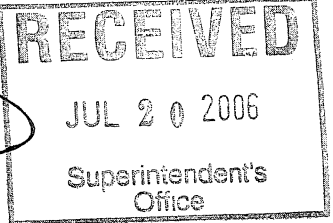


**TEXAS SCHOOL COALITION**

**P.O. Box 77070  
Fort Worth, TX 76177**



Clayton Downing, Ed.D.  
Executive Director

Phone: 817-698-1001  
Fax: 817-215-0124

July 17, 2006

*Best -  
Copies for cabinet  
& print on the cabinet  
agenda for 7-28-06.*

TO: The Superintendent Addressed  
FROM: Clayton Downing

I would like to, first of all, express my thanks to those of you who have supported our past efforts in representing the interests of Chapter 41 school districts. With your assistance, we have come a long way in bringing change to educational funding in Texas.

I'm sure by this time you've calculated the impact on your district of the legislation that emerged from this spring's special session. There were some elements of HB 1 I didn't like, i.e., the shifting of authority to the Commissioner of Education, the mandatory required additional math and science classes and the continued absorption of local authority. However, I believe that, overall, it was financially beneficial for most of us – at least for now. Also, since HB 1 is still only a short-term fix for a long-term problem, I believe it is imperative that we continue to make our voices heard in Austin.

As we look forward to the next legislative session, these are the issues I plan to focus on:

- Accessing the additional enrichment pennies without an election.
- With a successful election, we have two additional pennies that are not recaptured. I would work to increase that amount with the remaining 11¢ of discretionary funds.
- Assuring that the Chapter 41 districts are considered in the funding formula adjustments, if any occur. *It doesn't appear likely that this will happen.*
- Looking at lag money and its future with the current HB 1 funding bill as, under the current law, many of you may lose the benefit of lag money after 2007-08.

The bottom line is that the funding crisis is not over – for public schools in general and especially for Chapter 41 districts, which will continue to be those districts that have approximately \$320,000 taxable value per student. While a few of you may have dropped out of 41 status for 2006-07, you could very quickly drop back in.

An invoice for 2006-07 membership dues is enclosed and I would like to encourage you to renew your membership with the Texas School Coalition for 2006-07. If you have not previously joined our organization, I hope you will consider doing so at this time.

Having been a Texas educator and administrator 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 or suggestions on issues that you would like to have addressed, please feel free to call me at 817-698-1001.

**TEXAS SCHOOL COALITION**  
**P.O. Box 77070**  
**Fort Worth, Texas 76177**

**INVOICE**

TO: **College Station ISD**  
1812 Welch  
College Station, TX 77840

ATTN: Dr. Eddie Coulson, Interim Superintendent

DATE: July 17, 2006

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|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Enrollment              | 8,750        |
| District Size Category  | 8,001-15,000 |
| Membership Dues 2006-07 | \$8,500.00   |

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b> | <b>\$8,500.00</b> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|

**Please make check payable to: Texas School Coalition**

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

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**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 Ginny Marshall at (817) 698-1001.