



TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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October 4, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TSTA: Public schools need real solutions, not political sideshows

Texas State Teachers Association President Rita Haecker issued the following statement today:

“We are hopeful that the Senate majority will not allow the appointment of Sen. Dan Patrick as Chairman of the Senate Education Committee to turn undue attention to a privatization sideshow that does not address the needs of the overwhelming majority of Texas students.

“Senator Patrick’s priority, private school vouchers, is out of touch with the majority of Texans who want real solutions for students and educators who have been forced by historic education cuts to work in crowded classrooms with inadequate resources.

“Instead of trying to enrich private school operators with tax dollars, the Legislature should expand public educational opportunities for all Texas children. And, the place to start is by restoring the \$5.4 billion that was cut from public schools last session, restoring the 25,000 lost school jobs and reducing the size of thousands of overcrowded classrooms.

“Texas families demand a first class public education system, because that is where the vast majority of children will continue to be educated. Wasting time and tax dollars on a narrow, ideological political agenda is not what Texans deserve.”