

ACCOUNTABILITY & ASSESSMENT UPDATE



- **What We Know Now...ASE Scoring, TEA's Response, & DTC Letter**
- **TAAG Accountability Update**
- **Generation 29 Charters**

Training the ASE

The ASE is trained on student responses and human scores from the field-test data. It is trained to emulate how humans would score student responses for each constructed-response question. TEA evaluates the performance of the ASE for each question using a subset of student responses and corresponding scores that the ASE has not processed. Performance is examined relative to how humans would score the responses to each question; TEA requires the ASE to agree with

3

Texas Education Agency
Student Assessment Division
December 2023

Scoring Process for STAAR Constructed Responses

human scorers at the same rate human scorers agree with one another and that the distribution of ASE scores is similar to the distribution of human scores.

Source: TEA Scoring Process for STAAR Constructed Response, December 2023

December 2022 English II EOC

STAAR test / 4-point rubric / Human scorers
106K students

8% received 0s on ECR:

- 7% first-time testers
- 9% re-testers

Spring 2023 English II EOC

STAAR 2.0 test / 5-point rubric / Human scorers
469K students

25% received 0s on ECR:

- 19% first-time testers
- 62% re-testers

December 2023 English II EOC

STAAR 2.0 test / 5-point rubric / AI scoring
92K students

79% received 0s on ECR:

- 53% first-time testers
- 84% re-testers

Source: TEA Texas Assessment Research Portal

Computers scoring Texas students' STAAR essay answers, state officials say

Amid debates about AI and technology in schools, the Texas Education Agency quietly rolled out a new "automated scoring engine."



Texas students' written responses on the STAAR test will most likely be scored by a computer, rather than a person. (Ben Sklar / The New York Times)

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2024/02/14/computers-are-grading-texas-students-staar-essay-answers/>

How are computers scoring STAAR essays? Texas superintendents, lawmaker want answers

Educators and legislators are concerned about transparency and a spike in high schoolers scoring zero points on written answers.



<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2024/02/15/how-are-computers-scoring-staar-essays-texas-superintendents-lawmaker-want-answers>



TEXAS STANDARD
THE NATIONAL DAILY NEWS SHOW OF TEXAS

ALL OUR STORIES TOPICS FIND A SHOW

Essay questions for STAAR tests to be graded by computers in Texas

The machines will be trained how to evaluate open-ended questions.



Essay questions for STAAR tests to be graded by computers in Texas
February 15, 2024



Share this story with a friend:

By Michael Marks | February 15, 2024 3:56 pm

EDUCATION

A computer will grade short written answers on STAAR. Some Texas schools have questions



Keri Heath
Austin American-Statesman

Published 12:06 p.m. CT Feb. 26, 2024 | Updated 12:22 p.m. CT Feb. 26, 2024



Short written responses by students on the newly redesigned STAAR tests are being scored by a computer program instead of human graders. *Austin American-Statesman*

<https://www.statesman.com/story/news/education/2024/02/26/computer-grading-of-staar-answers-leaves-schools-with-questions/72712635007/>

News 88.7

inDepth

EDUCATION

Almost half of Texas fourth graders scored a zero on the STAAR writing composition last year. Teachers and researchers worry, while the TEA projects confidence

The Texas Education Agency changed a lot about the state's standardized test over the past couple years. Researchers and teachers worry the new approach to writing could kill creativity, but the TEA argues it better reflects how learning happens in class.

Dominic Anthony Walsh | February 29, 2024, 7:00 AM (Last Updated: February 29, 2024, 10:56 AM)



<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/education/2024/02/29/479280/almost-half-of-texas-fourth-graders-scored-a-zero-on-the-staar-writing-composition-last-year-teachers-and-researchers-worry-while-the-tea-projects-confidence/>

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Part of the McClatchy Media Network

