



CARROLL
Independent School District

CISD Regular Board Meeting
President's Report
August 18, 2025

As previously discussed, and as part of our continued effort to address the projected budget deficit for the 2025 2026 school year, the Board is considering a recommendation from the budget reduction advisory committee, or BRAC, Tiger Team to pursue a school funding measure that would require voter approval and be included on the November 4th, 2025 ballot.

This measure, officially known as a Voter-Approval Tax Ratification Election, or VATRE, is the team's recommended strategy to help address our budget deficit.

The team found that even with the implementation of District 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 and deserves.

The Board plans to discuss and act on this item tonight. We have also scheduled multiple town halls to share additional details and answer questions from the community. More on that coming.

Also, we have formed a second BRAC tiger team that will start meeting in September and will be charged with prioritizing next steps in implementing the BRAC's five-year recommended plan. Please know that long-term bonds that would encumber our community with hundreds of millions of dollars for 30-40 years to build new infrastructure are not included in the BRAC's five-year plan.

With our state's flawed public school funding formula, we are one of the lowest-funded school districts in the state, and thus can't even afford to maintain the infrastructure that we have, like roofing and HVAC systems, let alone new infrastructure.

Tonight, we will consider passing a tax rate that is lower than last year's rate and is below the no new revenue rate for the second year in a row. In fact, your Board has lowered the tax rate significantly in the last five years, and as a result, CISD's tax rate is now one of, if not the lowest, rate in our region.

We take our fiduciary responsibility seriously, and while we can't reduce the tax rate enough to fully offset the rise in property values, we believe our efforts to lower the tax rate will help ease the tax burden on our community.

Lastly, the Board voted unanimously to hold this special election to fill the Place 3 Board seat, vacated by Trustee Dudley Jordan earlier this year. The application period closed today at 5pm with two candidates applying, Mandy Reece and Scott Martindale. As a reminder, this election only serves to fill the remainder of Dudley Jordan's term, which is May of 2026.

Please take a moment to read the [press release](#) following last night's Board meeting regarding the VATRE.

Thank You,
President Cam Bryan, Carroll ISD Board of Trustees