



**CISD Regular Board Meeting**  
***President's Report***  
**June 23, 2025**

As part of our continued effort to address the projected five million dollar budget deficit for the 2025 - 2026 school year, the board is considering a recommendation from the Budget Reduction Action Committee Tiger Team. This team, comprised of parents, teachers, administrators, and trustees, was formed to prioritize which BRAC recommendations to pursue this year to offset this deficit.

The team has recommended this board pursue a school funding measure that would require voter approval and be included on the November 5, 2025 ballot. This measure officially known as a "Voter Approval Tax Rate Election," or VATRE, is the recommended primary immediate strategy to address our budget deficit. The team found that even with the implementation of cost reductions and efficiencies, additional local revenue will be necessary to balance the budget and preserve the exceptional educational programs, teacher and staff compensation levels, and student services our community expects.

Carroll ISD remains one of the lowest-funded districts per student in Texas. In 2025, under the state's Robin Hood Recapture system, we project to send \$28 million dollars in property taxes collected back to Austin for redistribution to other ISDs in the state. That is approximately one third of our property taxes collected in our community that we cannot keep in our District.

Meanwhile, despite 20% plus inflation, and an exponential rise in the cost of providing education since 2019, the Texas legislature has only increased the per student allotment by .008%, or \$55. This rate of inflation alone would equate to what should have been a \$1000 increase to the per student allotment. The miniscule \$55 increase in per student funding is just not enough to allow our current situation to be sustainable. Thus, we must act now to find additional revenue that we are allowed to keep in our District.

Fortunately, this proposed school funding measure provides the means to achieve that objective.

If passed, it would generate additional operating revenue, approximately 3.5-4 million dollars per year of tax money not - and I repeat - NOT subject to recapture, and without increasing the tax rate. That increase, along with our continuing efforts to identify cost cutting measures and efficiencies will allow us to balance our budgets now and into the future.

We believe that giving our community the opportunity to vote on a school funding measure that will not raise the tax rate while providing much needed additional revenue is the most direct, transparent, and fair solution to protect the high standards of education expected in this District.

While progress was made in the 89th legislative session towards providing more funding to public schools in the state, the funding falls way short and does not come close to meeting the needs of our District. We'd held out hope this legislation session would have adequately funded public education. It did not, and thus triggered the need for immediate action based on the BRAC's five year plan.

We hope to receive your support and will continue discussions in the coming months and seek ongoing input from the community as we move forward with this important measure.



2400 N. Carroll Avenue | Southlake, TX 76092 | 817.949.8222