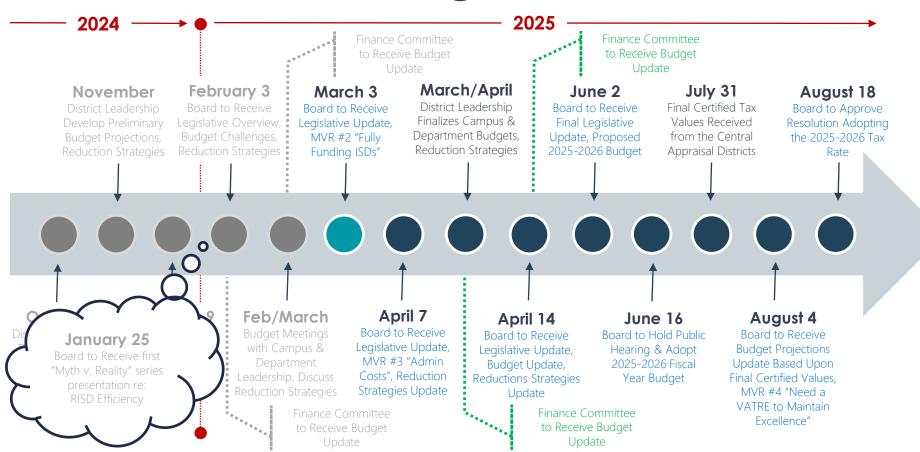


### **ROCKWALL ISD**

Budget & Legislative Update | March 2025



### FY 2025-2026 Budget Process



44

"All-time high of \$70.53 billion in FY 2023"



### "Fully fund" public schools

"Schools districts aren't efficient"

"Per-Student funding has increased 55% since 2014"

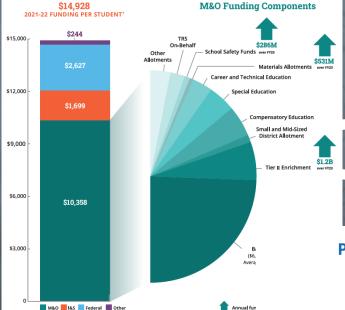
"Provided more funding than any other Governor of Texas"

"Schools districts spend too much on administration"



- > MVR: Is Rockwall ISD "Not Financially Efficient?"
- > MVR: Are Public Schools "'Fully Funded' At Historically High Levels?"
- MVR: Does Rockwall ISD "Spend Too Much On Administration?"



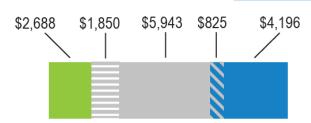


PER STUDENT FUNDING

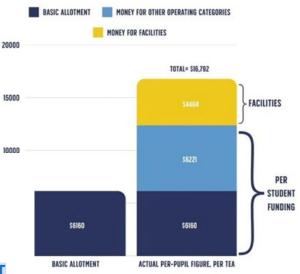
\$15,503

### \$14,92 Per Studen

#### PER STUDENT FUNDING SNAPSHOT

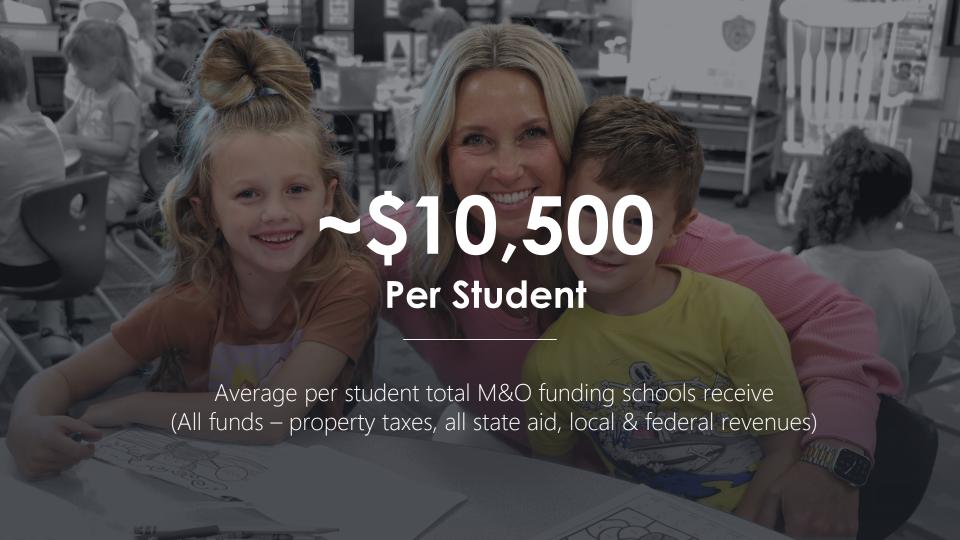


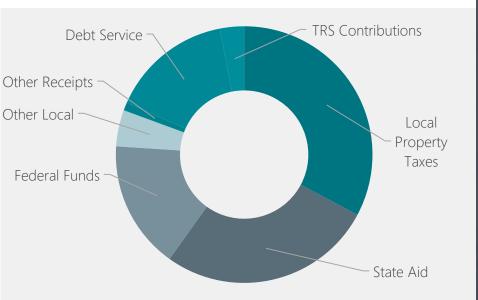
#### **TEXAS PER-PUPIL FUNDING**



IDING FOR EDUCATION IS NOT S6.160 PER YEAR. IN REALITY, TEXAS SPENDS NEARLY T S16.792. S12.381 FROM ALL OPERATING SOURCES \$4.404 FROM FACILITIES.







