SMART MONEY:
Public School Funding, Taxes & Economic Growth

Presented by:
Welcome

Rose Bradshaw
President and CEO
North Texas Community Foundation
In January 2018, TEGAC hired Baselice & Associates to assess Texas voters' appetites for increasing school funding. The poll found:

- 71% favor increasing state share to provide property tax relief.
- 86% favor earmarking education dollars for education in the state budget.
- 68% favor increasing state share from 38% to 50%.

Introduction:

Why Public School Finance is Important to Business

Scott Orr

Vice President of Government Relations
Fidelity Investments
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The Fort Worth Perspective

Dr. Kent Scribner

Superintendent

Fort Worth Independent School District
Historical Perspective: How Did We Get Here and Where Do We Go From Here?

Jimmie Don Aycock
Former Chairman of the Texas House Public Education Committee
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How We Work Together to Solve the Problem

Jennifer Esterline
President
Texas Education Grantmakers Advocacy Consortium
What is TEGAC’s Purpose?

The Consortium was designed to:

• Protect, promote and improve public education in Texas through effective state level policy and advocacy

• Serve as a resource and thought partner to policymakers

• Provide objective credible data to lawmakers and education stakeholders

• Restore the role of philanthropy as a funder of innovation, not just replacer of state cuts
Foundations at the Capitol: Here to Stay!
What's the Big Tent?

Big Tent communications develops and deploys messaging, earned media and social media content from TEGAC and for the use of our Big Tent partners.

As an informal coalition, Big Tent allies and foundation partners leverage and amplify our efforts with their own members, local media, and outreach to local business leaders and elected officials.
Messages tested

We found core messages that resonated most strongly across all demographics, political parties, urban and rural Texas.

“Money matters in public education, and that money should be well spent.”

“Texas public education is the key to the future economic success of Texas – individually and within our larger communities.”

“The state’s financial contribution to public education has declined significantly over most of the last six to eight years, leaving local taxpayers to shoulder a disproportionate amount of the burden.”

Texas Education Grantees Advocacy Consortium
Early success

Since the Big Tent first convened in December 2017, we’ve seen our messaging reach lawmakers, business leaders and additional education groups and stakeholders across the state.
TxEdStrong

- Create #TxEdStrong branded content for use by Big Tent partners and allies
- Encourage Big Tent partners to retweet, like and share content OR
- Repackage TEGAC and #TxEdStrong content to fit your organization's branding and issue focus.
Public School Finance Commission Recommendations

Sagar Desai
Chief Operating Officer
The Commit! Partnership
The Cost to Texans

Low-Income students are 60% of all Texas students, yet we do not serve them well.
Strategic Funding can Accelerate Student Success; But Need More Resources to Scale

Example: Dallas ISD

- Principal Evaluation System Implemented
- Teacher Evaluation System Implemented
- Early College and P-Tech Initiative Launched District Wide
- Full-Day Pre-K Mandated by Board Policy as Budget Priority
- Accelerating Campus Excellence (“ACE”) Implemented
- Personalized Learning Initiative Launched

13% pt gain in Dallas ISD

~90% decrease in schools labeled as “Improvement Required”
School Finance Commission Overview

**Commission Chair: Justice Scott Brister**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Todd Williams</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rep. Dan Huberty</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sen. Paul Bettencourt</strong></td>
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<td>CEO, Commit Partnership</td>
<td>Chair, House Pub Ed</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Intergovernmental Relations</td>
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<td>Vice Chair, Pub Ed</td>
<td>Vice Chair, Sen. Higher Ed</td>
<td>Chair, Educator Quality</td>
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<td><strong>Dr. Doug Killian</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dr. Keven Ellis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nicole Conley-Johnson</strong></td>
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<td>Superintendent, Pflugerville ISD</td>
<td>District 9 SBOE Rep</td>
<td>CFO, Austin ISD</td>
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<td><strong>Sen. Larry Taylor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Melissa Martin</strong></td>
<td><strong>Elvira Reyna</strong></td>
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<td>Chair, Sen. Pub Ed</td>
<td><strong>Teacher</strong></td>
<td>Frmr State Representative</td>
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<td><strong>Justice Scott Brister</strong></td>
<td><strong>Comission Chair</strong></td>
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*Bolded names represent Working Group Chairs*
The Three Levers:
Early Childhood. Effective Educators. Postsecondary Readiness.

