

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**11B. Report**

**Date: October 10, 2011**

**SUBJECT: FINANCIAL ALLOCATION STUDY OF TEXAS (FAST)**

**FUNCTION: Finance**

**DISTRICT KEY STATEGIC PRIORITY: Excellence in Financial Stewardship; 5.5**

**FISCAL NOTE:**

**Background Information:**

Two years ago the Texas State Legislature gave the State Comptroller an assignment to rate Texas school districts on educational attainment and financial efficiency.

**Administrative Considerations:**

The State has hired a research group to analyze math and reading attainment for the last three years and combined that data with per pupil spending adjusted for regional cost of living variances. The range of scores goes from one to five stars.

**Communication Deployment:**

- Board Meeting Minutes
- Keller ISD Public Website – Finance Section
- Press Release

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Respectfully submitted,

R. Mark Youngs, RTSBA  
Deputy Superintendent

Susan Combs  
Texas Comptroller  
of Public Accounts

# FAST

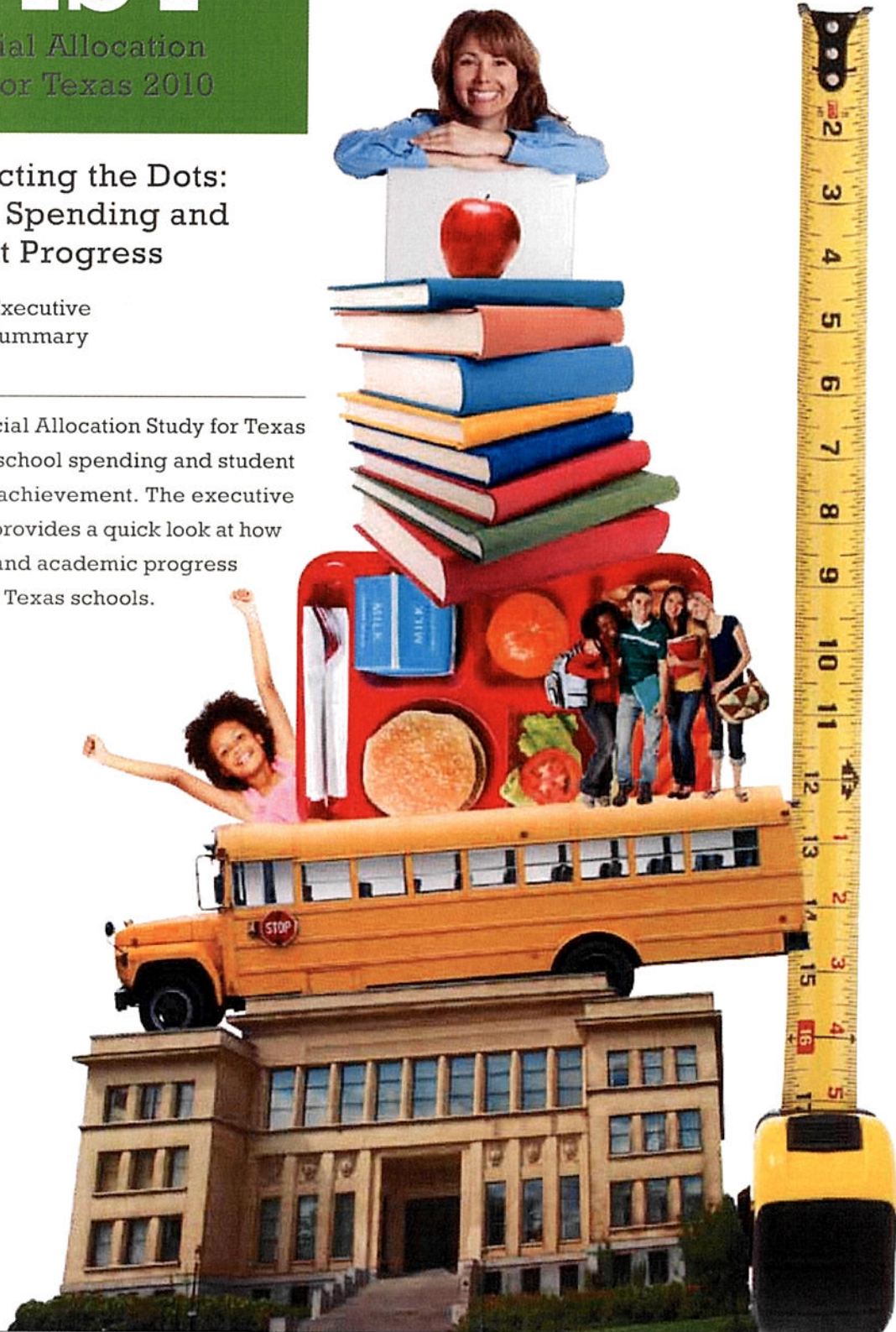
Financial Allocation  
Study for Texas 2010

## Connecting the Dots: School Spending and Student Progress

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Executive  
Summary

The Financial Allocation Study for Texas examines school spending and student academic achievement. The executive summary provides a quick look at how spending and academic progress stack up in Texas schools.



