



BULLARD ISD

1426B SOUTH HOUSTON | BULLARD, TX 75757 | (903) 894-6639

Board of Trustees

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BULLARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS the Texas Constitution, Section 7, Article 1 mandates the Texas Legislature to establish and make suitable provision for an efficient system of public free schools for the preservation of democratic values; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutional delegates who framed of the Texas Constitution believed that education was a fundamental right and a cornerstone of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutional delegates, recognizing the importance of community representation and responsiveness, entrusted public school authority to local agencies accountable to the public through elections; and

WHEREAS, the Texas legislators and the Comptroller frequently highlight Texas as the world's 9th largest economy, emphasizing the need for a well-educated workforce to sustain its economic strength; and

WHEREAS, the strength of Texas's economy depends on a well-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, relatedly, Texas' economic future hinges on the success of our public schools; and

WHEREAS, Texas currently ranks in the bottom 10 states in per-student funding; and

WHEREAS, the most recent increase to the basic allotment, (the primary mechanism to fund public schools), was made in 2019; and

WHEREAS, by contrast, the Social Security Administration authorized a 5.9% and 8.7% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2022 and 2023, respectively, highlighting the need for increased school funding; and

WHEREAS, cumulative inflation of approximately 15% necessitates substantial funding increases for public schools; and

WHEREAS, Texas expects continued record revenue growth; and

WHEREAS, we wholeheartedly support parent and family involvement in their children's education in ways that honor parents as partners and respect parents as experts in their children's needs; and

WHEREAS, Texas public schools offer diverse, high-quality educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, private schools, in contrast, differ significantly from public schools in oversight, fiscal transparency, academic accountability, admissions policies, and notably, they lack the elected board oversight seen in public education; and



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WHEREAS, private schools have the autonomy to set their own curriculum, whose tenets may be diametrically opposed by those held in their community; and

WHEREAS, concerns arise regarding the effectiveness and costs of voucher programs and their positive impact on educational outcomes; and

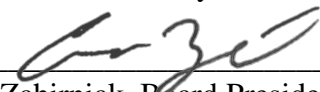
WHEREAS, states with universal voucher programs have incurred significant additional costs by extending eligibility to many students already enrolled in private schools, underscoring that such vouchers primarily benefit existing private school attendees and effectively serve as taxpayer-funded subsidies for affluent families; and

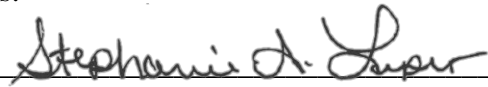
WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Governor of Texas will call a third extraordinary legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. We believe the Texas Legislature must take prompt action to ensure the full funding of public schools by increasing the basic allotment and establishing a mechanism for automatic, inflation-adjusted increases to the basic allotment every biennium.
2. We urge that discussions regarding public education funding remain separate from deliberations to consider education savings accounts or any other mechanisms aimed at diverting public funds away from public schools. Each matter should be considered independently based on its own merits.
3. We believe the Legislature should oppose the diversion of any public funds to pay for or subsidize private schools via any manner, including educational savings accounts (ESAs), vouchers, taxpayer savings credits, etc. which will further diminish the already inadequately funded public schools.
4. We urge the Texas Legislature to uphold and respect the duties granted to local Board of Trustees as enumerated in Section 11 of the Education Code that provide that a school district is governed by a board of trustees who, as a body corporate, shall:
 - (1) oversee the management of the district; and
 - (2) ensure that the superintendent implements and monitors plans, procedures, programs, and systems to achieve appropriate, clearly defined, and desired results in the major areas of district operations.

Adopted this 23rd day of October, 2023, by the Bullard ISD Board of Trustees.


Cory Zahirniak, Board President


Stephanie Luper, Board Secretary

With the following recorded vote:

Cory Zahirniak	<u>Y</u>	Brian Vestal	<u>Y</u>	Stephanie Luper	<u>Y</u>
Jason Campbell	<u>Y</u>	Chris McNertney	<u>Y</u>		
Susie Saxion	<u>Y</u>	Jason Stainback	<u>Y</u>		

Y = Voted In Favor N = Voted Against