#### **EDUCATION REVENUES**

Total statewide revenues in 2022-2023 for all public schools totaled approximately

\$87.5B

### 2022-2023 EDUCATION REVENUES

According to the most recent audited financial data from FY2022-2023, the statewide revenue for public schools as reported by the Texas Education Agency totaled \$87.5 Billion when you exclude amounts related to debt service.

Source: TEA PEIMS Financial Reports

### BREAKDOWN OF REVENUES

According to the most recent audited financial data from FY2022-2023, the statewide revenue for public schools reported by the Texas Education Agency totaled approximately \$15,905 per student. However, you'll notice that this includes several line items that either do not go to school districts or are required to be designated for purposes outside of the classroom.

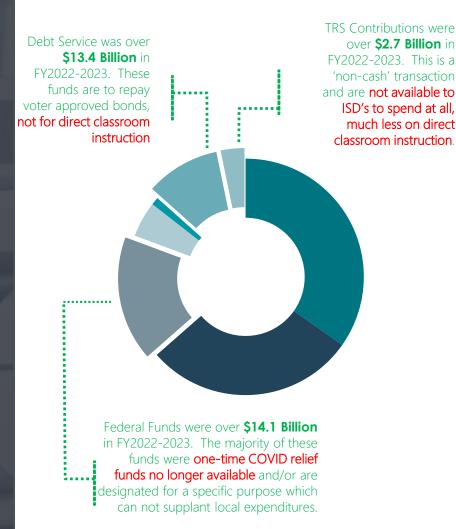
### STATEWIDE 5.5 MILLION STUDENTS

	All Funds	%	Per Student
Local Property Taxes	\$28,691,872,133	32.8%	\$5,214
State Aid	\$23,719,158,787	27.1%	\$4,310
Federal Funds	\$14,132,922,804	16.1%	\$2,568
Other Local	\$4,021,402,796	4.6%	\$731
Other Receipts	\$879,081,869	1.0%	\$160
TRS On-behalf	\$2,680,158,246	3.1%	\$487
Debt Service	\$13,404,284,488	15.3%	\$2,436
Total	\$87,528,881,123	100.0%	\$15,905

Source: TEA PEIMS Financial Reports

## MISLEAD #1 Including NonClassroom Items

TRS Contributions, Debt Service, and Federal Funds in FY2022-2023 totaled \$30.2 Billion and are 'counted' towards the total revenue per student quoted by state leadership. However, these funds either are not available to spend on classroom instruction, are one-time relief funds no longer being received, or are not able to supplant local expenditures.



### AVERAGE STATEWIDE REVENUES

The per student funding for TRS
Contributions, Debt Service, and
Federal Funds 'counted' towards the
total revenue per student quoted by
state leadership equals approximately
\$5,491 per student that is either not
available for classroom instruction,
one-time in nature, or is designated for
specific purposes.

### AVERAGE PER STUDENT REVENUE

Adjusting for one-time funds and funds not available for classroom instruction

\$10.4k

Total Statewide Education Revenue	\$15,905
Less: Federal COVID Relief Funds Federal Funds for Specified Purposes Other One-time Federal Funds	(\$2,568)
Debt Service	(\$2,436)
TRS On-behalf Contributions	(\$487)
Adjusted Statewide Education Revenue	\$10,414

Source: TEA PEIMS Financial Reports



"This analysis assumes public school students that leave to enroll in private schools would generate a savings under the Foundation School Program (FSP) estimated at \$10,512 per student in 2027..."

Fiscal Note Report – Senate Bill 2 (the "ESA" bill)

### AVERAGE STATEWIDE REVENUES

According to the 2024 Annual Report from the Texas Education Agency, schools receive approximately

\$10,800

On average per student in total maintenance and operations funding





Source: TEA Annual Report 2024

### BY COMPARISON

In FY2022-2023, Rockwall ISD received less funding per student than its peer districts and the statewide average. Approximately \$1,284 per student less than its peer districts and \$1,830 less than the statewide average

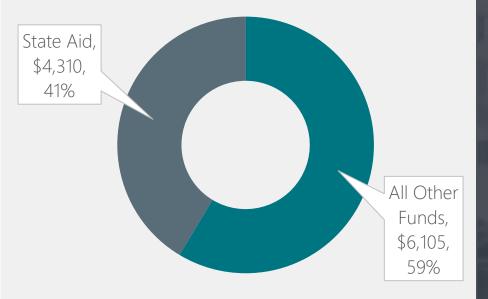
### Per Student Revenue







Source: TEA PEIMS Financial Reports



#### STATE FUNDING

The average per student funding actually provided directly from the State totaled

