

Southwest Independent School District

Resolution in Support of Legislative Action to Increase School Funding

WHEREAS, the Texas Constitution, Section 7, Article 1 mandates the Texas Legislature to establish and make suitable provision for an efficient system of public free schools for the preservation of democratic values;

WHEREAS, a strong public school system is essential for Texas to develop a well-educated workforce and maintain its position as one of the leading economies in the nation and the world;

WHEREAS, the Texas Foundation School Program (FSP) is the primary mechanism through which the state ensures the equitable distribution of funding to public schools, supporting the Maintenance and Operations (M&O) and Interest and Sinking (I&S) of school districts;

WHEREAS, despite the increasing costs of delivering quality education, the FSP state aid for M&O appropriations has decreased from \$50.8 billion in 2021 to \$47.8 billion in 2023, a reduction of \$3 billion;

WHEREAS, the FSP state aid for I&S appropriations remained stagnant at \$0.9 billion over the same period, and the total state appropriations for public education have dropped from \$51.7 billion in 2021 to \$48.6 billion in 2023;

WHEREAS, these reductions come at a time when inflation continues to drive up the cost of essential educational resources, including personnel, facilities, and instructional materials, placing an additional strain on school district budgets and threatening the ability of schools to meet student needs;

WHEREAS, the long-term success of our students and the strength of our communities depend on sufficient and stable funding that can adapt to changing economic conditions and ensure every child has access to high-quality educational opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwest ISD Board of Trustees calls upon the Texas Legislature to take prompt and decisive action to restore and increase public school funding through the Foundation School Program, to implement adjustments for inflation, and to ensure the sustainability of Texas public education for future generations;

PASSED and APPROVED on this [Date] day of [Month], [Year].

President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Trustees