, sex/gender, & bilingual ed
- class rank, grading policies, etc.
- consent/nonconsent to health care, mental health services
- etc!

DATA COLLECTION

Schools must get a parent to sign off after explaining in full to the parent what kind of data will be collected on the child, under what legal authority, and for what purpose.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

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SB 12



NOTIFICATION - SAFETY

Schools **MUST** notify a parent if they suspect the parent's child was the victim of a criminal offense.

Schools **MUST** notify a parent if there is a change in services related to a child's physical, mental and emotional well-being and take a subservient position to that of the parent, recognizing it is the parent's fundamental right and duty to direct the upbringing of the child. Policy must include encouraging a parent-child chat, and offering to facilitate one.

(Unless criminal abuse or neglect is reasonably suspected, no health records may be withheld from the parent.)

PARTNERING IN THE BOARD ROOM

Boards must hold meetings outside of normal work hours so parents can attend; move public comments from the end of a meeting to the beginning, so parents don't have to wait.

Boards must create an online suggestion/complaint portal.

PARTNERING IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE, CLASSROOM, COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

Schools must list potential health services and obtain consent or non-consent for the school's involvement in each service for their child. For ongoing medication delivery by the nurse, for example, one consent form is sufficient for the school year.

Teachers must share a syllabus or teaching plan with each parent & the AP or Principal.

Parents shall have at least 2 opportunities each year for a parent-teacher conference.

Without informed written consent of the parent, no employee or contractor may perform a psychological, psychiatric or medical exam or treatment, collect biometric data. This includes any method designed to assess a child's traits, attitudes, opinions, beliefs, feelings, mental disorder, or habit - whether standalone, considered a "check-in," or embedded in class lessons. (Social & Emotional Learning.)

The consent is for EACH activity. Failure to comply is grounds for disciplinary action against the employee.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

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SB 12

DISPUTE RESOLUTION - GRIEVANCES

Current grievance procedures are not established by the state. Parents have found them incredibly onerous, useless and discouraging.

By law and common decency, parents are supposed to be treated by school employees and trustees as **FULL PARTNERS** in the education of their children.

Often, things fall short.



THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. DON'T RELY ON OUR "SHORTHAND" TO UNDERSTAND THIS PARENTAL RIGHTS BILL.

**SEE SB 12 AT
[HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/YCOEQ](https://shorturl.at/YCOEQ)**

SB 12 GRIEVANCE PROCESS

- **Prohibits retaliation.**
- Extends ALL timelines to file! Sets timelines for school board to hear/provide written decision. Basic time to file level 1 becomes **60-90 days**, depending on conditions.
- **Requires a decision ON THE MERITS!**
- Requires your ISD to **report to the TEA basic data on grievances** filed/decided.
- Lets you skip a level if there's a conflict of interest.
- Requires records of any hearing; **allows the grievant to add supplementary evidence.**
- Requires each decision to be written down, **explained by the staff member, with documentation that supports each decision.**
- Adds due process and removes some common "surprise" tactics used by ISDs/ISD lawyers
- Allows a board to set a policy that less than a full board can hear a grievance. (Hmm. Which board members will you get?)
- **Authorizes TEA Commissioner to refer educator to SBEC if findings in grievance support the idea.**
- **Requires school district to INFORM people of the grievance process** (website, student parent handbook) make forms readily available.
- **COMPELS the Superintendent to answer to the Commissioner (testify) if 5 or more grievances on the same topic have been filed in a school year.**

Thank You

TO THE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS (THOSE PRESENT) VOTING UNANIMOUSLY FOR THIS HISTORIC PARENTAL RIGHTS BILL.

STUDENT SAFETY

TEXAS EDUCATION 911

EXPOSÉ

After having meetings with multiple officials, we released a report exposing an apparent sexual and physical abuse crisis in Texas public schools. In under a 3 year period, the Texas Education Agency had received 6,888 allegations of physical and sexual abuse or grooming of students by school employees. Seemingly few cases had been resolved, if even opened. Lawmakers got to work.



