



MYTH vs. REALITY: FAQ

HEAR IT FOR YOURSELF!

Start at 1:16:00 and Listen to Appropriations Committee TEA Commissioner's Testimony Regarding the Breakdown of All Funds Per Students in Texas from Tuesday, February 19, 2025.

MISCONCEPTION #3

"As you can see, total **funding for Texas public schools has increased 22.76% in the past 10 years**, adjusted for inflation."

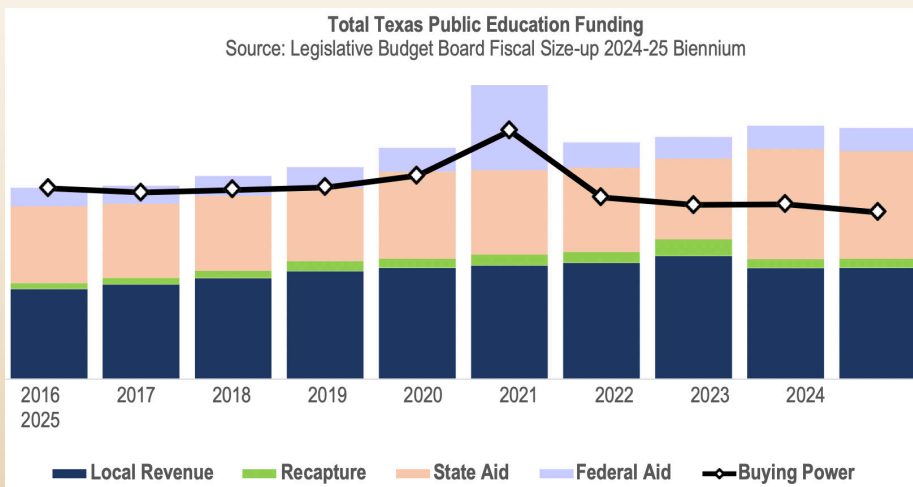
REALITY

The Texas Legislative Budget Board (LBB) is a permanent joint committee of the Texas Legislature that develop recommendations for the state budget and legislative appropriations. The LBB also analyzes proposed legislation and evaluates state and local operations. The Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House co-chair the LBB.

In preparation for each legislation session the LBB provides lawmakers with its Fiscal Size-up Report to report on the budget and other fiscal actions of each Legislature and to provide contextual information about state government. On page 221 of the 2024-2025 Biennium LBB Fiscal Size-up Report the LBB provides a summary of the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 Texas Education Agency Funding in Actual and Constant Dollars Fiscal Years 2016 to 2025, as seen below.

According to this report:

- Total school funding (adjusted for inflation) has actually decreased by \$6.5 billion over the last 10 years.
- This is a 12.6% decrease in buying power for public schools—not an increase.



Why Does This Matter?

- Even though **dollar amounts may look higher**, the actual value of that money has **shrunk due to inflation**.
- Schools are paying more for **teacher salaries, classroom resources, and operational costs**, but state funding has **not kept up**.
- This funding gap makes it harder for schools to provide the same level of education and services as they did a decade ago.

Rockwall ISD's Reality

- As noted earlier, **Rockwall ISD already receives less funding per student than the state average**.
- This means the impact of shrinking school funding is even **more significant** for our district.

BOTTOM LINE:

Has school funding increased by 22.76% over the past 10 years?

No. After adjusting for inflation, Texas public school funding has actually **decreased by 12.6%** in real dollars.