

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ALAMO HEIGHTS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF
EMPOWERING STUDENTS AND INSTILLING CIVIC PRIDE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF
THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS**

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF BEXAR §

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD believes, in agreement with the Constitution of the State of Texas, that the general diffusion of knowledge is essential to the preservation of the liberties and the rights of the people;

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD recognizes the State of Texas' constitutional duty to "establish and *make suitable provision for* the support and maintenance of an *efficient system of public free schools;*"

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD believes that the public school system, fully funded and appropriately overseen and accounted for by the State of Texas, remains the most influential avenue of delivering strong student outcomes and of instilling civic pride in our communities, in our children, and for our democratic and republican forms of government;

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD resolutely believes in these principles of civic pride, local government and control, and self-determination;

WHEREAS, Texas public schools, like Alamo Heights ISD and unlike other forms of schooling, value and accept every student and are subject to academic and financial accountability by the State of Texas;

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD understands that the State of Texas wishes to improve educational outcomes in Texas by considering the use of vouchers, education savings accounts, and/or other mechanisms;

WHEREAS, Alamo Heights ISD understands that any such mechanism necessarily would use taxpayer funds to fund school systems, including private school systems, that are not subject to State accountability;

WHEREAS, the State of Texas already underfunds Texas public schools and, to make up for this shortfall, "recaptures" at least \$4 billion per year from certain school districts like Alamo Heights ISD;

WHEREAS, given the “recapture” system, any adoption of vouchers or educational savings accounts undoubtedly will be funded, directly or indirectly, through “recapture,” imposing yet another undisclosed financial burden on Alamo Heights ISD taxpayers that does not directly benefit Alamo Heights ISD schools;

WHEREAS, if any Texas public school is not creating positive educational outcomes for students, it remains the responsibility of the State of Texas to fully fund and to fully account for the performance of that specific school;

WHEREAS, taking dollars meant to fund Texas public schools and redirecting them to fund other forms of schooling misleads taxpayers as to the use of taxpayer money, reduces transparency, and reduces accountability of the use of public funds;

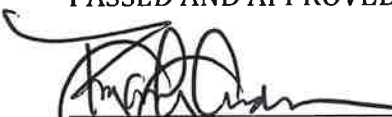
WHEREAS, private schools choose their own students; are not required to meet the same academic standards as public schools; and are not required to report test results, graduation rates, or other performance measures to the public;

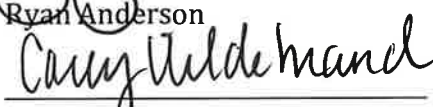
WHEREAS, depriving any Texas public school of funding is not the solution to improving that school’s performance on behalf of its students—indeed, it makes the situation worse for the students left behind and creates a self-destructive spiral;

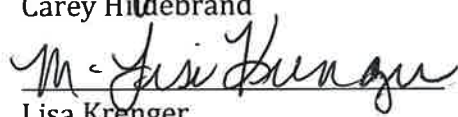
WHEREAS, as in Alamo Heights ISD, the solution to improving public school performance is community-based accountability, direct interaction between taxpayers and their elected school officials, the transparent operation of school systems and campuses, less state-imposed bureaucracy and regulation, adequate funding from the State of Texas, and better attraction and retention of staff through local control and self-determination.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alamo Heights ISD Board of Trustees calls on the Texas Legislature to fully fund and account for Texas public schools, to adopt fiscally-responsible policies that encourage local control and self-determination, to minimize regulatory and bureaucratic burden on Texas public schools, to encourage transparency in the operation of schools, and to reject any diversion of public dollars away from Texas public schools to private entities in any form.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 20 day of April 2023.



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