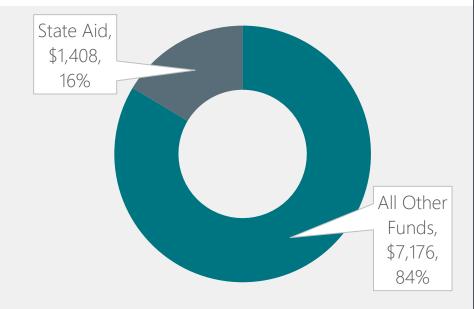
\$4.3k

## MISLEAD #2 Proportion of Revenue

Of the average per student funding totaling \$10,414, the State only provides approximately 41% of this total number or a per student total of

\$4,310

which of course is much less than the \$16,000 reported by state leadership



#### STATE FUNDING

The average per student funding actually provided directly from the State totaled

\$1.4k

### ROCKWALL ISD STATE FUNDING

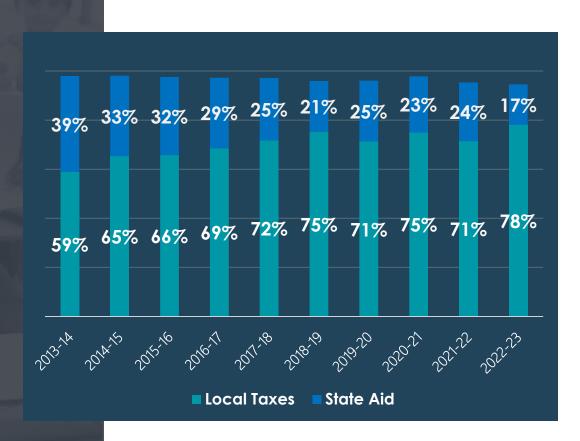
Of Rockwall ISD's per student funding totaling \$8,584, the State only provides approximately 16% of this total number or a per student total of

\$1,408

which continues to decrease as local property values increase

## MISLEAD #2 Proportion of Revenue

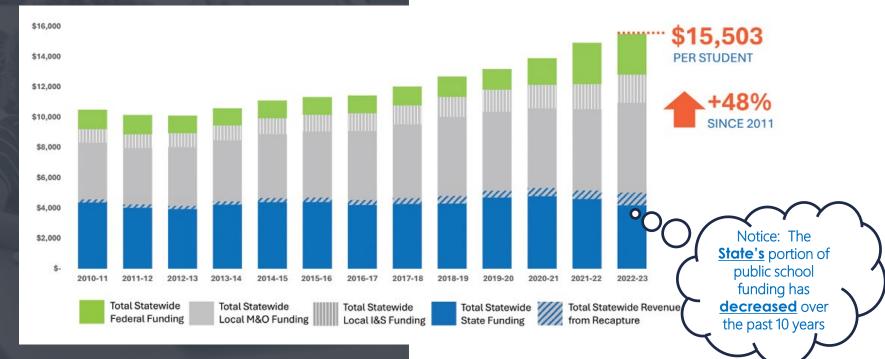
The breakdown of the total amount of K-12 public education funding between local taxpayers and the state has changed dramatically. Over the past 10 years, the state contribution of the overall education funding has decreased from 39% to 17% for Rockwall ISD.



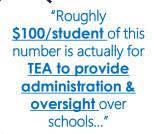
### \$15,503 Per Student

2024 Annual Report, Texas Education Agency

#### TEA ANNUAL REPORT



Source: TEA Annual Report 2024





89th Legislature

Accessibility Policy | Privacy Policy

Research

SIIII

"The large increase in the green bars is due to **one-time infusion** of federal resources that has dried up... this will **drop by** 

\$1,000/student\_next year..."

**Public Education** 

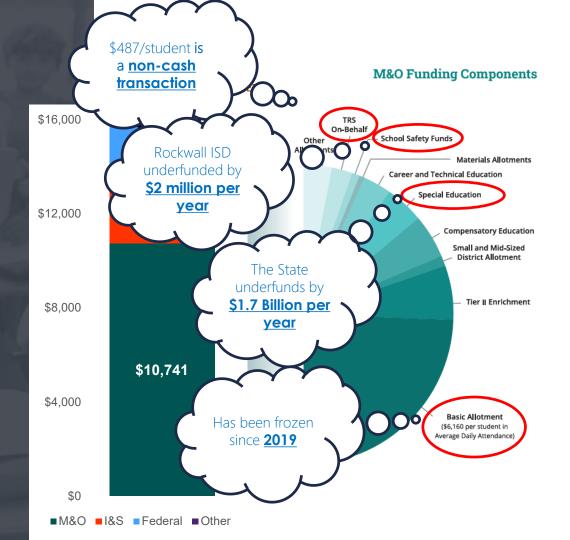
"Inflation has been at historic highs over the last few years... as high as 24%... Raw dollars are one thing but we all have to live with inflation..."

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION

"Different buckets of money... I&S money is **not** classroom money... bond money can only be used to build buildings..."

