



Texas Association of School Boards
P.O. Box 400 • Austin, Texas 78767-0400 • 512.467.0222

Serving Texas Schools Since 1949

Dear School Board Member:

The 82nd Session of the Texas Legislature was one of the most harmful for public education in recent history. Legislators slashed funding for public schools by close to \$5.5 billion.

As bad as that is, it could have been a lot worse if school districts across the state did not unite in a common refrain: Make education a priority. By joining together, school leaders helped convince state budget writers to spare students the \$10 billion in reductions that were being considered.

If your district has already adopted the *Make Education a Priority* resolution, thank you, your participation generated an unprecedented level of support among Texas school districts.

If your district has not yet adopted the resolution, we need your help more than ever! As we gear up for a legislative interim that will feature a committee charged with investigating the inadequate school finance system and another contentious legislative session in 2013, we need every single school district in Texas – from the Panhandle to the Valley and Far West Texas to the Piney Woods – to unite and urge legislators to “make education a priority” and provide sufficient state funding to prepare all students to meet the state’s academic standards. The future of public education depends on that commitment.

The sample *Make Education a Priority* board resolution is attached. So far, 620 school boards have adopted this resolution – either in its original form or modified to reflect local needs. Adopting this simple, yet powerful message will bolster our joint efforts to provide the best possible education for our children.

You may learn more about the campaign at schoolpriority.com or contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline F. Lain
Associate Executive Director
Texas Association of School Boards
800-580-4885

Resolution of Acknowledgment Make Education a Priority

Whereas, the current Texas public school finance system is negatively affecting an increasing number of public school districts; and

Whereas, past diligent legislative efforts to address the state's method of adequately and equitably funding Texas schools has fallen short of broad measured success; and

Whereas, the legislative year of 2011 bears the attributes of repeating the 2009 legislative session's lack of reliable funding improvements; it is therefore

Resolved, that a responsible community of educational leaders with a united awareness respectfully empower and support our respected legislative representatives to act; and be it

Resolved, that in light of our current Texas economic challenges and the complexity of financing public education; improvements in school funding be established with an attitude where education is found as the highest priority; and be it

Resolved, this attitude begins within the leadership of Texas school districts and together, we respectfully share one unified message to all involved: Make Education a Priority.

The Judson Independent School District Board of Trustees respectfully acknowledges, applauds and joins the priority efforts to protect the pursuit of quality education for all children.

Judson Independent School District Board of Trustees

Jose Macias
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Adopted: November 17, 2011