What is Vote for ALL Kids all about?

Public schools in Texas serve ALL kids. They are funded and regulated by the Texas legislature. If we want high quality public education for ALL kids in Texas, we must <u>elect legislators</u> who will prioritize public schools.

The Plan

- **1. Evaluate.** Evaluate the candidates regarding their support for public school.
- **2. Identify and connect.** Find potential voters in McLennan County who want to vote to prioritize Public Schools. Get their contact information.
- **3. Inform.** Get the voters information they need to vote for candidates who will prioritize public schools.
- **4. Get out the vote!** Remind the voters when it is time to vote. Make sure they know when and where they can vote.
- **5. Keep watch**. Keep an eye on our legislators once they are elected and report back to the voters.

How can you help?

- Join us! Scan the QR Code and click the big blue "join us" button to enter your contact information on the voteforallkids.org website.
- Spread the word encourage other people to join us.
- Read our emails and posts. Take advantage of opportunities to learn about issues affecting public schools, and how our legislators are responding.
- Help us get out the vote when election time comes.
- Vote!





VOTEFORALLKIDS.ORG

What are we looking for in a candidate?

What are they saying and doing regarding funding? - Texas is in the bottom 10 states for public school funding. We would have to increase our annual per student funding by \$3,000 just to be average. Teachers and public school employees have been stretching insufficient dollars for years — really decades. Texas has a terrific economy, the 8th largest in the world! We could have the best public schools in the country, but we need adequate funding to move forward. Texas had a \$32 billion budget surplus last session and none of it went to fund public schools. So now, instead of moving forward, districts are making cuts to already tight budgets. Let's vote for candidates who will prioritize funding for public schools.

What are they saying and doing regarding vouchers? - School vouchers, also called "school choice" or "educational savings accounts," give tax money to parents to subsidize tuition for private schools. Voucher supporters say vouchers help low-income kids get a chance at a better education, but we know from programs in other states that they are mainly used by people who can already afford to have their kids in private schools. Governor Greg Abbott is determined to pass a voucher plan, but, so far, enough Republican and Democrat legislators have voted against it that he has failed. People from both parties understand that vouchers benefit only a few students at best. We don't need vouchers; we need to fund public schools adequately to provide a great education for all kids. Vouchers are a distraction at best. At worst they drain funds and support from the public schools that serve the vast majority of our kids. Let's vote for candidates who will vote NO on vouchers, at least until we have fully funded public schools.

Do they focus on real concerns or scare tactics? - Think about the educators you know. Chances are, they are working extremely hard to help their students learn the subject matter at hand, to develop critical thinking skills, to find their place in the world, and to grow into good citizens and good people. They are not "indoctrinating children into radical, leftist ideology" or "hyper-sexualizing" them. This kind of talk is a scare tactic and an insult to teachers. In almost every case it is simply not true. Public schools face some serious challenges, no doubt. Finding enough qualified teachers, supporting vulnerable students, managing behavior challenges – these are real concerns. Let's vote for candidates who are talking about real concerns -- not candidates who are using scary words to stir up unfounded controversy and undermine trust in teachers.

TX House District 13

TX House District 56



