

Legend: ● - Good , ● - Questionable, ● - Bad

## Texas House District 56

### McLennan County Precincts:

1,3,4,7,8,11,16,19,23,25,26,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,91

	<u>Erin Shank</u>	<u>Pat Curry</u>
<b>What are they saying/doing regarding funding?</b>	<p>Our Texas public schools are molding our next generation. Ninety five percent of the youth in McLennan County are educated in our public schools. Yet Texas, with all its great wealth and prosperity, ranks 45th in the nation in school funding and teacher pay. We must fully fund our public school districts so they can provide teachers with much overdue and needed pay raises, be able to fully staff their schools, purchase the equipment and technology they need, provide special education support to our students with disabilities, and so much more. Our children are relying on us to get this right and we cannot let them down... <b>(From her Website: <a href="#">Erin Shank for Texas House</a> )</b></p> <p>As your representative, I will author and vote for legislation that supports our public schools, students and teachers. I will fight to fund our schools and provide our teachers with a permanent pay raise. <b>(Facebook post, Erin Shank for Texas, July 13, 2024)</b></p>	<p>A strong public education system is critical to the success of our state and country. A product of local public schools, Pat will fight to improve public education, increase teacher pay, and take care of our retired educators. Pat is an ardent supporter of teachers and the public school system and helping students realize their highest potential in their chosen field. He is committed to working with our 17 school districts to strengthen their ties to family and business and work together with TSTC and Baylor to help every parent and student in the community, rather than a few. <b>(From his website: <a href="#">Pat Curry Republican for Texas House - Pat Curry</a> )</b></p> <p>...Curry also said he is in favor of more funding for public schools. <b>(From: <a href="#">Pat Curry takes Republican nomination for House District 56 (wacotrib.com, 3/6/24)</a>)</b></p>
<b>What are they saying/doing regarding vouchers?</b>	<p>...Shank said she is against Abbott’s school voucher proposal and would push hard to advocate for teacher pay raises and public school funding. <b>(From: <a href="#">Pat Curry takes Republican nomination for House District 56 (wacotrib.com, 3/6/24)</a>)</b></p> <p>I am firmly against vouchers because I understand that public dollars should stay in public schools, which educate 95% of Texas children. We must prioritize investing in our public education system to ensure every child has access to quality education. (From “<a href="#">School Vouchers - Abbott Claim Wrong</a>,” blog post by Erin Shank last updated May 18, 2024)</p>	<p>...Even [Abbott’s] “five-star recruit” for an open House seat in Waco, local businessman Pat Curry, failed to bring up vouchers on the stump last week. Abbott, following Curry onstage, assured voters his chosen candidate would support the policy if elected... <b>(From: <a href="#">Abbott turns to school culture wars to boost support for vouchers (houstonchronicle.com,1/17/24)</a>)</b></p> <p>...Curry also said he supports Abbott’s plans for school vouchers but wants to see a pilot version of the program to make sure it will work before it is widely implemented<b>(From: <a href="#">Pat Curry takes Republican nomination for House District 56 (wacotrib.com, 3/6/24)</a>)</b></p> <p>Curry is endorsed by Greg Abbott. He will probably vote YES on vouchers.</p>
<b>Do they focus on real concerns or scare tactics?</b>	<p>Our Texas public schools are really hurting... According to a survey conducted by the Charles Butt Foundation, 77% of teachers have seriously considered leaving the profession ... <b>(From an article on <a href="#">Texas Public Schools, Waco Trib, 10/9/22</a>)</b></p>	<p>(No examples)</p>