

# Keep PLANO SCHOOLS

*Bright!*



Don't let lawmakers dim the lights on the bright future of our children, education, our state, and our nation.

Texas is facing the worst budget cuts in education since World War II.

The cause is a \$27 billion dollar hole in the budget.

Education is slated to be cut by \$5 billion dollars.

For Plano that translates to \$57 to \$65 million dollars.

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## ***How did we get here?***

- 2005 Property tax reduced, business and cigarette tax increased but wasn't enough to offset the difference.
- Economic downturn
- One-time general revenue funds and stimulus funds, used to balance the previous budget are no longer available.
- Texas school enrollment has increased while property values have declined.

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## **What does \$57 - \$65 M look like in Plano?**

All general administration, bus drivers, maintenance workers, custodial services, librarians, nurses, counselors, fine arts and special academic programs and athletics could be cut and that would total \$60.5M.

Close 1 senior high school, 2 high schools, 3 middle schools and 9 elementary schools. That would total \$59.9M.

Cut 1,146 teacher jobs, that equals \$60M

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Do you like having a nurse on campus?

Does your child have asthma, diabetes, gotten sick at school?

Do you have a special needs child?

Does your child need a teachers' aid in class?

Do you like having a literacy specialist at your school?

What about a library?

Sports?

The arts?

AP classes?

What about central administration, they support our teachers and principals.

Do you want your child to go to a clean school?

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Exactly what part of your child's  
education is not important?

Austin is saying a whole lot of it!

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## ***Where do we rank?***

Texas spends an average of \$9,227 per pupil

Plano spends \$8,344 per pupil

Texas spends \$1,359 per student less than the national average

Texas ranks 38th in funding per pupil

Texas has 2nd highest school population

Texas school population has grown 20% in 10 years

10 years ago Texas ranked 25th in spending per pupil

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## ***Where do we rank?***

Texas is 43rd in graduation rate

Texas ranks 50th in adults with high school diploma

Texas ranks 46th in SAT scores

Texas ranks 49th in teacher pay

Texas ranks 43rd in voting age population registered  
and 45th of voting age that actually vote!

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## ***Alternatives***

Make education a top priority!

Use the Rainy Day Fund - \$9B

Use All forms of funding available including Doggett amendment

Do not start STAAR and EOC

Use the Permanent School Fund - \$25B

Reduce unfunded mandates by giving district  
control over fiscal issues and curriculum

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## ***We Need You!***

Read, pay attention, talk to friends and neighbors

Bookmark [www.planopta.org](http://www.planopta.org) for updates and action alerts

[www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org) sign up for Under the Dome alerts and take action

Get information from your school PTA

Continue to send emails, phone calls and fax letters to our  
representatives

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## ***We Need You!***

Get the message out on your Facebook and email

Car window message

Rally Saturday March 12, [savetxschools.org](http://savetxschools.org)

Talk to your HOA

Involve places of worship

Parents from scout troops and sports teams

Inform business

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Don't let Austin turn the lights off on  
Education!

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