## Breakdown of School Funding Components

According to the 2022-2023 financial data reported by the Texas Education Agency, the quoted \$15,905 funding per student includes funding for voter authorized debt to construct new facilities, one-time federal funds, as well as other funding not available to school districts or classroom instruction.

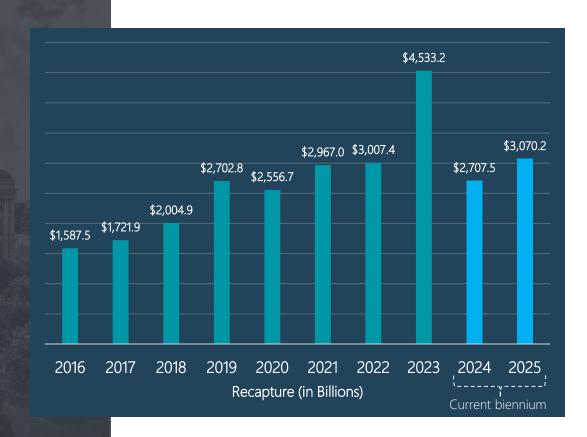


## MISLEAD #3 Including Recapture

Over the last 10 years recapture payments to the State have skyrocketed, most recently in FY2022-2023 to almost

### \$4.5 Billion

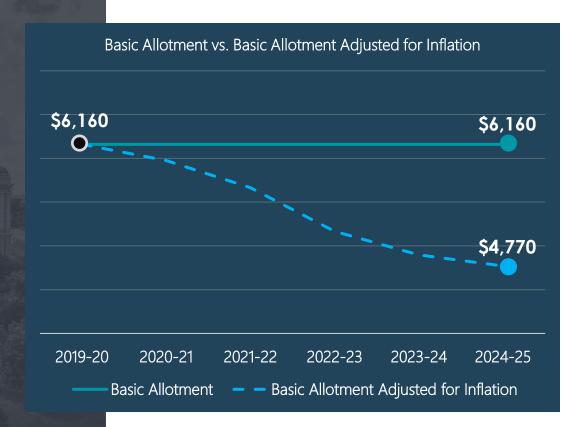
However, increases in recapture payments to the state are 'counted' as "additional" funding for K-12 public education even though it does not increase funding for public schools.



### MISLEAD #4 Ignoring Inflation

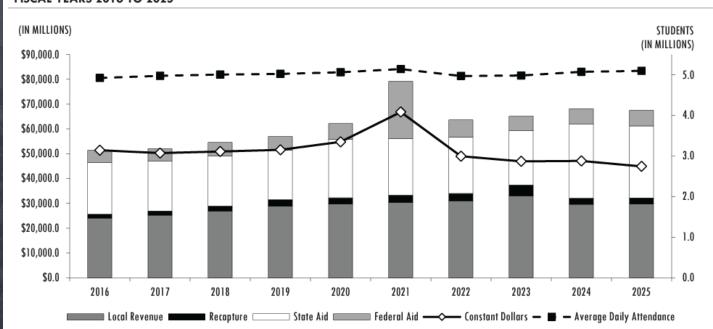
In the previous 10 years, the Basic School Allotment has only been adjusted twice. During this time, school districts have been impacted by a worldwide pandemic, unfunded mandates, teacher shortages, increased performance measures and unprecedented inflation. Since 2019, schools district's buying power has declined by nearly

22%



### LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

FIGURE 151
PREKINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY FUNDING IN ACTUAL AND CONSTANT DOLLARS
FISCAL YEARS 2016 TO 2025



### LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

According to the 2024-25 Biennium Fiscal Size-up report produced by the LBB, 10-year funding for public education when adjusted into constant dollars has decreased by

\$6.5 Billon

### PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING

Over the previous 10 years, when adjusted into constant dollars funding has decreased

\$6.5B

Year	Constant Dollars	Per Student Funding
2016	\$51.4 B	\$10,441
2025	\$44.9 B	\$8,812
10-Yr Change	(\$6.5 B)	(\$1,629)

Source: Legislative Budget Board

44

### \$3.2 Billion

Increase in Annual Funding since 2019

2024 Report on Public Education State Funding Transparency, Texas Education Agency

Includes Billions
in one-time
COVID relief funds
& Recapture





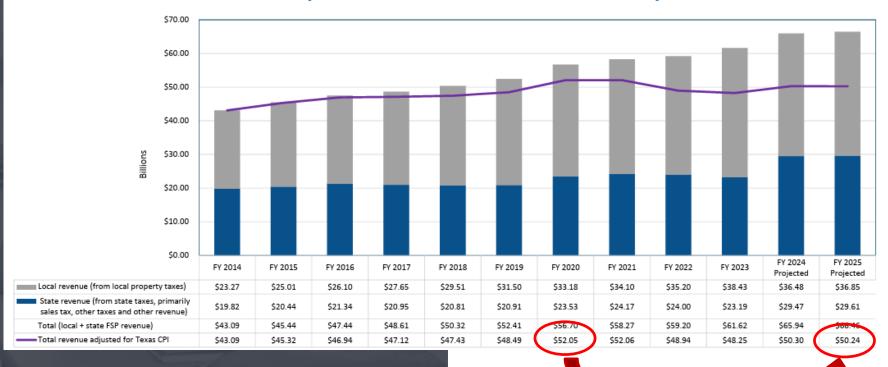
+\$3.2B?

