

What's Happening? — New Standards from the Texas SBOE

Key Details of What's Happening and the New Standards

- ❖ The Texas State Board of Education met from June 22-26 to review key parts of Texas' curriculum ([Texas Freedom Network, n.d.](#))
 - ❖ Particularly, the SBOE reviewed the K-12 Social Studies education standards (namely the Social Studies Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)) and approved new standards that are set to take effect in the 2030-31 school year ([Texas Freedom Network, n.d.](#)) – additionally making changes to English Language Arts (ELA) education standards ([Gray 2026](#))
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- ❖ *The new standards:*

- Integrate a greater emphasis on the Bible, Christianity, and Bible stories into the history curriculum ([Edison 2026](#)) – Emphasizing the influence of the Bible and the Ten Commandments on the founders and American systems of law and government ([Schwartz 2026](#))
- De-emphasize race and cultural diversity in history lessons ([Edison 2026](#)) – As well affect if/how Islam and other religious groups are discussed in history ([Schwartz 2026](#))
- Adopt a distorted (Western-centric, Christian Nationalist) perspective of Texas, US, and world history in the state standards ([Gray 2026](#); [Schwartz 2026](#))
- Adopt a new, required reading list in English Language Arts (ELA) classes which includes excerpts from the New and Old Testaments of the King James Version of the Christian Bible ([Ashby 2026](#); [Schwartz 2026](#)) – and affects the amount of say teachers have on the reading lists in their own classrooms ([Gray 2026](#))

BCYD's Position

[BCYD Platform \(Section 1, XI\):](#)

“We are in favor of teaching an accurate and balanced view of history based on widely accepted standards supported by historians and academic professionals. Thus, we oppose efforts to whitewash and revise history in an effort to impose personal social and religious agendas on the youth of Bexar County. We particularly oppose the 2026 revisions by the State Board of Education (SBOE) to Texas’ state standards for K-12 Social Studies and English Language Arts.”

Key Points

- ❖ America is an experiment which has been ever-seeking, over the last 250 years, to create a pluralistic, liberal democracy where *all* people are created equal and entitled to equal treatment by the constitution.
- ❖ When our history lessons exclude or diminish certain religious groups in favor of a Christian Nationalist vision, it is both ahistorical and exclusionary to students of other religions, no religion, and of other cultural backgrounds.
- ❖ The new standards are an affront to the First Amendment and the separation of church and state – seeking to take conversations that should take place in churches or people’s homes and put them in the classroom.
- ❖ The process has moved too fast with parents and educators not having adequate time to review the draft standards – thus there is a need for greater transparency and public engagement.
- ❖ Texas has been a major influence over the current push for a more right-wing influence on our schools and as such what happens here will have ramifications across other states.

Additional Context

Republicans have been using their power and influence to directly attack and discriminate against Muslim and Islamic Texans under the guides of “sharia law.”

- ❖ Texas Republican Primary Ballot Issue – March 3, 2026 ([Ballotpedia, n.d.](#))
 - Proposition 10 on the Texas Republican Party Platform: Texas should prohibit Sharia Law.
 - Yes: 1,994,342 votes (94.76%)
 - No: 110,304 votes (5.24%)
- ❖ Texas Republican Party Convention:
 - *“On Saturday [June 13th], outgoing GOP chair Abraham George addressed two Muslim delegates from the stage, whom members tried to expel from the convention because of their ties to the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a group the GOP and Gov. Greg Abbott have deemed a terrorist threat. ‘I would strongly advise you to leave our caucus,’ George said. ‘There is a Democrat convention happening in a couple weeks. Join them.’”* ([Downey 2026](#))
 - “Don’t Sharia Our Texas” to be added to Texas GOP Talking Points/ Platform ([Downey 2026](#))