Students are Ready to Learn

Students Who Cannot Read by 3rd Grade are 4x More Likely to Drop Out of School

Teachers are Ready to Teach

Replace an average teacher with an effective teacher can increase a classroom’s lifetime earnings by $250,000

Students graduate Ready to Earn

42% of students enrolling in college require remediation
Overview of Major Recommendations

Substantial Focus on Improving Key Outcomes via Greater Resources

- Improve 3rd Grade Literacy
- Grow Post Secondary Readiness and Access
- Attract and Retain Effective Educators
- Address Outdated School Finance Components
# Overview of Major Recommendations

*Substantial Focus on Improving Key Outcomes via Greater Resources*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improve 3rd Grade Literacy</th>
<th>Increase Post Secondary Readiness/Access</th>
<th>Attract/Retain Effective Educators</th>
<th>Address Outdated School Finance Components</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$780mm 3rd Grade Reading Allotment for Eco. Dis./ELL</td>
<td>$400mm outcomes-based funding w/ ability to double in size via wise investment</td>
<td>$100mm (growing to $1bn over time) for schools wishing to implement multi-measure evaluation system and pay their more effective educators more and sooner in career</td>
<td>Increase comp ed. by ~30% ($1.1 bn) and allocate on spectrum</td>
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<tr>
<td>$400mm in outcomes-based funding w/ ability to double in size via wise investment</td>
<td>Alter graduation requirement to include either FAFSA/TAFSA completion (or a parental opt out)</td>
<td>Children of Texas public school educators eligible for free PreK</td>
<td>Collapse CEI, G&amp;T and H.S. allotments into Basic Allotment</td>
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<td>Option to extend elem. school yr. ($50mm)</td>
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<td>Eliminate “hold harmless” provisions</td>
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<td>$100mm for dyslexia</td>
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<td>Move to current yr. values and implement fast growth allotment</td>
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<td>Other Major Recommendations</td>
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<td><strong>Aligned State and School Board Goals</strong></td>
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<td>Set statewide goal of 60% proficiency by 2030 in 3rd grade reading and 12th grade graduation without need for remediation and access of post-secondary, military or industry certificate</td>
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<td>School boards to set 3 and 5 year goals for those same metrics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Increase Post Secondary Readiness/Access</strong></td>
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<td>Expand funding for Career and Technology classes to middle school students ($20 million/year)</td>
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<td><strong>Recapture</strong></td>
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<td>Provide transportation funding for recapture districts</td>
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<td>Provide full-day credit for districts providing full-day PreK in wealth per WADA calculations</td>
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<td>Evaluate mechanisms to cause state to assume larger share of school finance and slow recapture growth</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Finance</strong></td>
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<td>Tie Tier II yields to Basic Allotment vs. equalized wealth levels</td>
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<td>Increase yield on “copper pennies” and automatically compress to provide districts subsequent taxing flexibility ($267 million)</td>
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<td>Increase Instructional Facility Allotment to $100 million/year</td>
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INVESTED TX

43rd In Per Student Public School Funding

28th In Student Achievement Outcomes

Mediocrity is not very Texan.
Invest in Texas education.
What the Campaign Supports

**Improving our school finance formula** systemically and sustainably to equitably increase per-pupil funding

**Additional, equitable funding** for students to achieve critical gateways, especially for low-income students and English Language Learners

**High-impact early literacy interventions**, including Pre-K, to ensure that every student can read by 3rd grade

**Increasing teacher compensation** to ensure retention of effective teachers who can support students with the most significant challenges
Join The Movement

For Organizations & Businesses

Email info@investedtx.org to learn more and Partner

For Individuals

Text INVESTEDTX to 52886 to Sign Up

To Stay Informed

Visit Our Website and Social Channels

**Website**  [www.InvestEdTX.org](http://www.InvestEdTX.org)

**Facebook**  [www.facebook.com/InvestEdTX](http://www.facebook.com/InvestEdTX)

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Question & Answer Session

Erika Beltran

Regional Director – Tarrant County Leadership ISD
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Call to Action

Judge Glen Whitley
Tarrant County
Where to find us

@TEGACTX
@TxEdStrong

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TxEdStrong

#TxEdStrong
#txed
#txlege

tegac.org
txedstrong.org