The Comptroller's Superintendent Advisory Committee included:

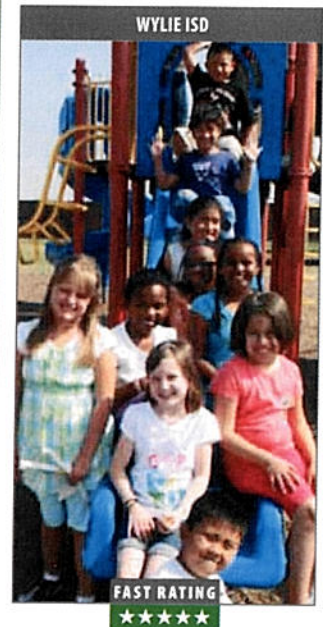
SUPERINTENDENT	DISTRICT
David Anthony, Ed.D.	Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
Frank Belcher (now retired)	Canadian ISD
Keith Bryant	Bullard ISD
Gene Buinger, Ed.D.	Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD
Jesus Chavez, Ed.D.	Round Rock ISD
Mike Feinberg	KIPP Houston (Charter)
Cynthia Garcia, Ed.D.	Driscoll ISD
Lorenzo Garcia, Ed.D.	El Paso ISD
Karen Garza, Ph.D.	Lubbock ISD
Roland Hernandez, Ph.D.	Waco ISD (now with Corpus Christi ISD)
Michael Hinojosa, Ed.D.	Dallas ISD
Daniel King, Ph.D.	Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD
Duncan Klussmann, Ed.D.	Spring Branch ISD
Richard Middleton, Ph.D.	North East ISD
Sylvester Perez, Ed.D. (now retired)	Midland ISD
Carrol Thomas, Ed.D.	Beaumont ISD

The Comptroller also met with a **school board advisory group** of Texas school trustees to discuss the study methodology and receive direction:

TRUSTEE	DISTRICT
Jim de Garavilla	Silsbee ISD
Karen Ellis	Richardson ISD
Carol Fletcher, Ph.D.	Pflugerville ISD
Israel Hinojosa	Jim Hogg County ISD
Mark Miller	Sealy ISD
Lynn Ramsey	Shamrock ISD
Sarah Winkler	Alief ISD
Cindy Warner	Coppell ISD

The research team met with **teachers, principals and other education groups** to discuss and address their concerns regarding this project. Those who contributed include:

- Association of Texas Professional Educators
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Michael & Susan Dell Foundation
- Regional Education Service Center directors
- Texas Association of School Administrators
- Texas Association of School Boards



The FAST project used technical teams and peer-review panels to validate its methods and findings.

FAST RATING

- Finally, the review team created a **FAST rating** that integrates the academic progress and spending measures to identify districts responsible for strong and cost-effective academic growth.
- Each district has received a **FAST** rating ranging from one to five stars, with half-star increments (**Exhibit 1**).
- A **five-star district** has a composite progress rating between 80 and 99 and a spending index of “Very Low.”
- A **one-star district** has a composite progress rating below 20 and a spending index of “Very High.”
- A district with “Very High” spending and a composite progress rating of 80 to 99, and a district with “Very Low” spending and a composite progress percentile below 20, both earn **three-star FAST ratings**.
- This rating does not make any judgment of the relative value of spending versus academic progress, recognizing that different school districts have different priorities and different constraints.

GO BEHIND THE NUMBERS

For a detailed look at the methodology and calculations used to produce the FAST ratings, visit the FAST report online at [www.FASTexas.org](http://www.FASTexas.org). You can also view statewide expenditure trends, a summary of Texas’ current school finance system and expanded FAST report recommendations.

EXHIBIT 1

COMPOSITE ACADEMIC PROGRESS PERCENTILE + SPENDING INDEX = FAST RATING

		SPENDING INDEX				
		“VERY HIGH”	“HIGH”	“AVERAGE”	“LOW”	“VERY LOW”
COMPOSITE ACADEMIC PROGRESS PERCENTILE	● 80-99	3 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	3½ STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	4 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	4½ STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	5 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆
	◐ 60-79	2½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	3 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	3½ STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	4 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	4½ STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆
	○ 40-59	2 STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	2½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	3 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	3½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	4 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆
	◑ 20-39	1½ STARS ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆	2 STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	2½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	3 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆	3½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆
	● LESS THAN 20	1 STARS ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆	1½ STARS ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆	2 STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	2½ STARS ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆	3 STARS ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



