
From: Spring Branch Speaks <updates@springbranchspeaks.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2011 7:30 AM
To:
Subject: Spring Branch Speaks - Legislature Now in Special Session: Education Funding Still in Flux...

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Spring Branch Speaks

... to make our voices heard in Austin.

Thanks to all of you who took time out of your holiday weekend to call and write our representatives. We were hopeful that the Legislature would pass the education funding compromise that was up for a vote on Sunday. Unfortunately, that did not happen. *We now need to keep up our collective energy and continue to communicate with lawmakers to protect our neighborhood schools and children's education.*

Education Funding Update

The official legislative session ended Monday and the Governor called a special session, starting yesterday. The Legislature now has another 30 days to pass an education allocation plan for the next two years. Essentially, bill creation and negotiation starts anew in a special session. As far as education funding goes, there is a "new" bill - SB 1 - that is a reincarnation of the House/Senate negotiated allocation plan that didn't pass over the weekend.

We need to ask the lawmakers to move quickly and pass SB 1 - with allocations as written - so school districts can finalize their budgets for the next two years. The more drawn out this process, the more uncertainty for SBISD, including potential exposure to larger cuts.

CALL TO ACTION:

Please call or email the following members of the Senate Finance Committee who are considering new bills on Thursday morning. In your own words ask them to support SB 1 as currently written, and enable school districts to finalize their budget plans for the next two school years.

Sen. Steve Ogden	Steve.Ogden@senate.state.tx.us	1-888-510-4580
Sen. Chuy Hinojosa	Juan.Hinojosa@senate.state.tx.us	1-888-812-0531
Sen. Robert Deuell	Bob.Deuell@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0102
Sen. Robert Duncan	Robert.Duncan@senate.state.tx.us	1-888-723-0408
Sen. Kevin Eltife	Kevin.Eltife@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0101
Sen. Craig Estes	Craig.Estes@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0130
Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr.	Eddie.Lucio@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0127
Sen. Jane Nelson	Jane.Nelson@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0112
Sen. Dan Patrick	Dan.Patrick@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0107
Sen. Kel Seliger	Kel.Seliger@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0131
Sen. Florence Shapiro	Florence.Shapiro@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0108

Sen. Royce West	Royce.West@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0123
Sen. John Whitmire	John.Whitmire@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0115
Sen. Tommy Williams	Tommy.Williams@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0104
Sen. Judith Zaffirini	Judith.Zaffirini@senate.state.tx.us	512-463-0121

Easily cut and paste:

steve.ogden@senate.state.tx.us; juan.hinojosa@senate.state.tx.us;
 bob.deuell@senate.state.tx.us; robert.duncan@senate.state.tx.us;
 kevin.eltife@senate.state.tx.us; craig.estes@senate.state.tx.us;
 eddie.lucio@senate.state.tx.us; jane.nelson@senate.state.tx.us;
 dan.patrick@senate.state.tx.us; kel.seliger@senate.state.tx.us;
 florence.shapiro@senate.state.tx.us; royce.west@senate.state.tx.us;
 john.whitmire@senate.state.tx.us; tommy.williams@senate.state.tx.us;
 judith.zaffirini@senate.state.tx.us

Thank you for your continued support of our neighborhood schools - especially during this special session!

Spring Branch Speaks

Parent-organized community outreach with SBISD in mind.

Spring Branch ISD educates a diverse community of 32,000 students on 46 campuses, including 57% economically disadvantaged students and 33% limited-English-proficient (ESL) students.

(Forward this email to your family and friends - ask them to join, too:
www.SpringBranchSpeaks.com)

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Legislative Committee:

David Davenport	Pam Goodson
Darci Hubbard	Susan Kellner
Valerie Paul	Chris Vierra