MEANWHILE- TREY'S LAW

Rep. Mitch Little and Rep. Jeff Leach had been working on a bill called "Trey's Law." Watching the hearings, it began to **click** for us that the **secrecy** upon which so many of our schools seem to rely would be challenged by this wonderful bill. Ultimately, Trey's Law was passed through the senate companion bill by Sen. Angela Paxton. **UNANIMOUS VOTES IN BOTH CHAMBERS!**

HB 748 LEACH >>> SB 835 PAXTON

Nondisclosure agreements cannot be used/sought to conceal information about sexual abuse, whether a victim, witness, whistleblower, etc.

CIVIL LIABILITY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES & TRUSTEES

In this **HISTORIC** step forward for Texans and student safety, Rep. Mitch Little, aided most notably by Rep. Leach and Sen. Paxton, passed HB 4623, which allows CIVIL ACTION in cases of sexual abuse that occur in a Texas public school.

Unlike private schools, PUBLIC schools have been shielded from lawsuits.

This bill must result in improved screening & monitoring processes, more ACTUAL OVERSIGHT by trustees - *or else!*

BROAD bipartisan support.

SB 412 - SEN. MIDDLETON

After YEARS of trying, grassroots activists celebrated this massive achievement! Texas law had SHIELDED from prosecution the exposure, selling or distribution of harmful materials to CHILDREN AND inciting the sexual performance of a child - if for "an educational purpose."

On a party line vote, this bill finally removed these "Alfred Kinsey"- inspired affirmative defenses.

Combined with SB 13 (Library Bill), and last session's HB 4520 (financial consequences) educators will want to think twice before exposing children to "harmful material".

**READ ABOUT THESE BILLS/LAWS
AT CAPITOL.TEXAS.GOV**

PARENT "NEW LAWS" CHECKLIST

MY DISTRICT HAS:

- ☐ Informed me of the right to choose which health and mental health services may be provided to my child, whether for the year or on a case-by-case basis. Emergency care MAY NOT BE denied by a school if I refuse to consent to other care.
- ☐ Informed me of the right of a parent to access and oversee instructional materials in classrooms and libraries; make decisions on these materials.
- ☐ Posted the grievance process, with steps compliant with SB 12, on its website.
- ☐ Ensured all board meetings are held after typical work hours and the board places general public comments early in the meeting. (Both intended to encourage parent participation.)
- ☐ Advised me of my right to determine the education of my child with CHOICES. The district has created ways for parents to be part of the development of a student's personal graduation plan (HS).
- ☐ A board that created a PLAN for parent participation in the district and in the education of our children.
- ☐ A parent portal or online process to submit ideas, concerns to the board and district and campus admin.
- ☐ A board-adopted policy to address school employee misconduct, improve screening and monitoring, and notification requirements to a parent should their child become the victim of an offense by a school employee.
- ☐ Policy/procedure in place to ensure parents have full knowledge of sexuality education content and the inability of a school employee to discuss matters of sex or sexuality with students without written consent.
- ☐ Informed me of "required" vaccines & the ability to exempt from the vaccination requirement by downloading, completing, and turning in a form.
- ☐ A policy how HB 6 will be implemented to provide due process for students accused of wrongdoing.
- ☐ A SHAC. Is it majority parents, are meeting agendas posted, meetings recorded. NO DOI EXEMPTIONS.
- ☐ The requirement to obtain consent from a parent before each & any psychiatric, psychological, well-being survey, screener, test, treatment. I was informed this applies to SEL embedded in lessons.
- ☐ Prohibited sex and sexuality student clubs, social transitioning, secrets from parents; Prohibited DEI.
- ☐ Prohibited the withholding of recess as a punishment.
- ☐ Complied with the duty to disclose to parents all data that may be collected on the student, its use, and the parental rights to prevent certain data collection, especially biometric data.
- ☐ Eliminated food from taxpayer-funded breakfast and lunch containing additives the state just banned.
- ☐ Informed parents by 30 days of start of school, if their child's teacher lacks certification.

NOTE: THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. THIS LIST AND DESCRIPTIONS ARE NOT ALL-ENCOMPASSING. PLEASE CONSULT YOUR ATTORNEY OR VISIT [CAPITOL.TEXAS.GOV](https://capitol.texas.gov) TO SEARCH LAWS