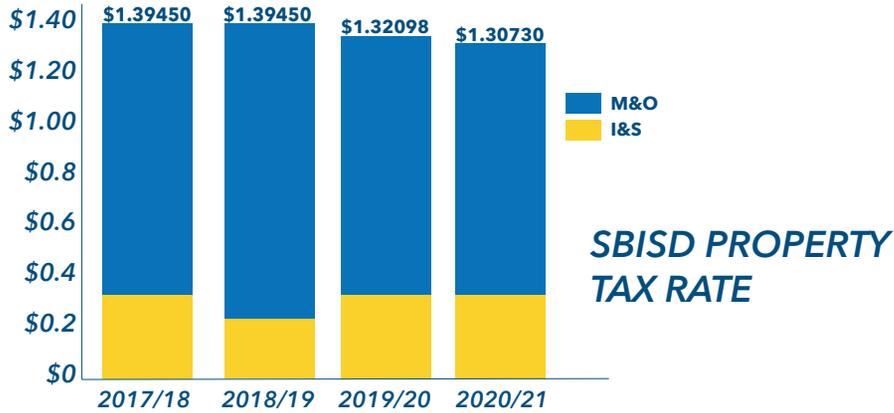




# Spring Branch ISD SNAPSHOT

[www.springbranchisd.com/finance](http://www.springbranchisd.com/finance)



Prior to the reduction in 2019-20, the SBISD total tax rate had remained the same, with the exception of 2008.

## RECAPTURE\*

SBISD is funded primarily through local school property taxes, supplemented with money from the state, based on a per-student formula. A district's General Fund tax rate is dictated by the state of Texas, and because SBISD is a recapture district, the state claims a larger portion of local tax dollars.

The General Fund is financed largely through the Maintenance and Operations (M&O) tax but also relies on state funds and a smattering of dollars from other sources. The General Fund covers the day-to-day operations of the district, including payroll, programming, maintenance, security, supplies, etc. Recapture is paid from the General Fund, reducing the dollars available for district operations.

Debt Service, financed through the Interest and Sinking (I&S) tax, pays for the district's debt, taken on through the sale of bonds for capital improvement projects such as new school buildings, major renovations, technology, school buses, etc. The sale of these bonds were approved by voters previously. Funds for Debt Service can only be used for that purpose - they cannot be used for operational expenses.

The state of Texas uses money collected through recapture to help fund its share of public education, replacing its contribution and freeing up state dollars to be used elsewhere, such as roads, health care, prisons and other state services. **It's all important, but we believe your public education tax dollars should stay in public education.**

\* With the passage of HB3, recapture is now called Local Revenue in Excess of Entitlement.

## Superintendent's Message

Dear Spring Branch Independent School District (SBISD) Taxpayers,

Enclosed please find your 2020 SBISD tax bill. **The district's tax rate has been reduced from \$1.32098 last year to \$1.30730.** This represents the lowest SBISD tax rate since 2007-08.

This **lower tax rate** is possible thanks to the actions of the 86th Texas Legislature and the passage of House Bill 3 (HB3) which infused \$6 billion in increased funding for public school districts in the current biennium. At the same time, HB3 provided tax relief for our SBISD taxpayers. We thank YOU, the members of the SBISD community who actively engage as advocates on behalf of SBISD and the children of our community. Your voices over many years were critical to the passage of HB3.

HB3 funding formulas significantly reduced the district's recapture\* burden, which we have referred to as "Robin Hood" in prior years. SBISD is funded primarily through local school property taxes, supplemented with money from the state. As local tax revenue goes up, the state's portion of funding goes down. This year, we estimate SBISD will send \$37 million to the state of Texas, about double the funding we will receive from the state.

We want you to know SBISD takes very seriously our responsibility for mitigating the risks of COVID-19 in our schools. LearnSBISD is our 2020-21 plan providing choice of in-person or distance learning for families and robust health and safety protocols. We estimate an impact of several million dollars on our bottom line as we respond responsibly to this global pandemic.

Please continue to remain engaged as advocates on behalf of SBISD as our Texas Legislature will be challenged to maintain and allocate funding in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Blaine, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## TAX BURDEN COMPARISON

Estimated tax on \$500,000 home

KATY ISD	\$6,597
SPRING ISD	\$6,592
CY-FAIR ISD**	\$5,092
<b>SBISD**</b>	<b>\$4,902</b>
HOUSTON ISD**	\$4,191

**SBISD's homeowners have a lower tax burden than homeowners in most other area school districts.**

### Did You Know?

Senior citizens who file their Over-65 Exemption will "freeze" their SBISD tax levy.

\*\* 20% local optional Homestead Exemption