44

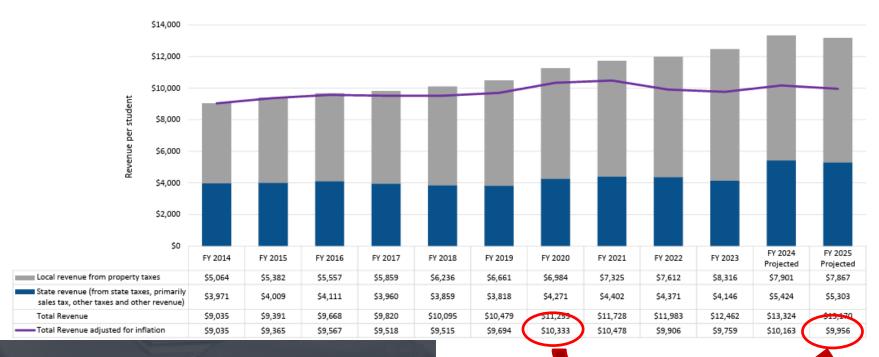
"The Foundation School Program (FSP) is the principal vehicle for distributing state aid to school districts... to provide educational services..."

LBB Fiscal Size-up Report

### Annual state and local Foundation School Program (FSP) revenue (school districts and charter schools)



### Annual state and local FSP revenue per student in average daily attendance (districts only)



-\$377 per student

# 'Historically' Funded

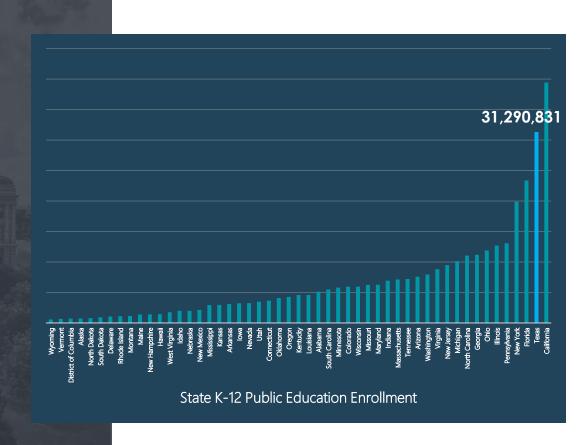
"We have literally never spent more on K-12 public education than we are at this moment..."

## MISLEAD #5 Ignoring Size of State of Texas

The State of Texas has the second largest resident population in the nation, totaling approximately

#### 31.3 Million

residents as of 2024 reported from the U.S. Census Bureau. The average state population is approximately 5.5 million residents. So Texas is nearly **x6 larger than the average state**. Wyoming has 587k residents. Texas has six individual cities larger than the entire state of Wyoming.



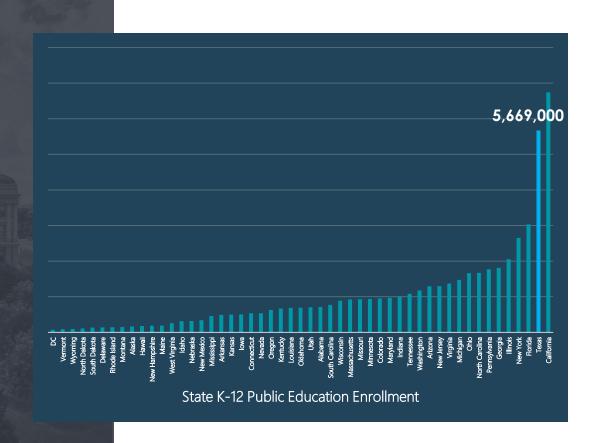
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## MISLEAD #6 Focusing on Total Funding

The State of Texas has the second largest K-12 public education enrollment in the nation, totaling approximately

#### 5.6 Million

Students as of the Fall 2023 report from the National Center for Education Statistics. This is **x5.5 larger** than the average state enrollment which is close to one million students.



## MISLEAD #6 Focusing on Total Funding

Texas continues to rank in the bottom 10 states nationally for state spending on education, trailing the national average by over \$4,400 per student according to the National Education Association 2024 Report. Currently, Texas ranks 46<sup>th</sup> in the nation for per student funding.

#### Texas Ranking: 2024 NEA State Rankings Report <sup>1</sup>



Source: National Education Association

### MISLEAD #7 **Including Tax Relief**

The State Legislature has provided approximately

### \$18.0 Billion

in property tax relief since 2019, which is the last time the Basic Allotment was adjusted. This is 'counted' as "additional" funding for K-12 public education even though it does not increase funding for public schools.

### HOUSE BILL 3 (2019)

7¢ reduction to M&O rate in Year 1 + automatic tax rate compression in subsequent years with value growth > 2.5%, subject to floor limitation

\$5.3B

### SENATE BILL 2 (2023)

10¢ additional reduction to M&O rate + increasing mandatory homestead tion to \$100,000 + 20% \$12.7B exemption to \$100,000 + 20% circuit breaker

44

"Compression refers to using state funds to buy down tax rates... new funding the Legislature commits for this purpose will appear as an appropriation to the Foundation School Program..."

