



Bays' Broadcast

From Superintendent Sherri L. Bays, Ed.D.

At a Glance...

"Teamwork begins by building trust. And the only way to do that is to overcome our need for invulnerability." – Patrick Lencioni

2017-18 Year End Enrollment: 3,937

Student Enrollment

FISD: 4,027
FHS: 1,251
FMS: 930
FNE: 854
FSE: 992

Average Daily Attendance

FISD: 95.51
FHS: 95.88
FMS: 96.64
FNE: 95.23
FSE: 94.29

Days of Instruction Completed: 47

Remaining: 128

2017 Tax Rate

\$1.040	M & O
\$0.405	I & S
\$1.445	Total

October 29, 2018

Good morning! There are only four days left for early voting. If you already voted, thank you! If you haven't made it to the polls yet, make your plans now to vote for this all-important election. [Elections are determined by who show up!](#) Remember that candidates elected will be making critical decisions that impact public education. In fact the Legislative Budget Board has just provided updated Texas Public School Finance data that is a great example of the challenges ahead:

- Texas is spending 6.3 percent less per student, in constant dollars, than it was spending in 2010. Overall spending per student, in constant dollars, was \$9,845 in 2010 and is projected to be \$9,226 in the 2019 fiscal year.

A [recent article](#) explained that in “2008, lawmakers set the balance — the shares covered by each government — at about 44.8 percent local, 44.9 percent state and 10.3 percent federal. Today, those levels are 55.5 percent local, 35 percent state and 9.5 percent federal. Those numbers are the source material of complaints that the state has shifted the burden of public education to local property taxpayers, all while state lawmakers and budget-writers have been critical of what they call spendthrift school boards and educators.”

Yes the state is spending more on education now than they did in 2010, but we have more students. “The tab for public education in Texas in fiscal 2010 was \$44 billion. In 2019, it’s projected to be \$55.4 billion. That’s a 25.8 percent increase. Over that same period, however, the student population grew to 5.2 million from 4.5 million. And when you extract inflation, overall spending dropped 6.3 percent in constant dollars: What was \$44 billion in 2010 slides to \$41.2 billion in 2019 — even as about 700,000 more kids are added to the school population.”

There is no doubt that the system of funding Texas public schools is broken. The question is will our elected officials accept responsibility and restore balance to the state and local shares. The people we put in office will have that monumental task ahead of them. Your vote can make a difference.

As I was on campuses last week, FNE teacher Genevieve Rodriguez mentioned she was hoping to see a movie titled, [Backpack Full of Cash](#). I had not heard of it, but she peaked my interest, so I did some research. It’s a film exploring the real cost of privatizing America’s Public Schools. It is showing in San Antonio at Our Lady Guadalupe Shrine at 1321 El Paso St. on Monday November 5 at 6:30 PM and is free to the public. If you are interested in attending, you can RSVP to info@sanantonioalliance.org.

Have a great week!
slb