TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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February 25, 2015

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TSTA endorses community schools

The Texas State Teachers Association today applauded Rep. Eddie Rodriguez and Rep. Marsha Farney for introducing HB1891 and HB1892, legislation that will let educators and parents partner with neighborhood groups and businesses to improve local schools. The bill will clear the way for those who value their neighborhood schools to use the Community Schools model to turn around struggling schools instead of seeing them closed or turned over to operators from outside the community.

This concept has proven successful in districts throughout the country, including Austin ISD.

"This model allows educators, parents, community non-profits and businesses to develop effective programs for supporting local schools, including a range of services that address problems that make it hard for a child to learn," TSTA President Noel Candelaria said. "This process creates neighborhood schools that offer opportunity and a better future for our children."

"Community schools provide genuine local control and parental involvement, two things that Gov. Abbott has stressed. They put teachers and parents from the community in charge of their children's futures, not outsiders who have no personal stake in the students' success," Candelaria added.