



PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING REALITY CHECK

Texas ranks 49th in per-student spending out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. *

- Only Arizona and Utah spend less per student than Texas.
- Texas spends \$4300 less per student than the national average.
- Even after HB3, Texas still spends about two-thirds of the national average per-student.
- It would cost \$47 billion this biennium to move Texas to the national average in per-student spending. We can't do it all at once, but we must do better.

* <https://epe.brightspotcdn.com/53/df/9c427bce4390a4b5a5335393567a/v40-34-qc-finance-table.pdf>

Texas taxpayers think their property taxes are being spent on public education, but billions of dollars of local property taxes are being used to supplant state funding. *

- Money raised for public education should go to public education.
- Local school district property taxes should not be used to pad the state budget.
- \$4.3 billion in local school district property taxes have already been added to the state surplus rather than flowing to schools as intended.

*<https://comptroller.texas.gov/about/media-center/news/20230109-texas-comptroller-glenn-hegar-releases-biennial-revenue-estimate-1672869909073>

Texas should increase the Basic Allotment to catch up with inflation, and it should create an annual automatic inflationary factor to keep us from falling even farther behind.

- Increasing the basic allotment will reduce pressure on local property taxes.
- Increasing the basic allotment will reduce reliance on recapture at the local level.
- Increasing the basic allotment will automatically increase teacher pay (30% required).
- Increasing the basic allotment will allow Texas students to compete with their peers.

Texas has a budget surplus of over \$32 billion dollars. This is the time to fund our schools!

- Public education is the best investment you can make – each dollar has an ROI of \$50! *
- Public education is an important part of the state's infrastructure.
- How we treat our students will determine how well the state can thrive.

*<https://www.perrymangroup.com/publications/column/2016/06/13/investing-in-public-education/>

TEXAS KIDS DESERVE BETTER!

Just Fund It TX is a non-partisan grassroots group of parents, students, and community members from across Texas focused on funding Texas public schools. We are engaged, we are watching, and we expect Texas to do better for the 5.5 million kids in our public schools.

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

-Nelson Mandela