



## Richardson ISD Community Budget Steering Committee

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### **Purpose of the 2023 Community Budget Steering Committee**

The purpose of the 2023 Community Budget Steering Committee is to provide the Richardson Independent School District (Richardson ISD) Administration and Board of Trustees with financially sustainable recommendations to address the unprecedented financial challenges associated with declining revenue and increased operating costs resulting from:

- Declining enrollment due to declining birth rates and other factors
- Lack of legislative investment in public education, as evidenced by not increasing the basic allotment since 2019
- 18% increase in the Consumer Price Index since March 2020
- Pressure to increase wages to keep pace with inflation
- Competition for educator and staff talent

Recommendations to the Richardson ISD Board of Trustees will be made after analyzing enrollment projections, financial data, and other data relevant in creating a sustainable financial plan that aligns with the Board of Trustees' True North Goal that states: "Every student, teacher, and leader will meet or exceed their academic growth goals"

### **Charge of the Committee**

To help the district prepare for the future, the Community Budget Steering Committee is charged to:

- Assess and prioritize the district's current and long-term financial needs, including, but not limited to:
  - District growth and capacity
  - Evolving educational programs
  - Operational efficiency and sustainability
- Consider the district's current financial position and funding methods to develop recommendations that are fiscally sound
- Develop and prioritize potential solutions that may be recommended from community input
- Consider the educational needs of all students and align recommendations with the district's vision, beliefs and Strategic Plan 2023
- Represent the entire school district community, their values and perceptions, and seek input from a representation of all district residents

- Make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that addresses the district's declining enrollment and resulting facility needs based on the Committee's identified priorities
- Assist the District in educating the general public concerning district financial issues and the work of the Committee.

### **Parameters for the Committee**

- The Committee will be comprised of parents and other community members who represent the diverse and multifaceted interests of the district that includes more than 5,900 employees, 70 facilities, covering more than six million square feet, to serve more than 37,000 students.
- Committee Chairperson(s) may be selected to lead the committee process, assist with facilitation of meetings and represent the Committee in its recommendations to the Board of Trustees.
- The Committee shall engage in productive dialogue, strive to be objective and maintain a district-level perspective at all times.
- The Committee may work in subgroups to allow for more efficient and effective evaluation.
- The Committee will establish its own goal for consensus and agree on recommendations proceeding when such consensus is met.
- The Committee should make recommendations that are based on current, relevant data and best practices, and adhere to laws and policies that govern school operations.
- District staff members will support the Committee and serve as information providers.
- The Committee will have access to data and resources necessary to the work of the Committee that is provided by Richardson ISD in order to develop appropriate recommendations.
- The Committee recognizes that the Committee's role is to provide recommendations to the Board of Trustees. The Committee is not the decision-maker for the Richardson ISD. The Board of Trustees has the obligation and responsibility to make decisions regarding budgets, personnel allocations, and revenue sources.
- The Committee process will be transparent. All presentations, materials and meeting minutes will be posted online for Committee member use and public consumption.