DRAFT - NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

2027 ACPTA Legislative Priorities

Funding	Increase school funding so that it matches actual costs of educating students and maintaining a school, and add an automatic annual inflation adjustment. Cover funding for all state-required mandates, including school safety mandates. Move to enrollment-based funding instead of attendance-based. Advocate for funding for marginalized populations (special elocution, emergent bilingual, and low socioeconomic status) that reflects the actual cost of identifying and meeting each student's individual needs.
Vouchers	Repeal the voucher bill so that public taxpayer dollars do not go toward private schools.
Recapture	Reform recapture by revising the formula to take into account district demographics. Restore a discount for districts that make early recapture payments. Require that all recapture dollars be spent on education provided by public school districts.
Accountability	Advocate for meaningful accountability and assessment reform that eliminates the A-F system, reduces the number of tests and amount of testing time per year, and considers both student achievement and academic growth. Create an accountability system that is flexible to different student populations (e.g. emergent bilingual, students with disabilities), rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

	Reduce over-reliance on state standardized assessments that tie high-stakes decisions to a single test. Incorporate other measures of success (e.g. career and workforce readiness, enrichment programs, teacher certification) relevant to the community being assessed.
TEA Interventions	Expand the options—beyond closing schools or removing an elected board—available to the commissioner for intervening in districts that need additional resources to improve academic outcomes. Require that the Commissioner consider district achievement as a whole, as well as the overall trend in performance at individual schools, before determining appropriate state intervention.
Teachers	Increase base teacher pay for all teachers, regardless of experience or performance. Recognize National Board Certification with an automatic salary increase.
Libraries	Require certified school librarians and provide funding for one in every public school. Make it easier for librarians to purchase books by repealing SB13, HB900, and SB12. Allow parents to opt out of books they do not want their child to read, but reduce the power of a small majority of parents to remove books from the school library.
Technology	Form commission to establish screen time recommendations by grade level. This commission shall develop guidelines for the safe, effective, and developmentally appropriate use of educational technology apps in school. This commission shall create and distribute recommendations for AI use by grade level.