

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 895

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the requirements for a school district improvement
3 plan.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 11.252, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
7 follows:

8 (a) Each school district shall have a district improvement
9 plan that is developed, evaluated, and revised annually, in
10 accordance with district policy, by the superintendent with the
11 assistance of the district-level committee established under
12 Section 11.251. The purpose of the district improvement plan is to
13 guide district and campus staff in the improvement of student
14 performance for all student groups in order to attain state
15 standards in respect to the achievement indicators adopted under
16 Section 39.053(c). The district improvement plan must include
17 provisions for:

18 (1) a comprehensive needs assessment addressing:

19 (A) district student performance on the
20 achievement indicators, and other appropriate measures of
21 performance, that are disaggregated by all student groups served by
22 the district, including categories of ethnicity, socioeconomic
23 status, sex, and populations served by special programs, including
24 students in special education programs under Subchapter A, Chapter

1 29; and

2 (B) other appropriate measures of district
3 performance, including school climate as defined by Subsection
4 (a-1);

5 (2) measurable district performance objectives for
6 all appropriate achievement indicators for all student
7 populations, including students in special education programs
8 under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, and other measures of ~~[student]~~
9 performance that may be identified through the comprehensive needs
10 assessment;

11 (3) strategies for improvement of student performance
12 that include:

13 (A) instructional methods for addressing the
14 needs of student groups not achieving their full potential;

15 (B) evidence-based practices that address the
16 needs of students for special programs, including:

17 (i) suicide prevention programs, in
18 accordance with Subchapter G, Chapter 38, which include a parental
19 or guardian notification procedure;

20 (ii) conflict resolution programs;

21 (iii) violence prevention programs; and

22 (iv) dyslexia treatment programs;

23 (C) dropout reduction;

24 (D) integration of technology in instructional
25 and administrative programs;

26 (E) positive behavior interventions and support,
27 including interventions and support that integrate best practices

1 on grief-informed and trauma-informed care;

2 (F) staff development for professional staff of
3 the district;

4 (G) career education to assist students in
5 developing the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for a
6 broad range of career opportunities;

7 (H) accelerated education; ~~and~~

8 (I) implementation of a comprehensive school
9 counseling program under Section 33.005; and

10 (J) methods for promoting a safe and supportive
11 school climate as defined by Subsection (a-1);

12 (4) strategies for providing to elementary school,
13 middle school, junior high school, and high school students, those
14 students' teachers and school counselors, and those students'
15 parents information about:

16 (A) higher education admissions and financial
17 aid opportunities, including state financial aid opportunities
18 such as the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for Texas grant
19 program established under Chapter 56;

20 (B) the need for students to make informed
21 curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high school;
22 and

23 (C) sources of information on higher education
24 admissions and financial aid;

25 (5) resources needed to implement identified
26 strategies;

27 (6) staff responsible for ensuring the accomplishment

1 of each strategy;

2 (7) timelines for ongoing monitoring of the
3 implementation of each improvement strategy;

4 (8) formative evaluation criteria for determining
5 periodically whether strategies are resulting in intended
6 improvement of student performance;

7 (9) the policy under Section 38.0041 addressing sexual
8 abuse and other maltreatment of children; and

9 (10) the trauma-informed care policy required under
10 Section 38.036.

11 (a-1) For purposes of Subsection (a), "school climate"
12 means the quality and character of school life, including
13 interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning practices, and
14 organizational structures, as experienced by students enrolled in
15 the school district, parents of those students, and personnel
16 employed by the district.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.