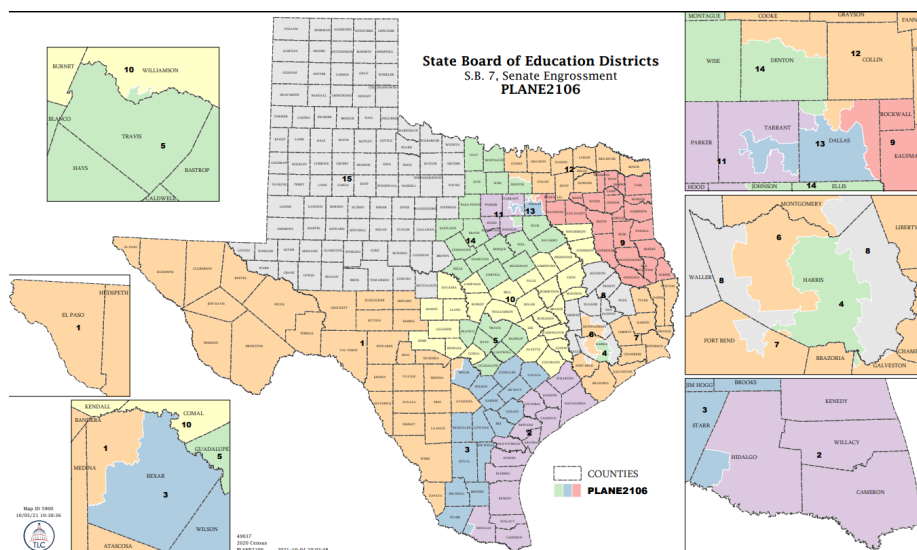
Calls to Action

Contact the Texas State Board of Education (SBOE)

- ❖ The Texas Freedom Network currently has a portal for people to join advocacy efforts from sending an email, signing a petition, or testifying at meetings: <https://tfn.org/texas-state-board-of-education-advocacy-hub/>

Donate to/Volunteer for SBOE Elections

- ❖ 8 of the 15 spots on the SBOE will be up for election in November 2026 – though none in Bexar County
 - District [2*](#), [5](#), [6*](#), [7*](#), [8*](#), [9*](#), [13](#), and [14*](#) are up (*=potential flip) ([Ballotpedia, n.d.](#)) – see map below:



Donate to/Volunteer for State-level Elections

- ❖ Gubernatorial Candidate, [Gina Hinojosa](#) would be positioned to appoint the Chair of the SBOE and have final say over legislation impacting Texas schools.
- ❖ Lieutenant Gubernatorial Candidate, [Vikki Goodwin](#) would be the leader of the Texas Senate, have authority over the state budget and policy agenda, be next in line after the Governor (taking over when the Governor is out of state), and be a potential tie-breaking vote in the Texas Senate.
- ❖ The Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate would be positioned to vote on legislation impacting Texas schools.
 - Bexar County's State House Districts: [116](#), [117](#), [118*](#), [119](#), [120](#), [121*](#), [122*](#), [123](#), [124](#), and [125](#) (all are up in November 2026, *=potential flip)
 - Bexar County's State Senate Districts: [19](#), [21](#), [25](#), and [26](#) (19, 21, and 26 are up in November 2026)

Donate to/Volunteer for Federal Elections

- ❖ The U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate would be positioned to vote on the federal education budget and push back on efforts to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education.
 - Senatorial Candidate, [James Talarico](#)
 - U.S. Congressional Districts in Bexar County: [20](#), [21*](#), [23*](#), and [35](#) (*=potential flip)

Vote in November

- ❖ Check Your Registration and Make a Plan to Vote
 - Find who represents you at:
<https://www.bexar.org/2231/Who-represents-me-Search>
 - Check your registration at:
<https://goelect.txelections.civixapps.com/ivis-mvp-ui/#/login>

Get involved in Bexar County Young Democrats!

- ❖ Go to: bexaryoungdemocrats.com/get-involved
- ❖ We will be hosting many community and campaign events throughout the year to elect Democrats and build community in Bexar County – find more on mobilize and our website.
- ❖ It is free to join as a member! Just fill out the form on our website.
- ❖ If you have any questions, feel free to email us at: exebcyd@gmail.com