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ANNOUNCING THE 2023 FRIEND OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER HONOREES

Friends of Texas Public Schools is pleased to announce its 2023 Friend of the Year honorees:

Friend of the Year

The Holdsworth Center

Dr. Lindsay Whorton accepting on behalf of Holdsworth

Ambassadors of the Year

Dr. Bobby Ott, Temple ISD Superintendent
Dr. Georgeanne Warnock, Terrell ISD Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Worthy, Roysse City ISD Superintendent

Founders Distinguished Service Honorees

Honorable Rep. Abel Herrero (D-Robstown)
Honorable Rep. Ernest Bailes (R-Shepherd)

View the press release [HERE](#).

2023 FRIEND OF THE YEAR HONOREES



DR. BOBBY OTT



DR. GEORGEANNE WARNOCK



MR. KEVIN WORTHY



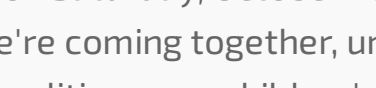
DR. LINDSAY WHORTON



REP. ERNEST BAILES



REP. ABEL HERRERO



PURCHASE SMARTER. **NOT HARDER.**

TIPS PURCHASING COOPERATIVE "Purchasing Needs Streamlined" **Your vehicle to local and national SAVINGS without compromising compliance.**

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FOUNDERS' NOTE

Join us at the Capitol on Saturday, October 7th, from noon to 2 pm for a crucial rally! We're coming together, united for a cause that transcends politics – our children's education!

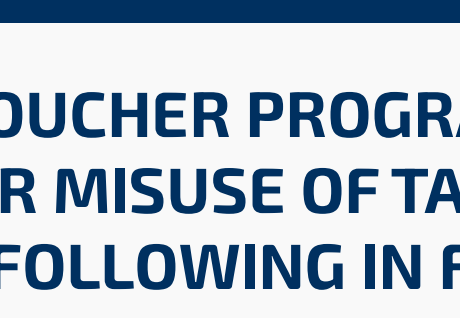
Say NO to vouchers!

Every child in Texas deserves a quality education, regardless of their background or circumstances. Let's stand together to protect their right to the best possible learning experience.

This isn't about left or right; it's about what's right for our kids' futures. Let your voice be heard, and let's make a difference! More information can be found on the [Facebook Event](#).

See you at the Capitol on October 7th!

Together,
Leslie & Scott Milder



Educate Texas

Educate Texas, an educational initiative of Communities Foundation of Texas, is the trusted change agent to strengthen Texas public schools and higher education. For more than a decade, we have worked side-by-side with our partners to empower students to realize their dreams and fuel a thriving Texas.

SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM UNDER FIRE FOR MISUSE OF TAXPAYER FUNDS - FOLLOWING IN FLORIDA'S FOOTSTEPS?

Sourced from: [Austin Reform](#)

Vouchers – often referred to as “school choice” by proponents – are grants of public taxpayer funds to private entities (parents, schools, scholarship programs, etc.) to fund education at a private school.

The Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott supports vouchers and has made it a priority for his legislative platform. During the regular legislative session in the Spring of this year, Abbott took to the road stumping for vouchers – [holding meetings in a number of private, religious schools to make his case](#). In many of these meetings Abbott used his gubernatorial heft to compel Texas House members opposed to vouchers to attend.

Despite Abbott's repeated insistence that Texans want vouchers, most Texas House members and their constituents tell a different story. During the 88th regular session, vouchers were pushed several times with the majority of Texas House members pushing back each time.

Critics of vouchers worry about the lack of accountability that would come with using taxpayer dollars to fund vouchers, Florida is a great example of how parents might abuse this system with no repercussions.

“Any way you slice the pie,” the voucher system will have an impact on public schools. In addition, it will distribute it to schools and programs with “no locally-controlled oversight and no accountability to the people footing the bill – the taxpayers,” Keith Bryant, Superintendent of Schools in Lubbock-Cooper ISD, explained.

Texas public schools are held accountable when it comes to addressing student achievement, school safety, and the curriculum that is being taught. Meanwhile, a voucher program would be handing out taxpayer dollars to people to educate their kids however they want without any oversight.

Read the full article [here](#).

FRIENDS OF TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS 19TH ANNUAL

FRIEND OF THE YEAR DINNER

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023 | 5 PM - 9 PM
BAYLOR MCLANE STADIUM, WACO

[Purchase Tickets](#)

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CLASS OF 2024

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Apply at [www.fotps.org/scholarship](#)
Deadline: October 1, 2023

[Learn More](#)

SOCIAL SHARE OF THE MONTH

FRIENDS of Texas Public Schools ... Great things are happening in Texas Public Schools!

During marching season, Cole Ochoa, who is missing his right hand, faced a challenge with the mellophone.

Thanks to the creative use of 3D printers by a team led by high schooler Nehemiah Faulkner and teacher David Cross, they crafted a personalized arm assist for Ochoa.

United by their band connection, Nehemiah's precision and Ochoa's need aligned perfectly.

Educator Renewal Bring wellness to your school and maximize student achievement. Register today. Solution Tree

GREAT THINGS HAPPEN IN TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS!

FRIENDS **FOTPS.ORG**

Please share positive news stories from your communities and let us help spread the word about the great things happening in YOUR public schools!

Please email us at friends@fotps.org or tag us on your social media!

Leigh Anne Pearson
Executive Director

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Linebarger Grogan Blair & Sampson, LLP
Principal Office: Austin, Texas. Responsible attorney for ad in Carmen Perez.

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About Friends of Texas Public Schools
We are a bit of a different type of organization...one that doesn't invest energy in education reform, but rather in celebrating what's right with our schools. We are an apolitical organization focused on educating all Texans about the virtues and achievements of our Texas public schools.

FRIENDS of Texas Public Schools

108 Wild Basin Rd South #250 | Austin, TX 78746
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