

COPPELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION OF

**OPPOSITION TO VOUCHERS, TAXPAYER SAVINGS GRANTS, TAX CREDITS
AND OTHER MECHANISMS THAT REDUCE PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING**

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

WHEREAS, Article 7, Section 1 of the Texas Constitution requires that the Texas Legislature “establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools;” and

WHEREAS, during the 82nd Regular Session, the Texas Legislature reduced public education funding by \$5.4 billion and said reduction has yet to be fully restored; and

WHEREAS, public school districts are subject to stringent accountability standards and transparency requirements; and

WHEREAS, vouchers, taxpayer savings grants, and tax credits circumvent public accountability and transparency requirements and do not provide all parents and children with school choice; and

WHEREAS, school choice already exists within the Texas public school system through transfers, magnet schools, academy programs and charter schools; and

WHEREAS, private schools have choices not available to public schools when choosing which students to admit; and

WHEREAS, vouchers, taxpayer savings grants, and tax credits have not been proven effective in improving student achievement and closing the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, the cost of a voucher is not likely to equal the cost of tuition for most private schools, and may therefore result in a choice only for those who can afford to pay the differential and provide their own transportation; and

WHEREAS, many private schools have a religious affiliation and include religion in the curricula thereby using public funding to promote religious messages; and

WHEREAS, diverting public money away from public schools is an inefficient use of scarce resources; and

WHEREAS, the loss of each student in Coppell ISD to a private school increases the District's payment to the State by approximately \$6,160 through the process of property tax recapture; and

WHEREAS, vouchers, taxpayer savings grants, and tax credits will not guarantee a competitive, educated workforce to meet the demands of employers in Texas;

NOW IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Trustees of the Coppell Independent School District call on the Texas Legislature to reject all attempts to divert public dollars away from public schools in the form of vouchers , taxpayer savings grants, tax credits, or any other mechanisms that have the effect of reducing funding to public schools .

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 24th day of October, 2016.

By: _____
Anthony Hill
President, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Tracy Fisher
Vice President, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Judy Barbo
Secretary, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Leigh Walker
Member, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Jill Popelka
Member, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Thom Hulme
Member, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees

By: _____
Amy Dungan
Member, Coppell ISD Board of Trustees