

By: González of El Paso

H.B. No. 847

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the inclusion of school climate in the indicators for
3 evaluating the performance of public schools.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 39.053(c), Education Code, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (c) School districts and campuses must be evaluated based on
8 five domains of indicators of achievement adopted under this
9 section that include:

10 (1) in the first domain, the results of:

11 (A) assessment instruments required under
12 Sections 39.023(a), (c), and (l), including the results of
13 assessment instruments required for graduation retaken by a
14 student, aggregated across grade levels by subject area, including:

15 (i) for the performance standard determined
16 by the commissioner under Section 39.0241(a), the percentage of
17 students who performed satisfactorily on the assessment
18 instruments, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

19 (ii) for the college readiness performance
20 standard as determined under Section 39.0241, the percentage of
21 students who performed satisfactorily on the assessment
22 instruments, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

23 (B) assessment instruments required under
24 Section 39.023(b), aggregated across grade levels by subject area,

1 including the percentage of students who performed satisfactorily
2 on the assessment instruments, as determined by the performance
3 standard adopted by the agency, aggregated across grade levels by
4 subject area;

5 (2) in the second domain:

6 (A) for assessment instruments under Subdivision
7 (1)(A):

8 (i) for the performance standard determined
9 by the commissioner under Section 39.0241(a), the percentage of
10 students who met the standard for annual improvement on the
11 assessment instruments, as determined by the commissioner by rule
12 or by the method for measuring annual improvement under Section
13 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

14 (ii) for the college readiness performance
15 standard as determined under Section 39.0241, the percentage of
16 students who met the standard for annual improvement on the
17 assessment instruments, as determined by the commissioner by rule
18 or by the method for measuring annual improvement under Section
19 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by subject area; and

20 (B) for assessment instruments under Subdivision
21 (1)(B), the percentage of students who met the standard for annual
22 improvement on the assessment instruments, as determined by the
23 commissioner by rule or by the method for measuring annual
24 improvement under Section 39.034, aggregated across grade levels by
25 subject area;

26 (3) in the third domain, the student academic
27 achievement differentials among students from different racial and

1 ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds;

2 (4) in the fourth domain:

3 (A) for evaluating the performance of high school
4 campuses and districts that include high school campuses:

5 (i) dropout rates, including dropout rates
6 and district completion rates for grade levels 9 through 12,
7 computed in accordance with standards and definitions adopted by
8 the National Center for Education Statistics of the United States
9 Department of Education;

10 (ii) high school graduation rates, computed
11 in accordance with standards and definitions adopted in compliance
12 with the Every Student Succeeds Act [~~No Child Left Behind Act of~~
13 ~~2001~~] (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et seq.);

14 (iii) the percentage of students who
15 successfully completed the curriculum requirements for the
16 distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school
17 program;

18 (iv) the percentage of students who
19 successfully completed the curriculum requirements for an
20 endorsement under Section 28.025(c-1);

21 (v) the percentage of students who
22 completed a coherent sequence of career and technical courses;

23 (vi) the percentage of students who satisfy
24 the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks
25 prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under
26 Section 51.3062(f) on an assessment instrument in reading, writing,
27 or mathematics designated by the Texas Higher Education

1 Coordinating Board under Section 51.3062(c);

2 (vii) the percentage of students who earn
3 at least 12 hours of postsecondary credit required for the
4 foundation high school program under Section 28.025 or to earn an
5 endorsement under Section 28.025(c-1);

6 (viii) the percentage of students who have
7 completed an advanced placement course;

8 (ix) the percentage of students who enlist
9 in the armed forces of the United States; and

10 (x) the percentage of students who earn an
11 industry certification;

12 (B) for evaluating the performance of middle and
13 junior high school and elementary school campuses and districts
14 that include those campuses:

15 (i) student attendance; and

16 (ii) for middle and junior high school
17 campuses:

18 (a) dropout rates, computed in the
19 manner described by Paragraph (A)(i); and

20 (b) the percentage of students in
21 grades seven and eight who receive instruction in preparing for
22 high school, college, and a career that includes information
23 regarding the creation of a high school personal graduation plan
24 under Section 28.02121, the distinguished level of achievement
25 described by Section 28.025(b-15), each endorsement described by
26 Section 28.025(c-1), college readiness standards, and potential
27 career choices and the education needed to enter those careers; and

1 (C) any additional indicators of student
2 achievement not associated with performance on standardized
3 assessment instruments determined appropriate for consideration by
4 the commissioner in consultation with educators, parents, business
5 and industry representatives, and employers; and

6 (5) in the fifth domain:

7 (A) two [~~three~~] programs or specific categories
8 of performance related to community and student engagement, locally
9 selected and evaluated as provided by Section 39.0546; and

10 (B) the school climate, locally evaluated as
11 provided by Section 39.05461.

12 SECTION 2. Section 39.0546(a), Education Code, is amended
13 to read as follows:

14 (a) For purposes of including the local evaluation of
15 districts and campuses under Section 39.053(c)(5)(A)
16 [~~39.053(c)(5)~~] and assigning an overall rating under Section
17 39.054, before the beginning of each school year:

18 (1) each school district shall:

19 (A) select and report to the agency two [~~three~~]
20 programs or categories under Section 39.0545(b)(1) [~~as added by~~
21 ~~Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular~~
22 ~~Session, 2013,~~] under which the district will evaluate district
23 performance;

24 (B) submit to the agency the criteria the
25 district will use to evaluate district performance and assign the
26 district a performance rating; and

27 (C) make the information described by Paragraphs

1 (A) and (B) available on the district's Internet website; and

2 (2) each campus shall:

3 (A) select and report to the agency two [~~three~~]
4 programs or categories under Section 39.0545(b)(1) [~~as added by~~
5 ~~Chapter 211 (H.B. 5), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular~~
6 ~~Session, 2013,~~] under which the campus will evaluate campus
7 performance;

8 (B) submit to the agency the criteria the campus
9 will use to evaluate campus performance and assign the campus a
10 performance rating; and

11 (C) make the information described by Paragraphs
12 (A) and (B) available on the Internet website of the campus.

13 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Education Code, is
14 amended by adding Section 39.05461 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 39.05461. EVALUATION OF SCHOOL CLIMATE AS COMPONENT OF
16 OVERALL DISTRICT AND CAMPUS RATING. (a) For purposes of including
17 the local evaluation of districts and campuses under Section
18 39.053(c)(5)(B) and assigning an overall rating under Section
19 39.054, the commissioner by rule shall adopt a method that is based
20 on recognized research and national standards to evaluate the
21 school climate of school districts and campuses.

22 (b) Using the method adopted by the commissioner under
23 Subsection (a) to evaluate school climate, each school district
24 shall assign the district and each campus shall assign the campus a
25 school climate performance rating of exemplary, recognized,
26 acceptable, or needs improvement.

27 (c) On or before the date determined by the commissioner by

1 rule, each school district and campus shall report the school
2 climate performance rating to the agency for the purpose of
3 including the rating in evaluating school district and campus
4 performance and assigning an overall rating under Section 39.054.

5 SECTION 4. As soon as practicable, the commissioner of
6 education shall adopt a method to evaluate the school climate of
7 school districts and campuses as provided by Section 39.05461,
8 Education Code, as added by this Act.

9 SECTION 5. This Act applies beginning with the 2017-2018
10 school year.

11 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.