EDUCATION

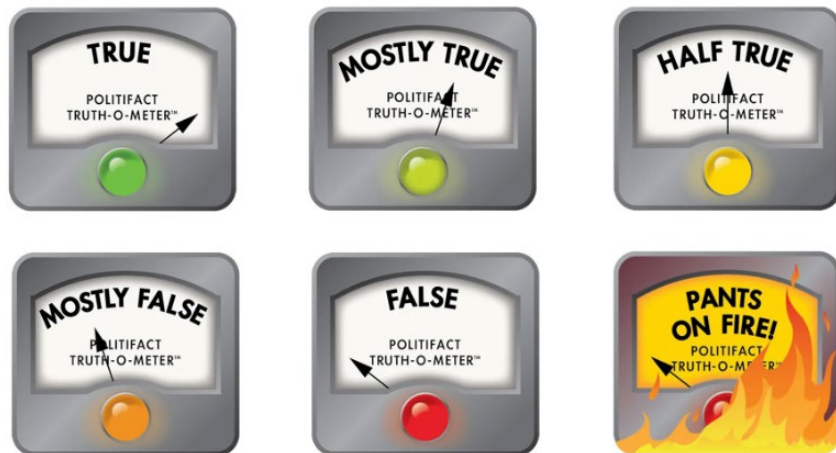
Computer grading is here for STAAR essays. Should Fort Worth school leaders worry?

BY SILAS ALLEN

UPDATED FEBRUARY 27, 2024 10:31 AM

TEA's Assertions:

- ❖ *“The change to the new hybrid scoring model did not impact student results.” page 2*
- ❖ *“The equating process makes sure that even when students encounter a more difficult constructed response question, their overall test maintains the same level of difficulty.” page 3*
- ❖ *“The redesign led to two major changes that are impacting the percentage of students getting a zero score on the extended constructed response: (1) a change in the type of question asked and (2) a change in the scoring rubric.” page 3*



Source: TEA's Written Response to TSA's Qs, 2-24-2024

From: Student Assessment <StudentAssessment@tea.texas.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2024 7:55 AM
To: Student Assessment <StudentAssessment@tea.texas.gov>
Subject: December 2023 STAAR Extended Constructed Responses

To the Regional and District Testing Coordinators Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to notify local educational agencies of the opportunity to receive additional information on certain students' extended constructed responses (ECRs) for the December 2023 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®). District testing coordinators may find this additional information useful when responding to questions related to the hybrid scoring model for the Texas Assessment Program.

As announced in September 2023, ECR questions for the redesigned STAAR reading language arts assessments are now being scored using a hybrid scoring model. This means that the responses are initially scored by an automated scoring engine (ASE), and about 25 percent of student responses are then routed to human scorers for various audit purposes. Refer to the STAAR Constructed Response Scoring Process document available on the [STAAR Resources](#) webpage for more information on the hybrid scoring model.

Throughout the scoring window, both ASE and human scoring results are monitored daily to ensure that scores consistently align to the scoring rubrics. The ECRs are scored using a 5-point rubric based on two traits—development and organization of ideas (up to 3 points) and language conventions (up to 2 points). The scoring rubric is used to determine the effectiveness of each written response.

The ASE assigns condition codes to some student responses, which are then routed to trained human scorers. Condition codes indicate that a response uses just a few words, uses mostly duplicated text, is written in another language, consists primarily of stimulus material, uses vocabulary that does not overlap with the vocabulary in the subset of responses used to program the ASE, or uses language patterns that are reflective of off-topic or off-task responses. The purpose of this routing is to ensure that these unusual responses receive fair and accurate scoring. The score assigned by the human scorer is kept as the score of record for any student response that is routed for human scoring.

Unlike spring STAAR assessments, the December 2023 STAAR end-of-course assessments are not being released due to the need to potentially reuse test questions, therefore student responses will also not be released. ¹ However, based on educator inquiries about this first use of the hybrid scoring model for a STAAR administration, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) is allowing district testing coordinators the opportunity to receive additional information about ECRs that received a score of zero. To preserve the security of the test content for future use of the questions, information will be available only for responses that received a score of zero. District coordinators will be provided with the number of blank responses, the number of responses that were nonscorable due to a condition code, and the number of responses with text that received a score of zero. ² After reviewing this information, the district coordinator may request a scheduled appointment, if needed, to view the responses with text that received a score of zero. This opportunity, available within the next month, is only for viewing students' responses—scoring questions, rubric explanations, and rescore requests will not be covered during this viewing opportunity due to test security requirements.

This is optional for school systems. District testing coordinators who would like to receive additional information about their students' ECRs for the December 2023 STAAR administration must notify TEA using the link below by **11:59 p.m. (CT) March 12, 2024**.

[December 2023 STAAR Extended Constructed Responses](#)

If you have questions about the information in this communication or about the Texas Assessment Program, contact TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#).