Increases the State Budget – Not the Public School Budget

# \$51 B Biennial Cost of Property Tax Relief

This represents the ongoing cost to the State to maintain previously approved and the passage of newly proposed tax relief

# MISLEAD #8 Ignoring Growth

Texas public school average daily attendance has increased by nearly

173,000

students over the last 10 years. This includes a 3.3% decrease in 2022 totaling nearly 171,000 students average daily attendance.

FIGURE 160
TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE
FISCAL YEARS 2016 TO 2025

FISCAL YEAR	SCHOOL YEAR	TOTAL ADA	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
2016	2015–16	4,922,493	1.4%
2017	2016–17	4,972,376	1.0%
2018	2017–18	5,005,005	0.7%
2019	2018–19	5,020,341	0.3%
2020	2019–20	5,061,017	0.8%
2021	2020–21	5,140,653	1.6%
2022	2021–22	4,969,086	(3.3%)
2023	2022–23	4,981,161	0.2%
2024	2023–24	5,071,347	1.8%
2025	2024–25	5,095,452	0.5%

#### MISLEAD #9 Ignoring **Enrollment v. ADA**

Of all of the allotments provided to Texas public schools in the Foundation School Program, six of them are attendance-based. The total percentage of overall funding comprised by these six allotments is approximately

76.5%

Attendance-based allotment	Percentage of overall funding <sup>1</sup>	
Regular Program / Basic Allotment	56.4%	
Early Education	1.6%	
School Safety	0.1%	
Career and Technology	6.7%	
Special Education	10.2%	
Bilingual Education	1.5%	
Total Attendance-based allotment	76.5%	

#### ROCKWALL ISD

Student Attendance rate for the District in 2022-23

# Is Rockwall ISD Fully Funded?

#### Misleads...

- #1 Including "funding" not available for classroom instruction
- > #2 Ignoring the proportion of total funding provided by the State
- #3 Including Recapture as additional "funding" for schools
- #4 Ignoring the impact inflation has had on school funding
- #5 Ignoring the size of the State of Texas when making comparisons
- #6 Focusing only on Total Funding versus per student funding
- > #7 Including Property tax relief as additional "funding" for schools
- #8 Ignoring the impact student growth has on overall funding
- > #9 Ignoring difference b/w funding on Enrollment vs. ADA

#### Summary

#### Other...

- > Texas ranks 46<sup>th</sup> in the nation in funding per student
- For Rockwall ISD, actual total revenue per student is \$1,830 less than the state average
- Adjusted for inflation, the Basic Allotment has effectively decreased by \$1,390 per student since 2019
- Adjusted for inflation, the Legislative Budget Board estimates that K-12 funding has decreased by \$6.5 Billion dollars in last 10-years
- For Rockwall ISD, over the last 10-years the proportion of total funding provided by the State has fallen from 39% to 17%

#### Summary



# Property Tax Relief

Legislative Emergency items

February 2, 2025

#### **NEW** TAX RELIEF

Both versions of the State budget bill includes appropriation earmarks for continued property tax relief. However, it is important to note due to a miscalculation by the state, a large portion of this has to be used to pay for existing tax relief totaling

\$4.0 Billion

#### HOUSE BILL 1 (2025)

Details yet to be determined – requires legislation be enacted

- likely be continued tax rate

\$6.5B compression & homestead exemption increase

#### SENATE BILL 1 (2025)

Details yet to be determined – requires legislation be enacted - likely be continued tax rate compression & homestead exemption increase

# SB 4 & SJR 2 Increases the Homestead Exemption

From \$100,000 to \$140,000 Hold-harmless provisions, but not for bonds sold after 2023

# Impact to RISD?

Sold Bonds in 2023 (\$194m) and 2024 (\$82m)

Lost tax collections from homestead exemption increase = \$3.4m

1&S tax collections yield per penny =

\$1.4M

<u>Required</u> I&S tax rate <u>increase</u> to offset lost collections = +2.38 cents

# Teacher Pay Legislative Emergency items

February 2, 2025

#### **TEACHER PAY INCREASES**

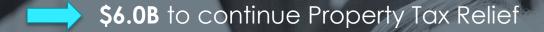
There are currently **no** increases to the Basic Allotment in any Senate Bill. House Bill 2 proposes to increase the Basic Allotment by \$220. For context, to provide same buying as in 2019, the Basic Allotment would need to be increased by \$1,495. If the Basic Allotment was increased by this amount, it would be a minimum pay increase for **all** Teachers totaling approximately

#### HOUSE BILL 2 (2025)

Increases the Basic Allotment by \$220 & min. requirement reachers from 30% to 40% \$3.2Bfor teachers from 30% to 40% Est. teacher increase of \$1,250

**SENATE BILL 26 (2025)** 

\$0-\$5,500 for Large ISDs More \$ into TIA \$0-\$10,000 for Small ISDs



- INCREASE the Homestead Exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000
- SB 4 would require an increase to RISD I&S tax rate of 2.38 cents
- SB 26 increases Teacher pay between \$0 and \$5,500
- NO Senate bill has increased the Basic Allotment
- HB 2 increases the Basic Allotment by \$220
- **HB 2** increases Teacher pay approximately \$1,250

Summary of Major Legislative Items



#### BUDGET PROJECTION

Assuming no further district action, it is estimated that the FY2025-26 budget deficit will be approximately \$10.5M next year. This is primarily driven by opening Middle School #4, hiring new positions to meet student instructional needs, and continued inflation on operational expenditures.

