This is the list we came up with in class:

Achievement gap
Not much flexibility
Lack of resources
Distribution of resources (local taxes vs. state)
Top down approaches to education
Student motivation
Family support and values
Standardized testing
Textbooks customized for Texas
Low teacher pay
Teacher tenure
Not teaching what should be taught
Course availability at many schools (advanced courses/variability)
Lack of applicability knowledge
Unqualified teachers
Communication across subjects or grades
Societal problems - drugs, violence
Resistance for change (new methods), for teachers and school administration
Cost of higher education
Discipline issues (uniformity)
Expectations of post-secondary education
Teacher motivation
High school diploma devaluation
Arts, electives, and vocational classes overlooked
Underfunding electives
High teacher turnover
Students stuck in a track
Lack of student motivation (if not going to college)
Teachers devalue non-college bound students
Not good placement for non-college bound
Reliance on parents for life skills (school should provide)
Some schools too competitive
Reliance on technology for homework
Lack of professional development
Teachers forced to use technology (cost of unused tech)
Drop out rates
Lunch nutrition, time
Sport requirements too low
Overemphasis on sports
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