Student Assessment Division
Office of Analytics, Assessment, and Reporting
Texas Education Agency
[Student Assessment Help Desk](#)



Raw Score Conversion Table

English II
Spring 2023

	Raw Score	Scale Score	Performance Level	Percentile
NOT MET	0	1650	Did Not Meet	0
	1	1994		0
	2	2315		0
	3	2509		0
	4	2650		0
	5	2762		0
	6	2856		0
	7	2938		0
	8	3010		0
	9	3076		1
	10	3136		1
	11	3191		2
HARDLY MET	12	3242	Approaches in 2012-2016* Approaches in 2016-2022** Approaches ⁹	3
	13	3291		4
	14	3336		6
	15	3380		7
	16	3421		9
	17	3460		11
	18	3497		12
	19	3533		14
	20	3568		15
	21	3601		17
	22	3632		19
	23	3663		20
MET	24	3692	Meets	22
	25	3721		24
	26	3748		25
	27	3775		27
	28	3801		29
	29	3827		31
	30	3852		33
	31	3876		34
	32	3901		37
	33	3925		39
	34	3950		41
	35	3975		43
MASTERS	36	4000	Masters	45
	37	4026		47
	38	4052		50
	39	4078		52
	40	4106		54
	41	4134		57
	42	4163		59
	43	4193		62
	44	4224		64
	45	4255		67
	46	4288		70
	47	4323		72
	48	4358		75
	49	4396		77
	50	4435		80
	51	4476		82
	52	4520		84
	53	4567		87
	54	4618		89
	55	4673		91
	56	4734		93
	57	4802		95
	58	4879		96
	59	4969		98
	60	5076		99
	61	5213		99
	62	5402		100
	63	5719		100
	64	6050		100

2023 STAAR 2.0 English II EOC
Online test has 52 questions
worth a total of 64 points.

Q16 – multipart = 2 pts.

Q20 – multiselect = 2 pts.

Q26 – multipart = 2 pts.

Q30 – ECR = 10 pts.

English II ECR counts for 16% EOC score
(10 points ÷ 64 points = 16%)

Spring 2023 E2 Test – RLA Answer Key

Item Number	Item Type	TEKS	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)	Reporting Category	Readiness and Supporting
1	Multiple Choice	4.F	1	A	1	Readiness
2	Multiple Choice	8.F	1	A	1	Readiness
3	Multiple Choice	7.Eiii	1	C	1	Supporting
4	Multiple Choice	5.C	1	B	1	Readiness
5	Multiple Choice	2.B	1	B	1	Readiness
6	Multiple Choice	7.Eii	1	D	1	Readiness
7	Multiple Choice	8.A	1	A	1	Readiness
8	Multiple Choice	7.Ei	1	A	1	Readiness
9	Multiple Choice	8.G	1	C	1	Supporting
10	Multiple Choice	5.D	1	D	1	Readiness
11	Multiple Choice	2.A	1	B	1	Supporting
12	Multiple Choice	7.Dii	1	A	1	Supporting
13	Multiple Choice	8.C	1	C	1	Supporting
14	Multiple Choice	4.G	1	D	1	Readiness
15	Multiple Choice	8.B	1	B	1	Supporting
16	Multipart	4.F	2	B, B	1	Readiness
17	Multiple Choice	7.B	1	A	1	Supporting
18	Multiple Choice	8.F	1	A	1	Readiness
19	Multiple Choice	4.H	1	B	1	Readiness
20	Multiselect	4.H	2	A, C	1	Readiness
21	Multiple Choice	4.H	1	A	1	Readiness
22	Multiple Choice	4.H	1	D	1	Readiness
23	Multiple Choice	5.C	1	D	1	Readiness
24	Multiple Choice	8.A	1	A	1	Readiness
25	Multiple Choice	4.F	1	B	1	Readiness
26	Multipart	6.A	2	C, D	1	Supporting
27	Multiple Choice	5.D	1	A	1	Readiness
28	Multiple Choice	8.D	1	D	1	Readiness
29	Multiple Choice	6.B	1	B	1	Readiness
30	Extended Constructed Response	10.B	10	See Scoring Guide	2	Readiness
31	Multiple Choice	9.C	1	A	2	Readiness
32	Multiple Choice	9.C	1	D	2	Readiness
33	Short Constructed	9.C	1	See Scoring Guide	2	Readiness
34	Multiple Choice	9.C	1	B	2	Readiness
35	Multiple Choice	9.C	1	D	2	Readiness
36	Multiple Choice	9.Bi	1	C	2	Readiness
37	Multiple Choice	9.Bi	1	A	2	Readiness
38	Multiple Choice	9.Bii	1	B	2	Readiness
39	Multiple Choice	9.Bi	1	D	2	Readiness
40	Multiple Choice	9.Bi	1	B	2	Readiness
41	Multiple Choice	9.C	1	A	2	Readiness
42	Multiple Choice	9.Dvi	1	D	2	Supporting
43	Multiple Choice	9.Dii	1	C	2	Supporting
44	Multiple Choice	9.Di	1	A	2	Readiness
45	Multiple Choice	9.Dv	1	D	2	Supporting
46	Multiple Choice	9.Dv	1	C	2	Supporting
47	Multiple Choice	9.Diii	1	A	2	Supporting
48	Multiple Choice	9.Di	1	A	2	Readiness
49	Multiple Choice	9.Dv	1	B	2	Supporting
50	Multiple Choice	9.Di	1	B	2	Readiness
51	Multiple Choice	9.Diii	1	A	2	Supporting
52	Multiple Choice	9.Div	1	D	2	Supporting