Starting Point of FY 2024-25 Budget	(\$8,700,000)	
Net Total Revenue Increase (Student Growth)	\$3,200,000	
Staff Compensation – Waiting on Legislature	TBD	
Staffing Increases – Middle School #4	(\$2,000,000)	
Staffing Increases – Student Growth, SPED, Buses	(\$1,100,000)	
Operation Budget Increases – Ins, Energy	(\$1,950,000)	
Projected FY 2025-26 Budget Deficit	(\$10,550,000)	

# REDUCTION STRATEGIES

The primary goal of the reduction strategy plan is to reduce the budget responsibly. Identification of strategies is not the primary challenge, rather implementation of reductions without negatively impacting students and families is the primary objective.

Reduce Budget Responsibly

Develop multi-phased reduction strategy

Minimize and/or delay cuts to services to avoid negative impact to students

Minimize and/or delay cuts to personnel to avoid negative impact to students

# REDUCTION STRATEGIES

During the development of Target
Goals for Budget Reduction Strategies,
the district will consider what is a
realistic total that can be absorbed in a
given fiscal year. Additionally,
consideration will be given between
balancing the reduction strategies
between personnel and non-personnel
reduction strategies.

#### TARGET GOALS

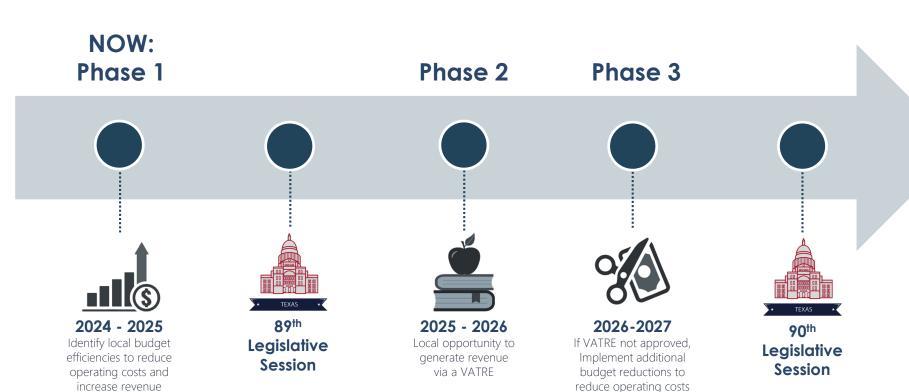
Targeting 3.5% of Total Operating Expenditures
Year 1 Total - \$187.5M x 3.5%

\$6.5M



### **Budget Reduction Strategies**

**Three-Year Budget Action Plan** 



#### Phase 1: 2024-2025



## **Identify Local Budget Efficiencies**



#### Revenue Generation & Resource Adjustments

#### Fees & Rentals

Explore increasing fees charged for after-school care, gate receipts, & facility rentals

#### **Meal Prices**

Explore increasing meal prices to be comparable with peer districts & market average

#### **Grant Funds**

Explore one-time adjustments of utilization of grant funds to shift operational costs

#### **Fund Balance**

Utilize the district's fund reserves to address short-term financial needs

#### **Cost Reductions**

#### **Operating Costs**

Hiring freeze & increasing class sizes, renegotiating district contracts, consolidate usage of facilities in summer

#### **Capital Projects Delay**

Delay planned capital projects and repurpose available funds to cover operating cost increases

#### **Custodial Schedules**

Explore adjusting custodial cleaning scope & schedules to reduce overall operating costs

#### **Transportation**

Explore reducing transportation shuttles to reduce overall costs

#### Phase 1: 2024-2025





# **Identify Local Budget Efficiencies**

#### Revenue Generation & Resource Adjustments

#### Fees & Rentals

Explore increasing fees charged for after-school care, gate receipts, & facility rentals

#### **Meal Prices**

Explore increasing meal prices to be comparable with peer districts & market average

#### **Grant Funds**

Explore one-time adjustments of utilization of grant funds to shift operational costs

#### **Fund Balance**

Utilize the district's fund reserves to address short-term financial needs



Shift expenditures to grant funds (one-time)	\$1,160,000	
Meal price adjustments	\$720,000	
ROCK after school fees	\$230,000	
Facility rental fees	\$200,000	
Total Revenue Generation & Resource Adjustments	\$2,310,000	

