

# INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF TEXAS: EDUCATION & WORKFORCE



## Key Accomplishments: 88th Legislature

From pioneering reforms in community college finance to the strategic expansion of apprenticeship programs and the further alignment of education-to-workforce outcomes, the 88th Legislature made a tangible commitment to the future of Texas.

Texas 2036 has been an instrumental partner in this endeavor, leveraging data-driven, evidence-based policies to support accountability, assessment and transparent systems. These efforts, combined with the billions of dollars in generational investments in education and workforce issues have culminated in a dozen landmark achievements this session. Each one serves as a stepping stone in Texas' journey towards every Texan having the opportunity to earn a family-sustaining wage.

## Historic Budget: Generational Investments



**\$691 M**

for community college  
finance reform



**\$500 M**

for high-quality curriculum



**\$3 B**

for a new higher education  
endowment called the Texas  
University Fund

### Reforming Community College Finance



This \$691 million investment places Texas at the forefront of national higher education reform by prioritizing proven value in the workforce for community college credential offerings. Combined with significant incentives for such offerings, more Texans will earn the credentials needed for good-paying, in-demand jobs.

House Bill 8  
Rep. Vandaveer (R) / Sen. Creighton (R)

### Expanding High-Quality Curriculum



High-quality instructional materials have a strong return-on-investment in improving student outcomes, even more so than lowering class size. A \$500 million investment offers these materials to schools and teachers, assisting new teachers with lesson planning while ensuring more rigorous, grade-level instruction in our classrooms.

House Bill 1605  
Rep. Buckley (R) / Sen. Creighton (R)

### Defending Accountability and Assessments



Assessment and accountability remain primary tools for ensuring that students of all races, incomes and zip codes have equitable access to a high-quality education. Families, school leaders and policymakers deserve strong assessment and accountability systems that prioritize student outcomes, readiness and transparency.

No bills undermining this system have reached the Governor.

# INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF TEXAS: EDUCATION & WORKFORCE



## Notable Education & Workforce Legislation



### Advanced Math Pathways

Increases enrollment in high-level math courses by requiring districts to offer advanced math classes for high-achieving middle school students, regardless of their background or geographic location.

**SB 2124: Sen. Creighton (R) / Rep. Howard (D)**



### High-Quality Tutoring

Ensures high-quality tutoring requirements remain in place for Texas students, facilitating Texas' continued recovery from the pandemic's impact on student outcomes.

**HB 1416: Rep. K. Bell (R) / Sen. Paxton (R)**



### College, Career, and Military Readiness Study

Requires TEA to study post-secondary outcomes of students and how they correlate to student programming in high school, allowing the state to better inform its course and program offerings.

**HB 1: Rep. Bonnen (R) / Sen. Huffman (R)**



### Rural Pathways Excellence Partnership

Expands options for rural school districts to provide college and career pathways that lead to post-secondary success and earning a family-sustaining wage in their hometown.

**HB 2209: Rep. Lozano (R) / Sen. Hinojosa (D)**



### Workforce Data Modernization

Provides the state with data needed to ensure taxpayer-funded workforce development programs, including those that serve our veterans, are delivering a return-on-investment to Texans.

**HB 1703: Rep. Ordaz (D) / Sen. Blanco (D)**



### Apprenticeship Reporting

Establishes data and analysis needed to expand apprenticeships in emerging and high-demand industries.

**HB 4451: Rep. Bhojani (D) / Sen. Flores (R)**



### Workforce Development Funding

Creates the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund with \$5 million to provide Texans with the skills needed to earn a job with a family-sustaining wage.

**HB 1755: Rep. Button (R) / Sen. Alvarado (D)**



### Adult Student Recovery

Provides adult students an opportunity to concurrently earn a high school diploma and a workforce-aligned postsecondary credential.

**SB 2139: Sen. Parker (R) / Rep. Longoria (D)**



### Apprenticeship Funding Coordination

Streamlines and eliminates administrative barriers for apprenticeship and other work-based learning providers to increase the availability of such programs throughout Texas.

**HB 1: Rep. Bonnen (R) / Sen. Huffman (R)**

## Meet the Team



**Mary Lynn Pruneda**

Senior Policy Advisor  
Education



**Renzo Soto**

Policy Advisor  
Workforce



**Gabe Grantham**

Policy Analyst  
Education

*These bills supported by Texas 2036 have been sent to the Governor pending review and potential signature during the veto period, which lasts until June 18, 2023.*