Raw Score Conversion Table

Grade 3 Reading Language Arts

Spring 2023

	Raw Score	Scale Score	Performance Level	Percentile
	0	720		0
	1	829		0
	2	935		0
	3	1000		0
	4	1047		0
	5	1085		0
	6	1117		1
	7	1145		1
	8	1170		2
	9	1193		4
	10	1213		6
	11	1233		8
	12	1251		10
	13	1269		13
	14	1285		15
	15	1301		18
	16	1316		21
	17	1331		23
	18	1345		25
	19	1359		28
	20	1372		30
	21	1385		33
	22	1397		36
	23	1409		38
	24	1421		41
	25	1433		44
	26	1444		47
	27	1456		49
	28	1467		52
	29	1478		55
	30	1490		58
	31	1502		61
	32	1514		65
	33	1526		68
	34	1539		71
	35	1553		74
	36	1567		77
	37	1581		80
	38	1596		83
	39	1612		85
	40	1628		88
	41	1644		90
	42	1662		92
	43	1680		94
	44	1700		96
	45	1722		97
	46	1748		98
	47	1777		99
	48	1813		99
	49	1859		100
	50	1921		100
	51	2022		100
	52	2120		100

2023 STAAR 2.0 3rd Grade RLA
Online test has 41 questions
worth a total of 52 points.

Q11 – multipart = 2 pts.

Q24 – multiselect = 2 pts.

Q25 – ECR = 10 pts.

3rd gr ECR counts for 19% RLA score
(10 points ÷ 52 points = 19%)

Spring 2023 Grade 3 Test – RLA Answer Key

Item Number	Item Type	TEKS	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)	Reporting Category	Readiness and Supporting
1	Multiple Choice	7.D	1	B	1	Supporting
2	Multiple Choice	6.G	1	A	1	Readiness
3	Multiple Choice	8.A	1	D	1	Supporting
4	Multiple Choice	6.F	1	C	1	Readiness
5	Multiple Choice	7.C	1	B	1	Readiness
6	Multiple Choice	10.D	1	C	1	Supporting
7	Multiple Choice	6.C	1	D	1	Supporting
8	Multiple Choice	8.B	1	A	1	Readiness
9	Multiple Choice	8.C	1	A	1	Readiness
10	Multiple Choice	3.D	1	B	1	Supporting
11	Multipart	8.B	2	B, A	1	Readiness
12	Multiple Choice	9.B	1	C	1	Supporting
13	Multiple Choice	8.A	1	B	1	Supporting
14	Multiple Choice	7.C	1	A	1	Readiness
15	Multiple Choice	10.E	1	C	1	Supporting
16	Multiple Choice	6.F	1	A	1	Readiness
17	Multiple Choice	3.B	1	C	1	Readiness
18	Multiple Choice	9.Eii	1	A	1	Readiness
19	Multiple Choice	10.C	1	A	1	Supporting
20	Multiple Choice	9.Ei	1	B	1	Readiness
21	Multiple Choice	6.G	1	A	1	Readiness
22	Multiple Choice	6.E	1	D	1	Readiness
23	Multiple Choice	6.E	1	C	1	Readiness
24	Multiselect	6.E	2	A, D	1	Readiness
25	Extended Constructed Response	12.C	10	See Scoring Guide	2	Readiness
26	Short Constructed Response	11.C	1	See Scoring Guide	2	Readiness
27	Multiple Choice	11.Bi	1	D	2	Readiness
28	Multiple Choice	11.C	1	A	2	Readiness
29	Multiple Choice	11.C	1	A	2	Readiness
30	Multiple Choice	11.Bii	1	D	2	Readiness
31	Multiple Choice	11.C	1	B	2	Readiness
32	Multiple Choice	11.C	1	C	2	Readiness
33	Multiple Choice	11.C	1	A	2	Readiness
34	Multiple Choice	11.Dii	1	D	2	Readiness
35	Multiple Choice	11.Dvi	1	D	2	Supporting
36	Multiple Choice	11.Dix	1	A	2	Supporting
37	Multiple Choice	11.Div	1	B	2	Supporting
38	Multiple Choice	11.Diii	1	C	2	Supporting
39	Multiple Choice	2.Bv	1	A	2	Supporting
40	Multiple Choice	11.Dvi	1	D	2	Supporting
41	Multiple Choice	11.Dx	1	D	2	Supporting