#### Phase 1: 2024-2025



Session



# Identify Local Budget Efficiencies

Cost Reduction	Renegotiate district contracts		\$240,000	
Cost Neduction	Consolidate usage of facilities in summer		\$50,000	
Operating Hiring freeze	Delay capital projects in child nutrition d <b>Capital Projects Delay</b> Ia&djust d <b>ailyaçustadial</b> கேர்வு இருக்கியில்	epartment <b>Custodial Schedu</b> Explore adjusting custod	t 710 000	
sizes, renegotiating district contracts, consolidate usag	and repurpose available funds e Reduce transportation shuttles (math, pr	cleaning scope & sched	ules to trapsportation g costs reduce overall	shuttles to costs
facilities in summer	Cost Reductions		\$1,908,000	

### **Budget Reduction Strategies**



NOW: Phase 1

TARGET GOALS

Goal, \$6,500,000

Targeting 3.5% of Total Operating Expenditures
Phase 1 = \$187.5M x 3.5%

\$6.5M

One-time, \$1,810,000

Revenue & Reductions, \$2,408,000

65%



Identify local budget efficiencies to reduce operating costs and increase revenue This represents about 65% of projected \$10M budget deficit

#### Phase 2: 2025-2026



### **Voter Approved Tax Rate Election**

#### Revenue Generation & Resource Adjustments

#### **VATRE**

Propose a voter-approved tax rate election to increase teacher pay & school safety

#### **Cost Reductions**

#### **Personnel Costs**

Implement hiring freeze & increasing class sizes

#### **Operating Costs**

Explore adjusting energy management system set points to reduce energy consumption



Note: These are options that are subject to change, and will only be implemented if VATRE not approved.

#### Safety & Security

Explore converting School Resource Officers (SROs) to Armed Security Officers (ASOs)

#### **Student Displacement**

Begin researching possible student displacement process and procedures for implementation in 2026-2027

#### Phase 3: 2026-2027





#### Revenue Generation & Resource Adjustments

#### **Fees**

Explore charging district fees for transportation, fine arts, CTE, & athletics participation

#### **Cost Reductions**

#### **Student Displacement**

Displace students from overcrowded home campus to campuses with available capacity – NO transportation

#### **Personnel Costs**

Continue Year 2 hiring freeze & increasing class sizes, consider reduction in force (RIF) of identified district positions



Note: These are options that are subject to change, and will only be implemented if VATRE not approved.

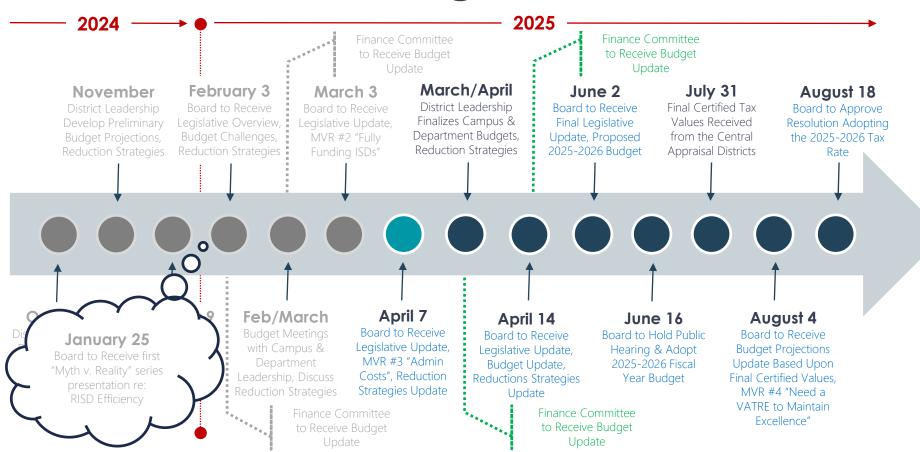
#### **Operating Costs**

Explore eliminating free ROCK care for staff & reducing district health insurance contribution for staff

#### **Student Programs**

Explore reducing and/or eliminating student CTE, fine arts, and athletic programs to reduce operating costs

### FY 2025-2026 Budget Process



#### Myth v. Reality Series...

- Debunking the Myth that Rockwall ISD is Not Efficient
- Debunking the Myth that Public Schools are and have been Fully Funded
- Debunking the Myth that Rockwall ISD Spends Too Much on Admin

#### Legislative Session...

- > \$23.76 Billion surplus estimated for next session
- > SB 4 & SJR 2 passed out of Senate increases homestead exemption
- SB 2 passed out of Senate creates Education Savings Accounts Program
- SB 26 passed out of Senate increases Teacher pay \$0 to \$5,500 for RISD
- > No Senate Bill has increased the Basic Allotment
- ➤ HB 2 in committee increases Basic allotment by \$220

#### Summary

#### Legislative Priorities...

- > Fully fund schools by increasing the Basic Allotment to \$7,655
- Create inflation index for Basic Allotment
- Fully fund special education services
- Fully fund safety & security requirements

#### Budget...

- Challenges remain inflation, teacher pay, growth, unfunded mandates
- Fund Balance is sufficient for now...
- Projecting \$10.5 million deficit for FY2025-2026
- Continuing to evaluate budget reduction strategies

#### Summary

