

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.B. No. 3831

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the formation of a committee to conduct proceedings relating to certain complaints and grievances submitted to the board of trustees of an independent school district.

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

SECTION 1. Section 11.1511(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board shall:

(1) seek to establish working relationships with other public entities to make effective use of community resources and to serve the needs of public school students in the community;

(2) adopt a vision statement and comprehensive goals for the district and the superintendent and monitor progress toward those goals;

(3) establish performance goals for the district concerning:

(A) the academic and fiscal performance indicators under Subchapters C, D, and J, Chapter 39; and

(B) any performance indicators adopted by the district;

(4) ensure that the superintendent:

(A) is accountable for achieving performance results;

(B) recognizes performance accomplishments; and

(C) takes action as necessary to meet performance goals;

(5) adopt a policy to establish a district- and campus-level planning and decision-making process as required under Section 11.251;

(6) publish an annual educational performance report as required under Section 39.306;

(7) adopt an annual budget for the district as required under Section 44.004;

(8) adopt a tax rate each fiscal year as required under Section 26.05, Tax Code;

(9) monitor district finances to ensure that the superintendent is properly maintaining the district's financial procedures and records;

(10) ensure that district fiscal accounts are audited annually as required under Section 44.008;

(11) publish an end-of-year financial report for distribution to the community;

(12) conduct elections as required by law;

(13) by rule, adopt a process regarding a complaint through which district personnel, students or the parents or guardians of students, and members of the public may obtain a hearing from the district administrators and:

(A) the board; or

(B) a committee composed of board members formed under Section 11.1711 [~~regarding a complaint~~];

(14) make decisions relating to terminating the

1 employment of district employees employed under a contract to which  
2 Chapter 21 applies, including terminating or not renewing an  
3 employment contract to which that chapter applies; and

4 (15) carry out other powers and duties as provided by  
5 this code or other law.

6 SECTION 2. Section 11.1513(i), Education Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (i) The employment policy must provide each school district  
9 employee with the right to present grievances to:

10 (1) the district board of trustees; or

11 (2) a committee composed of members of the district  
12 board of trustees.

13 SECTION 3. Section 11.171, Education Code, is amended by  
14 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

15 (d) A school district grievance policy may permit the  
16 investigation and proceedings regarding a reported grievance to be  
17 conducted by a grievance and complaint committee formed under  
18 Section 11.1711.

19 SECTION 4. Subchapter D, Chapter 11, Education Code, is  
20 amended by adding Section 11.1711 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 11.1711. GRIEVANCE AND COMPLAINT COMMITTEE. (a) The  
22 board of trustees of a school district may form a grievance and  
23 complaint committee, composed of members of the board of trustees,  
24 to conduct hearings, investigations, and other proceedings  
25 relating to grievances and complaints submitted to the board  
26 pursuant to a process adopted under Section 11.1511(b)(13) and a  
27 policy adopted under Section 11.171.

1        (b) The actions or decisions of a grievance and complaint  
2 committee shall be considered the actions or decisions of the board  
3 of trustees for purposes of an appeal under Section 7.057(a).

4        SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
5 a grievance or complaint reported on or after the effective date of  
6 this Act. A grievance or complaint reported before the effective  
7 date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the grievance  
8 or complaint is reported, and the former law is continued in effect  
9 for that purpose.

10       SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.