



# Houston County School District 2024-2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



## STOP VOUCHER EXPANSION

There are already 3 existing voucher bills that reallocate tax dollars away from public schools. This weakens public education and local communities. Please stop any attempts to expand voucher programs that divert public funds to private institutions.



## EXPAND RETIREE OPPORTUNITIES

To help with teacher shortages statewide, allow Teachers Retirement System (TRS) beneficiaries to fill any available teaching vacancy. Currently, TRS retirees may only teach in certain content areas. In addition, this change would also help the funding of TRS.



## CONTINUE RAISES FOR ALL POSITIONS

In addition to steep increases in the cost of living, school districts nationwide face unprecedented recruitment and retention challenges. The State of Georgia must provide financial incentives in order for districts to attract and retain quality educators.



## FULLY FUND QBE

Full funding is critical to student success. Improve the QBE formula by addressing poverty and updating the amount earned on the Weights for Salary and Operations. Fund the benefits for classified employees.



## PROTECT TRS

Continue to fully fund and support TRS. TRS is especially important for recruitment and retention. TRS works well, so there is no need for reform.



## LOCAL BOARD CONTROL

To support local governance, legislation should align with the constitutional authority of school boards who best know the needs of their community.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2024 SESSION

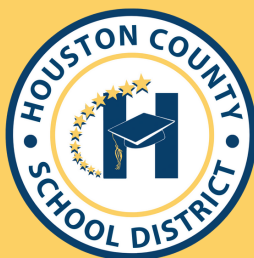
- Raises for teachers and supplements for custodians
- Funding increases for Pre-K, school safety, and transportation
- Adjustments to the benefit payout for PSERS employees

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Dr. Mark Scott

### Board Members

Helen Hughes, Chair  
Dave Crockett  
Mark Ivory  
Lori Johnson

Dr. Rick Unruh, Vice Chair  
Jon Nichols  
Bryan Upshaw  
Clyde Jackson, member-elect



### Houston County Legislative Delegation

Senator John Kennedy  
Senator David Lucas  
Senator Larry Walker, III  
Representative Bethany Ballard  
Representative Shaw Blackmon  
Representative Robert Dickey  
Representative Noel Williams, Jr.