

Dear Spring Branch ISD (SBISD) Taxpayers,

Enclosed please find your 2022 SBISD tax bill. The district's tax rate has been reduced from \$1.3043 last year to **\$1.2688** per \$100 of taxable valuation. Your tax bill may show an increase due to the 8 percent average appraised value growth in taxable property values as determined by Harris County Tax Authority.

SBISD's total tax rate represents the lowest district tax rate since 2007-08 and the second lowest tax burden for school districts in the Houston area. The district's tax rate is comprised of two separate taxes – one that supports the General Fund, and one that supports the Debt Service fund. The district's General Fund is financed through the Maintenance and Operations tax (**\$0.9643**) and relies on state funds and some funds from other sources. The General Fund covers the district's day-to-day operations and is subject to recapture as noted below.

The Interest and Sinking tax (**\$0.3045**), covers Debt Service to pay interest and principal on bonds previously approved by voters. Bonds fund capital improvement projects like new school buildings and renovations, and assets like school buses, etc. Funds for Debt Service cannot be used for operational expenses and are not subject to recapture.

RECAPTURE

Since 2014 alone, the State has taken back or "recaptured" **\$400 million** of the tax dollars paid directly to the district by SBISD taxpayers.

The State, in turn, has only provided SBISD \$148 million in funding. **This year we estimate \$75 million in YOUR tax dollars will go back to the state in recapture.** Every dollar we send to the State is a dollar that can't be used to support the education of our students. This is not sustainable. You'll hear lots more about this as we approach the upcoming 88th Legislative Session.

\$400M of your tax dollars to the State since 2014



How are your tax dollars supporting students, staff and schools in Spring Branch ISD?

SBISD remains committed to our T-2-4 Vision for Every Child to successfully complete a technical certification, military training, or a 2-year or 4-year degree. Priority focus areas are literacy, numeracy, social and emotional supports, career and technical education and digital expansion. As a result, the district is proud to share a few highlights:

- 2021-22 STAAR test results showed continued growth in SBISD student achievement. SBISD continues to exceed region and state performance levels in elementary and middle school reading and math in nearly all grades and performance levels.
- SBISD students continue to outperform their peers at the regional, state and national level on the SAT and ACT college entrance exams, and 689 SBISD students earned recognition as Advanced Placement® scholars, earning a score of 3 or higher on three or more AP® exams.
- In 2021 and 2022, SBISD earned the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) District of Distinction Award, an honor earned by only five percent of districts across the state.
- SBISD Financial Services earned the 2021 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the 30th straight year.

Thank you for your commitment to Spring Branch ISD.

Jennifer Blaine, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Your bond dollars at work!

2017 Bond Highlights

- The newly- rebuilt Bunker Hill Elementary opened in August 2022
- The new classroom wing at Northbrook High School opened in August 2022
- The new Nottingham Elementary is under construction
- Groundbreakings will be held in early 2023 for the new Memorial Drive and Woodview Elementary Schools.

2022 Bond Planning Underway

- The 2022 Bond was approved by SBISD voters in May 2022
- The Project Advisory Team for the Valley Oaks Elementary expansion planning is underway
- Project Advisory Teams for the new Guthrie Center and Agricultural Science Center will kick off just after the first of the year.