



Texas Educators Vote Update

October 26, 2017

Creating a culture of voting means voting in EVERY election! Tell 10 friends!

Does your vote matter? YES! Are there times it matters even more than other days? Yes! There is a war on public education in the state of Texas (and Washington, D.C.). One of the strongest allies of public education in Texas won't be there to fight against evil next session. It is more important than ever for educators to vote in support of the over 5 million kids who are counting on you.

Yesterday, Speaker of the Texas House, Joe Straus, announced he would not run for reelection. This is BAD for public education. Speaker Straus has kept the conversation focused on Texas children and support for public education against both the Senate led by Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and Governor Greg Abbott. Straus has served as Speaker since 2009 and has continuously stood up for local control in your school districts, argued for the state to pay its share of funding for public education, fought vouchers, and supported a reduced focus on high stakes standardized testing. He announced interim agenda items this week focused on those very issues. Without Speaker Straus at the helm of the Texas House, the privatization agenda (vouchers, A-F, reduced state funding) may march forward unopposed. It is up to the voters to support candidates who believe in public education if we want to shut down the privatization agenda. **Your vote in support of public education is more important now than ever.**

Early voting for the November 7, 2017 election started on Monday, October 23rd and goes through Friday, November 3rd.

Encourage your district employees and eligible students to make a plan to vote early, be educated about the local issues and candidates on the ballot, and know what the 7 proposed constitutional amendments mean.

1. To see what is on your personal ballot, go to www.vote411.org. This League of Women Voter's site makes being an educated voter easy!
2. To understand the 7 constitutional amendments on every Texan's ballot, visit the Texas Secretary of State website here: <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/constitutional-amendments/2017-constitutional-amendment-explanatory-statements.html>

Spread that Oath!

Oath signers are growing and the momentum needs to continue. **What if everyone who signed the Oath got 10 people to do the same?** That is the way we will meet our goals and show that educators are a force to be reckoned with.

Let them know that they can share the Oath with: teachers, counselors, administrators, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, custodians, aides, school board trustees, PTA members, other district employees and their families, and community members. All of these people are considered educators as they support and enrich the educational experience of our children.

This week, embrace the power of 10! Here is the link where people can take the Oath: <http://texaseducatorsvote.com/the-oath/>

Email us at info@texaseducatorsvote.com if you want to know how many Oath's have been signed in your district.

The top districts for Oath's taken so far are:

Abernathy ISD – 10	Clyde CISD – 41	Floresville ISD – 78
Alamo Heights ISD – 145	Coppell ISD – 26	Floydada ISD – 42
Blooming Grove ISD – 51	Crosby ISD – 126	Galveston ISD – 15
Bullard ISD – 33	Dripping Springs ISD – 12	Godley ISD – 45
Celina ISD – 73	Dumas ISD – 11	Hawkins ISD – 30
Chico – 14	East Central ISD – 373	Hillsboro ISD – 32
Childress ISD – 22	Edna ISD – 12	Holliday ISD – 43
Claude ISD – 28	Elgin ISD – 81	Jarrell ISD – 38
Cleveland ISD – 32	Eula ISD – 20	Karnes City ISD – 92

Krum ISD – 53
Lamesa ISD – 23
Lefors ISD – 11
Lytle ISD – 118
Mansfield ISD – 54
Martin’s Mill ISD – 42
Merkel ISD – 47
Mildred ISD – 10
Moody ISD – 17
Navasota ISD – 49

New Deal ISD – 12
Olney ISD – 23
Palmer ISD – 77
Paris ISD – 77
Peaster ISD – 11
Pflugerville ISD – 16
Plemons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD – 14
Princeton ISD – 215
Quanah ISD – 16
Quinlan ISD – 72

Rains ISD – 13
Sanger ISD – 50
Stamford ISD – 11
Tarkington ISD – 10
Thrall ISD – 29
Van ISD – 168
Vega ISD – 11
Wells ISD – 10

All Star Districts - Have Joined, Signed the Resolution, and have begun signing the Oath

*15 new All Star Districts this week are in RED

Austin ISD
Beckville ISD
Big Spring ISD
Blooming Grove ISD
Bullard ISD
Burton ISD
Celina ISD
Chico ISD
Claude ISD
Clyde ISD
Cooper ISD
Coppell ISD
Crosby ISD
DeKalb ISD
Elgin ISD
Eula ISD
Floresville ISD
Granbury ISD
Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

Groesbeck ISD
Haskell CISD
Hemphill ISD
Henrietta ISD
Hereford ISD
Holliday ISD
Huffman ISD
Ira ISD
Jarrell ISD
Karnes City ISD
Krum ISD
La Joya ISD
Lamesa ISD
Lockhart ISD
Louise ISD
Lytle ISD
Martin’s Mill ISD
Merkel ISD
Midway ISD (ESC 12)

Millsap ISD
Moody ISD
Moran ISD
Olney ISD
Palmer ISD
Paris ISD
Peaster ISD
Petersburg ISD
Quinlan ISD
Sam Rayburn ISD
Scurry-Rosser ISD
Tarkington ISD
Thrall ISD
Uvalde ISD
Veribest ISD
Waskom ISD
Winona ISD

If your district isn’t participating yet, it isn’t too late. [Click here to join us.](#)

If your board hasn’t yet signed the resolution, please ask them to! Download it [here](#) and then let us know when they have adopted it by emailing us at info@texaseducatorsvote.com.

Lastly, here is the [Oath](#) for educators, staff, parents, and other public education allies to sign.

In review, this week’s challenges are:

- 1. Get educators out to vote early**
- 2. Power of 10 challenge – ask each person to get 10 more people to take the Oath.**

We know educators are working hard, but creating a culture of voting takes practice and will pay off for years to come for our kids and the future of Texas.

Sincerely,

Laura Yeager
TACS Governmental Affairs
Director, Texas Educators Vote