

# *Resolution*

**WHEREAS**, the Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees commits support and priority to the collective efforts of the North Texas Regional Consortium and its work in pursuing legislative action for the sake of transformative change in public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) provides its members with active representation in the state's legislative and public policy process on issues critical to school districts, garnering the support of the Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees for TASA's statewide legislative platform on behalf of Texas school children; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plano Independent School District joins with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) in advocating that Texas students deserve a public education that prepares them for success in life and asserts that the state's first priority must be to adequately fund our public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plano Independent School District has joined in membership with the Texas School Coalition to raise awareness of shared challenges, concerns, triumphs and financial realities of districts in the state of Texas and in pursuit of legislative reform.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Trustees of the Plano Independent School District joins in collective efforts and raised voices to the assembled 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature to support these public education partnerships and to embrace the call to action on the following issues:

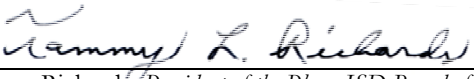
- End of Course Exams: Reduce the number of tests necessary to ascertain post-secondary readiness; and
- Paths to Graduation: Redefine the default Recommended Graduation Plan to provide more options for students; and
- Finance: Repeal plans to phase out Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction (ASATR), also known as hold harmless funding, or allow locally elected school boards representing impacted districts the discretion to offset the loss with local taxing authority; and
- Vouchers: Acknowledge that a voucher program will hurt all Texas school districts and will reduce the amount of state funding available for property poor school districts; and
- Calendar: Allow independent school districts the flexibility to determine their own instructional calendar start date and calendar features to best meet the needs of the entire school community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees asserts that the Texas Teacher Retirement System is maintained and supported as an essential benefit for public school employees; and

Early childhood and pre-kindergarten education should be emphasized as a healthy and reasonable launch into academic growth for children; and

The Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees respectfully implores that the members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature exemplify that an investment in Texas public school children, in partnership with the Plano Independent School District, is of priority and a future guarantee of an educated citizenry.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2012

  
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Tammy Richards, *President of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees*

  
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Marilyn Hinton, *Secretary of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees*