

# WE OPPOSE

## Diversion of State Funding From Public Schools

Vouchers, tax credits, tax payer savings grants, tuition reimbursements or any other programs that divert public tax dollars to either privately run schools or charter school districts that are exempt from state and federal accountability requirements.

## Fund Balances

Penalties or any adverse actions against school districts that maintain a fund balance.

## Unfunded Mandates

Any unfunded mandates and infringements upon local control.



### 2018-19 CROWLEY ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Front Row (L-R):** Secretary Lyndsa M. Benton, Superintendent Michael D. McFarland, Ed.D., President June W. Davis, Vice President Mia Hall

**Back Row:** Assistant Secretary Gary Grassia, Nedra Robinson, La Tonya Mayfield, Ph.D., Ryan Ray, J.D.

### About Crowley ISD

- We serve nearly **16,000 students** in the city of Crowley, southwest Fort Worth and portions of Johnson County.
- More than one-third (9.7 miles) of the new **Chisholm Trail Parkway** runs through Crowley ISD boundaries.
- **Enrollment in Crowley ISD has more than doubled** in the last 15 years.
- Innovative programs are offered across the district's **23 campuses**, with **two new schools** set to open in the next two years.

*Providing students with excellence in education so that **all students** achieve their full potential.*



**Crowley Independent School District** and its Board of Trustees believes public education is the cornerstone of our society. Crowley ISD provides a place where students of all backgrounds and abilities are provided opportunities to grow and learn in a safe environment.

The district hopes to facilitate a collaborative conversation among educators, legislators, stakeholders and relevant associations to provide all students with the best possible education.



# WE SUPPORT

## Public School Finance

A state system of public-school finance that provides an adequate and equitable public-school finance system, ensuring an excellent education for all Texas students, and:

- Removes restrictions on the use of appropriated funds and permits local school districts the flexibility to allocate such funds, specifically bilingual and compensatory education allotments, toward teacher salaries or other uses the district deems necessary to satisfy accountability requirements.
- Increases sustainable state revenue sources to reduce the current overreliance on local property taxes as a revenue source.
- Accurately reflects the cost of education, in the basic allotment, cost of education index and funding weights, and that is updated at regular intervals.
- Provides state formula funding for programs in which public school students are enrolled and receive credit in college courses, including dual credit, early college high school and P-TECH programs.
- Provides more state funding to districts that allow students to earn associate degrees.
- Provides funding for career and technical education for students in sixth through eighth grades.
- Expands the eligible grantees of the Texas Workforce Commission Skills Development Fund to include school districts and an increase in state funding to accommodate such grants.
- Provides weighted career and technical education funding for technology applications.

## Safety

Safe and secure public schools in which all students are welcome and protected.

Flexibility for districts to select appropriate safety measures for their facilities and in which safety measures are funded by the State.

## Mental Health

A state system of public education that provides state funded support for campus-based mental and behavioral health services for students and staff.

## Accountability

Funding for SAT and ACT tests required for students who take STAAR End of Course (EOC) exams prior to high school as proposed by the Texas Education Agency.

## Special Education

Funding to provide appropriate services to increased numbers of students with special needs and dyslexia.



## Charter Schools

Leveling the playing field between school districts and open-enrollment charter schools by determining the average allotment for charters based on the average allotment received by school districts in the counties where the charter is located.

Increased transparency requirements in charter application and amendment requests, including specific locations and proposed new campuses, to provide accurate regional impact on existing traditional public schools and open-enrollment charter schools, as well as sufficient notice and opportunity for analysis and public comment.

## Early Childhood Education

Funding for full-day pre-kindergarten.

## Local Control and Flexibility

Public schools governed by locally elected school board members, with recognition by the state that elected board members are responsive to the needs of their local taxpayers and students.



Flexibility to allow a school district to partner with a non-profit organization, institution of higher education or governmental entity to operate a district campus pursuant to TEC 11.174 to the same extent and on the same level that it is able to partner with an open-enrollment charter, and to permit the school district board of trustees, the school district superintendent, and/or any school district personnel to participate in the governance of the campus and to receive the same level of funding as it would receive if the district partnered with a charter.

## Transportation

A state system of public-school finance that provides adequate transportation funding for all districts, including Chapter 41 districts.

Exemptions for public school buses from paying tolls for use of toll roads operated by the state and regional mobility authorities, or their contractors.