



TEXAS SCHOOL COALITION

P.O. Box 77070

Fort Worth, TX 76177

Phone: 817-698-1001

Fax: 817-215-0124

Clayton Downing, Ed.D.
Executive Director

TO: School Superintendent Addresses

FROM: Clayton Downing 

DATE: July 1, 2010

I would like to express my thanks again this year to those of you who have supported our past efforts in representing the interests of Chapter 41 school districts. We have come a long way in bringing change to educational funding in Texas with your support and assistance.

Because there are so many new potential Chapter 41 districts, I would like to take a moment to give an overview of our purpose and list some of our past achievements.

The Texas School Coalition was organized for the purpose of bringing together school districts that have an interest in improving the school funding laws for all districts – with a focus specifically on Chapter 41 districts. Our organization provides research, information, and consultation regarding school finance legislation. We currently represent approximately 100 school districts whose equalized wealth level exceeded \$374,000.00 per weighted student. In 2005-06, these districts paid more than two billion dollars in recapture. Under current law, recapture payments are expected to drop to one billion dollars; however, we believe this is still excessive, and this is one of the areas we will continue to work on in future legislative sessions.

Our organization has played a significant role in past legislative activities pertaining to Chapter 41 school districts. Several benefits are available to Chapter 41 districts, due, at least in part, to the leadership of the Coalition. These benefits include:

- Led the fight against the state-wide property tax during the 79th legislative session;
- Removal of debt service from recapture;
- Permanent hold harmless provisions;
- \$.06 of non-recaptured enrichment pennies in the local tax rate;
- Reduction in recapture payments since 2005-06;
- Successful law-suit against the state's unconstitutional \$1.50 tax rate which led to the passage of HB 1;
- No set asides for compensatory education;
- Very active involvement with Coalition to Invest in Texas Schools;
- Instrumental in including all mid-size 41's in the mid-size formula.

Our Executive Committee is comprised of:

Dr. Doug Otto, President
Plano ISD
2700 West 15th St
Plano, TX 75075
469-752-8100
dotto@pisd.edu

Dr. Kevin Brown, Secretary
Alamo Heights ISD
7101 Broadway St.
San Antonio, TX 78209
210-832-5953
kbrown@ahisd.net

Mike Motheral, Treasurer
Sundown ISD
P.O. Box 1110
Sundown, TX 79372
806-229-3021
mmotheral@sundownisd.com

Dr. Dawson Orr, Board Member
Highland Park ISD
7015 Westchester
Dallas, TX 75205
214-780-3002
orrd@hipisd.org

Dr. Karen Rue, Board Member
Northwest ISD
P.O. Box 77070
Ft. Worth, TX 76177
817-215-0030
krue@nisdtx.org

Bobby Azam, Board Member
Andrews ISD
405 NW 3rd Street
Andrews, TX 79714
432-523-3640
bazam@andrews.esc18.net

Christy Rome, Board Member
Austin ISD
1111 West 6th St.
Austin, TX 78703
512-414-2482
christy.rome@austinisd.org

Robert Ryan, Board Member
Small Rural Schools Coalition
242 Half Moon Way
Runaway Bay, TX 76426
940-393-5433
rrryan1@yahoo.com

Wayne Rotan, Board Member
Glen Rose ISD
P.O. Box 2129
Glen Rose, TX 76043
254-897-2517
wrotan@grid.net

Dr. Dee Hartt, Board Member
Tatum ISD
P.O. Box 808
Tatum, TX 75691
930-947-6482
harttd@tatum.esc7.net

(Three board members to be elected at next board meeting)

In spite of the progress we have made, the bottom line is that the funding crisis is not over – for public schools in general and especially for Chapter 41 districts. With this update on our achievements, and knowing the work that remains to be done, I would like to encourage you to renew your membership with the Texas School Coalition for 2010-11. An invoice for membership dues is enclosed. If you have not previously joined our organization, I hope you will seriously consider doing so at this time. There is strength in numbers!

Having been a Texas educator and superintendent for 35 years before my retirement in 2001, it has been a privilege and honor to work with you as director of the Texas School Coalition, and I look forward to continuing our efforts to provide equitable and adequate funding for Chapter 41 districts and the students we serve.

If you have any questions on our organization, or suggestions on issues that you would like to have addressed, please feel free to call me at 817-698-1001.

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P.O. Box 77070
Fort Worth, Texas 76177

INVOICE

TO: **College Station ISD**
1812 Welch
College Station, TX 77840
ATTN: Dr. Eddie Coulson, Superintendent

DATE: July 15, 2010

Enrollment	8,874
District Size Category	8,001-15,000
Membership Dues 2010-2011	\$8,500.00

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$8,500.00
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Please make check payable to: Texas School Coalition

Remit to: Texas School Coalition
Attn: Lorrie Harper
P.O. Box 77070
Fort Worth, Texas 76177
Tax I.D. No. 75-2686669

FEE SCHEDULE

<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Dues</u>
1-500	\$ 500
501-1,000	\$ 1,000
1,001-1,500	\$ 2,000
1,501-3,000	\$ 3,000
3,001-5,000	\$ 4,000
5,001-8,000	\$ 6,500
8,001-15,000	\$ 8,500
15,001+	\$ 12,500

If you have any questions concerning this invoice, please contact Lorrie Harper at (817) 698-1001.