EXHIBIT 12

### TEXAS SCHOOL DISTRICTS: REQUIRED REPORTS

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT	NOTICE OF PARENTAL RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT
ANNUAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT, NOTICE, AND HEARING*	NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET AND TAX RATE*
ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT	NOTICE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION GRANT ELIGIBILITY
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PERFORMANCE REPORT	NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS
AUDIT OF PURCHASING CONTRACTS	NOTICE OF SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS
BUDGET SUMMARY REPORT	NOTICE OF STUDENT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY POLICIES AND DATA
BUS ACCIDENT REPORT	NOTICE OF TOBACCO USE POLICIES
CAMPUS/SCHOOL REPORT CARDS	NOTICE OF VACANT POSITIONS
CHECK REGISTER	NOTICE REQUIRED FOR AWARDING JOB ORDER CONTRACTS
DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM PLACEMENTS AND EXPULSIONS REPORT	NOTICE TO HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS*
DISSEMINATION OF BACTERIAL MENINGITIS INFORMATION	NOTICES REQUIRED FOR AWARDING COMPETITIVE BIDDING CONTRACTS*
DISSEMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT POLICIES	NOTICES REQUIRED FOR HIRING A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK
DISSEMINATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM POLICIES	NOTICES REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE VALUED AT \$25,000 OR MORE*
ELECTRICITY, WATER, AND NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION REPORT	NOTICES REQUIRED FOR PURCHASES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUED BETWEEN \$10,000 AND \$25,000*
EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT	NOTICES REQUIRED FOR SELECTING A CONTRACTOR THROUGH COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS
FILING OF ADOPTED BUDGET	NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNER'S BILL OF RIGHTS
HEARING REGARDING USE OF HIGH SCHOOL ALLOTMENT FUNDS	POSTING OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS
INFORMED CHOICE REPORT FOR ELECTRONIC COURSE PILOT PROGRAM	POSTING OF DISTRICT AND CAMPUS PERFORMANCE REPORTS
MONTHLY REPORT OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION ABOVE THE STATE MINIMUM SALARY SCHEDULE	REPORT OF DIAGNOSTIC READING TEST RESULTS
NOTICE AND REPORT OF RESULTS OF INTENSIVE MATH AND SCIENCE INSTRUCTION PROGRAMS	REPORT OF INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES RATIO AND INSTRUCTIONAL EMPLOYEES RATIO
NOTICE OF "TOP 10 PERCENT" AUTOMATIC COLLEGE ADMISSIONS LAW AND ELIGIBILITY	REPORT OF MANAGEMENT FEES UNDER PURCHASING CONTRACTS
NOTICE OF AN ELECTION*	REPORT OF NATURAL GAS AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM PIPE TESTING RESULTS
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF STUDENT PHYSICAL FITNESS ASSESSMENT RESULTS	REPORT OF TECHNOLOGY LITERACY ASSESSMENT RESULTS
NOTICE OF AVAILABLE COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS	REPORTING OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING RESULTS
NOTICE OF BILINGUAL AND SPECIAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMS	REPORTING OF COLLEGE PREPARATION ASSESSMENT RESULTS
NOTICE OF BOUNDARY CHANGE TO VOTER REGISTRAR	RESULTS OF SCHOOL FACILITIES SECURITY AUDIT
NOTICE OF CAMPUS RATING	RETIREE REPORT
NOTICE OF CLASS SIZE LIMIT WAIVER	SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM DATA REPORT
NOTICE OF DISTRICT'S LOW ACCREDITATION STATUS*	STATE SPENDING TARGETS REPORT AND BOARD RESOLUTION
NOTICE OF FOOD SERVICE AND VENDING MACHINE GUIDELINES	STUDENT IMMUNIZATION STATUS REPORT
NOTICE OF GROUP HEALTH BENEFITS FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES	STUDENT REPORT CARDS AND NOTICE OF UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE

\*Report must be published in a newspaper.

Source: Texas Association of School Boards.

Five-Star Districts – September 2011

FAST identifies districts that have improved student achievement while keeping expenditures relatively low. The five-star districts for 2011 are:

Allen ISD	Katy ISD*
Angleton ISD*	Keller ISD*
Anna ISD*	Lake Dallas ISD
Aubrey ISD*	Liberty Hill ISD
AW Brown-Fellowship Leadership Academy†	McDade ISD
Caddo Mills ISD	Mesquite ISD*
Celina ISD	Midlothian ISD
Children First Academy Of Dallas*†	Mount Vernon ISD
Children First Academy Of Houston*†	Mumford ISD*
China Spring ISD	Needville ISD
Clifton ISD	North Hills Preparatory School*†
Conroe ISD*	Palmer ISD
Coppell ISD	Peak Preparatory School*†
Crandall ISD	Pearland ISD*
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD*	Princeton ISD
Damon ISD	Ripley House Charter School*†
Friendswood ISD*	Chaparral Star Academy*†
Galena Park ISD	Sunnyvale ISD*
Garland ISD*	The Varnett Public School†
Gholson ISD	Tomball ISD
Harleton ISD*	Vanguard Academy*†
Houston Gateway Academy Inc†	Wylie ISD*
Irving ISD*	Zoe Learning Academy†

\* Five-star district for two consecutive years.

† Denotes a charter operator. Like independent school districts, some charter operators run only one campus, while others run multiple campuses. All charter operators are considered school districts for the purposes of the FAST analysis.