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Texas Education CAFE™ Advocacy Network

## Education Policy Testimony Help – Virtual Office Hours

Children First  
**IDRA**  
— Transforming Education

**Got 15 minutes to spare?** Join us anytime between 4:30 - 5:30  
to advocate for yourself, students and public schools!

- Get info on proposed education bills
- Write your story
- See how to use the comment portal
- Submit your position online for Texas legislators!



**This week's bills address:**

- Access to student mental health supports
- Individual graduation committees
- Student discipline and behavior plans
- Internet access for students
- Harmful databases that track students

**Mondays @ 4:30 pm cdt**

Sign up here: <https://idra.news/Mondays>

Week of: March 15-19

Free Event

## Got 15 Minutes? Take Action for Public Education!

**IDRA holds virtual office hours to walk you through the process of submitting public comments online**

Each week, committees in the Texas Legislature consider specific bills related to public education. You can add your voice to advocates across the state calling for high-quality public education for every student.

With health precautions in place, most public input will occur online. You can help without missing school or work to travel to Austin. Every Monday afternoon, IDRA will help students, families, educators and community members submit their own comments on education bills being debated by Texas lawmakers that week. #ShareYourStory

## What happens during IDRA's virtual office hours?

- Get information on bills that will be heard by lawmakers that week.
- Summarize your own story and how a proposed bill would impact schools in your community.
- See how to use Texas' online public comment portal so you can share your thoughts and ideas with lawmakers.
- Submit your comments!

Next week's bills relate to:

- Access to student mental health supports
- Individual graduation committees that prevent blocking graduation due to a test score
- Student discipline and behavior plans
- Internet access for students
- Harmful databases that track students

**Monday, March 15 • 4:30-5:30 pm cdt**  
**Bilingual event in English & Spanish**

We will be back every Monday. Register once to get the link and come back any time. We'll email the bill topics when they are announced.

**Register Now!**

*Note: IDRA will assist with bill information and the comment process, not on influencing a participant's position.*

## Tools & Resources

[Texas House Public Comment Portal](#)

[How to testify in the #txlege Twitter thread](#) by the Texas Legislative Education Equity Coalition (TLEEC)

[How to Testify before the Texas Legislature](#), Infographic

[Learn more about IDRA's policy recommendations for Texas](#)

Join the Texas Education CAFE  
Advocacy Network!



### **IDRA Education Policy Priorities for Texas**

- ★ Fair Funding for Strong Public School Education
- ★ End Harmful Discipline to Create Safer Schools
- ★ Grow & Sustain School District Health
- ★ Excellent Education for Emergent Bilingual Students
- ★ College Preparation & Access that Expands Opportunities
- ★ A Comprehensive Equity Approach to Addressing COVID-19's Impact on Schools
- ★ Keep the Public in Public Education

<https://idra.news/TxEDPolicy1>



## Town Hall this Tuesday



**TLEEC Town Hall Series**

*New dates for Parts 2 & 3*

Part 1: February 9 • Part 2: March 9 • Part 3: March 16

Virtual events 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm cst each evening



Members and friends of the Texas Legislative Education Equity Coalition are holding a series of three community conversations about how we can work together to strengthen public education, particularly for students of color. This virtual event is for families, community members and advocates across the state to discuss state policies before the Texas legislative session that began in January and ends in May. We will share stories with one another and work toward a TLEEC Legislative lobby day.

**Register Now!**

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Reach Out To Us