3. Improve ability to recognize growth

What: Within Domain 2a, Academic Growth, move to a transition table and include learning acceleration

Why: To include more students in the calculation for growth and recognize successful learning acceleration.

Annual Growth

Prior Year	Current Year					
	Low Did Not Meet Grade Level	High Did Not Meet Grade Level	Low Approaches Grade Level	High Approaches Grade Level	Meets Grade Level	Masters Grade Level
Low Did Not Meet Grade Level	0	1	1	1	1	1
High Did Not Meet Grade Level	0	1/2	1	1	1	1
Low Approaches Grade Level	0	0	1/2	1	1	1
High Approaches Grade Level	0	0	0	1/2	1	1
Meets Grade Level	0	0	0	0	1	1
Masters Grade Level	0	0	0	0	0	1

Accelerated Learning

Prior Year	Current Year			
	Did Not Meet Grade Level	Approaches Grade Level	Meets Grade Level	Masters Grade Level
Did Not Meet Grade Level	0	1	1	1

Including a measure for accelerated learning

Transition table methodology allows us to include more students, including students moving from grade 8 to English I and students moving from a Spanish to an English test.



To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

DATE:	February 15, 2024
SUBJECT:	Proposed 2024 Accountability Manual
CATEGORY:	Performance Reporting
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate staff

The purpose of this communication is to inform school districts and open-enrollment charter schools (school systems) about the publication of the proposed 2024 Accountability Manual.

CCMR: Military Enlistment

2024 Accountability Development

- ★ Starting with 2023 graduates and non-graduating 12 graders, districts can collect and submit DD Form 4 (must include date of enlistment) to earn CCMR credit for students enlisting in the U.S. Armed Services or Texas National Guard.
- ★ CCMR credit is earned for graduates who enlist in the military by December 31 following graduation.
- ★ **DD Form 4s will be submitted in TEAL this spring.**
- ★ The securely uploaded DD Form 4 will be the only form of documentation accepted to document military enlistment for CCMR credit and will only be accepted via the process outlined previously.

2024 Results-Driven Accountability

Indicators 1-4 for Bilingual/ESL/EB will no longer be report only and will have Performance Levels reported.

1. EB STAAR 3–8 Passing Rate
2. ESL STAAR 3–8 Passing Rate
3. ALP STAAR 3–8 Passing Rate
4. EB (Not Served in BE/ESL) STAAR 3–8 Passing Rate

Performance Level cut points are expected to be published in the RDA Appendix available later this spring.

Taskforce information should be coming soon!

Early Communication for Future Accountability

College Prep Courses: Implementing a course approval process to apply to future cycles.

Annual Graduates	Accountability Year	College Prep List	Grade of Course
Class of 2023	2024	any course meeting requirements aligned between district and the partnering IHE(s)	Any Grade (9-12)
Class of 2024	2025		Any Grade (9-12)
Class of 2025	2026		11th and 12th Grade (SY23-24, 24-25)
Class of 2026	2027	TEA College Prep Approved List	12th Grade Only (SY25-26)

A student successfully completing a college prep course that is not on the approved list or a student who is not in 12th grade may still be eligible for TSI exemption at the partnering IHE based on the terms of the local agreement, but that student should not be reported in TSDS PEIMS for the purposes of CCMR. ([2024 Proposed Accountability Manual](#), page 18)

ACTION: TEA Adopts Emergency Rules - Without Public Comment – to Assign Charter School Ratings

The new section is adopted on an emergency basis to take effect immediately. As a result of a court order enjoining the commissioner of education from issuing A-F academic accountability ratings for the 2022-2023 school year, TEA, pursuant to Texas Government Code, §2001.034, is adopting this emergency rule on fewer than 30 days' notice in order to comply with requirements of state law found in TEC, Chapter 12, and its associated rules.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The new section is adopted under Texas Education Code (TEC), §12.114, which requires the commissioner to provide to the charter holder written notice of approval or disapproval of an expansion amendment not later than the 60th day after the date that a charter holder submits a completed request for approval for an expansion amendment; and §12.1141, which requires the commissioner to adopt a procedure for renewal, denial of renewal, or expiration of a charter for an open-enrollment charter school at the end of the term of the charter.

CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE. The new section implements Texas Education Code, §12.114 and 12.1141.

§100.1020.Determination of Academic Accountability.

If academic ratings are not issued for any reason, scaled scores may be used to determine "academically acceptable" and "academically unacceptable" performance.

The agency certifies that legal counsel has reviewed the emergency adoption and found it to be within the state agency's legal authority to adopt.

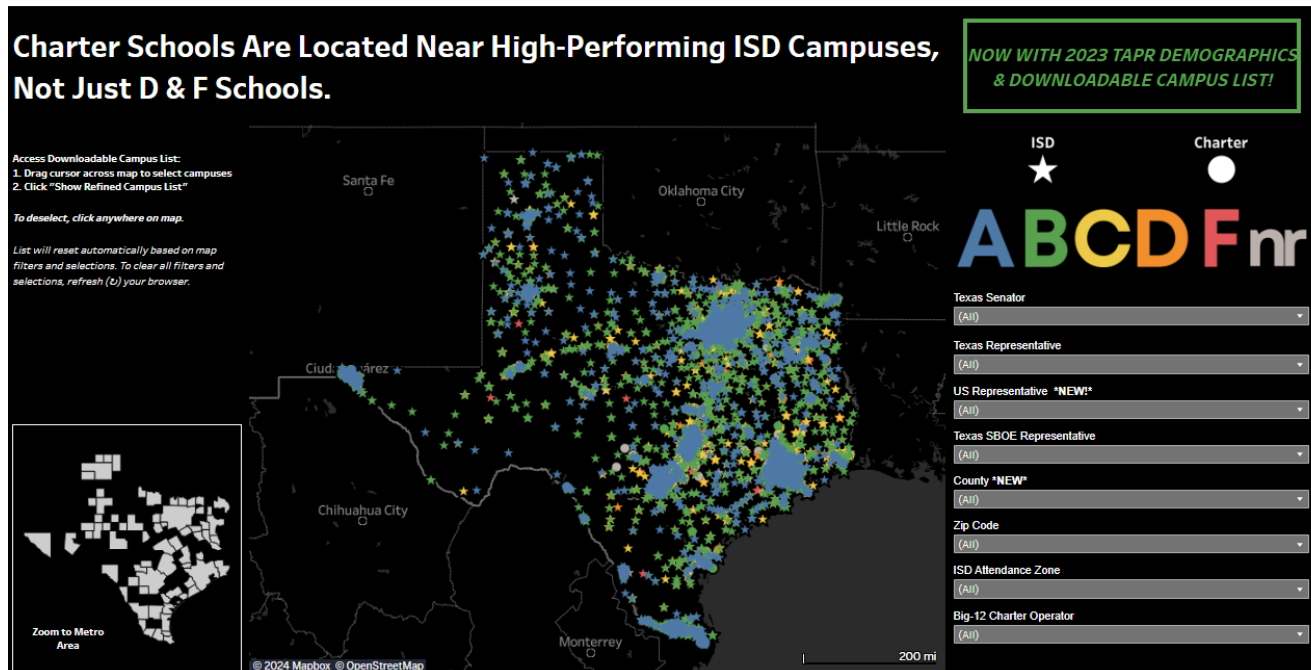
Filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on February 5, 2024.

OUTCOME: Charter expansion begins with 80 amendments filed with TEA for new charter campuses all across the state and enrollment increases for an additional 22,000 students.

****NOTE**** Approval is at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. See the full list [here.](#)

Generation 29 | 2024 NEW! Charter School Applications

- 18 new charter applications have advanced to external review (of 21 submitted).
 - See the **attached list** that includes key information about each charter application including the school districts in the applicant's geographic boundary.
 - Complete **applications** are available to the public on the TEA website.
 - **May 17: The deadline for school districts** to submit Statements of Impact to TEA
 - June 28: State Board of Education has final vote on each new application.
-



https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/tableautexas/viz/TexasSchoolsMapV2p3/StarsAndDotsV2_3