

Quarterly Virtual Membership Briefing

Texas School Coalition

May 7, 2026

1:30pm-2:30pm



Welcome



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COALITION**

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Agenda

- ▶ Special Education Funding Update
- ▶ What We Know Now...Texas Voucher Program
- ▶ Property Tax Relief
- ▶ Statewide May Bond Election Outcomes
- ▶ New Website Features
- ▶ Q&A
- ▶ Exclusive Discounts
- ▶ Key Dates

Agenda

▶ Special Education Funding Update

presented by:

Dr. Amanda Brownson

TASBO

Deputy Executive Director

Policy & Research

Agenda

▶ What We Know Now...Texas Voucher Program

presented by:

Dee Carney

Texas Center for Voucher Transparency

Director

Agenda



Property Tax Relief

presented by:

Missy Bender
Texas School Coalition
Executive Director

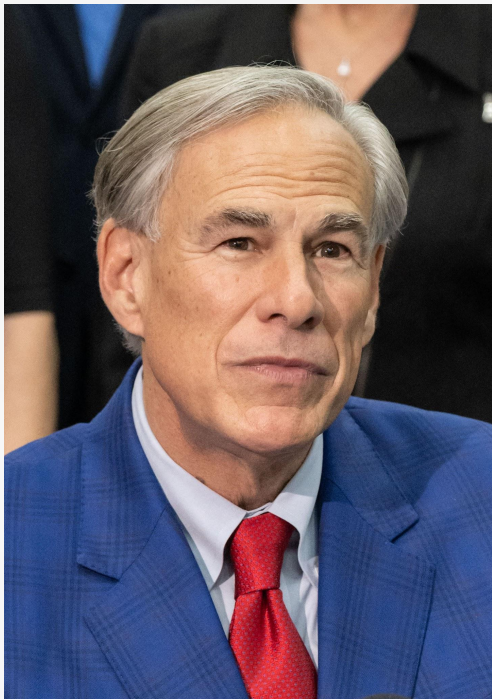
The Big Picture

*Political Messaging and
School Finance impact*

- ▶ Property Tax Relief = **School Finance Reform**
- ▶ Key Question = **Who Funds Public Education?**
- ▶ Debate is messaging-heavy but **not detail-heavy**

Two Different Approaches

Structural Overhaul



Gov. Greg Abbott

- ▶ Eliminate school property taxes for homeowners
- ▶ Shift funding responsibility to state
- ▶ Raises questions about long-term revenue replacement
- ▶ Funding depends upon state surplus

Incremental Relief



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick

- ▶ Increase homestead exemption
- ▶ Freeze taxes starting at 55
- ▶ Maintain current system with adjustments

Around 11am on Sunday, Gov. Greg Abbott's political mastermind Dave Carney issued a not so thinly veiled threat against lobbyists who might be pointing out various weaknesses in the vague but sweeping property tax proposals put forward by the state's chief executive in his bid for reelection.

“



ProTip: IMHO lobbyists who trash the top lege priority next session with their secret dinners should remember that the system works both ways... unless they only have taxpayer funded clients they should get on board or their other clients might just drop your firm.

[#txlege](#)

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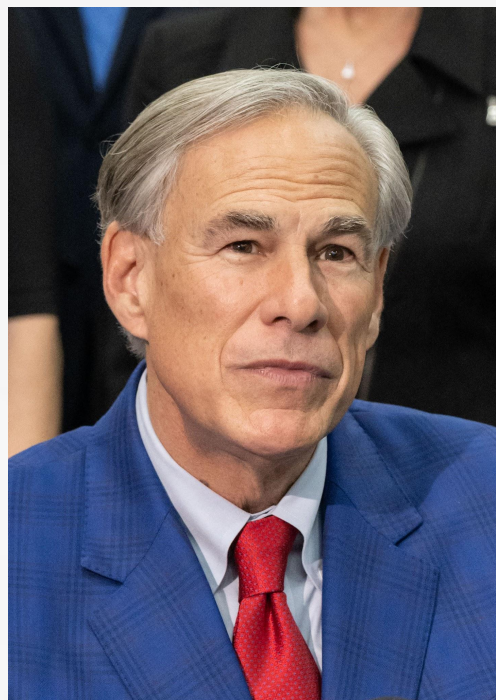
Quorum Report
May 3, 2026

“ Patrick has also, according to multiple Texas Senate sources, privately told budget writers in recent weeks that they need to start thinking about the distinct possibility they may be looking at the **first deficit budget** situation the state has seen since 2011. ”

Quorum Report
May 3, 2026

How would each plan impact recapture?

Structural Overhaul



Gov. Greg Abbott

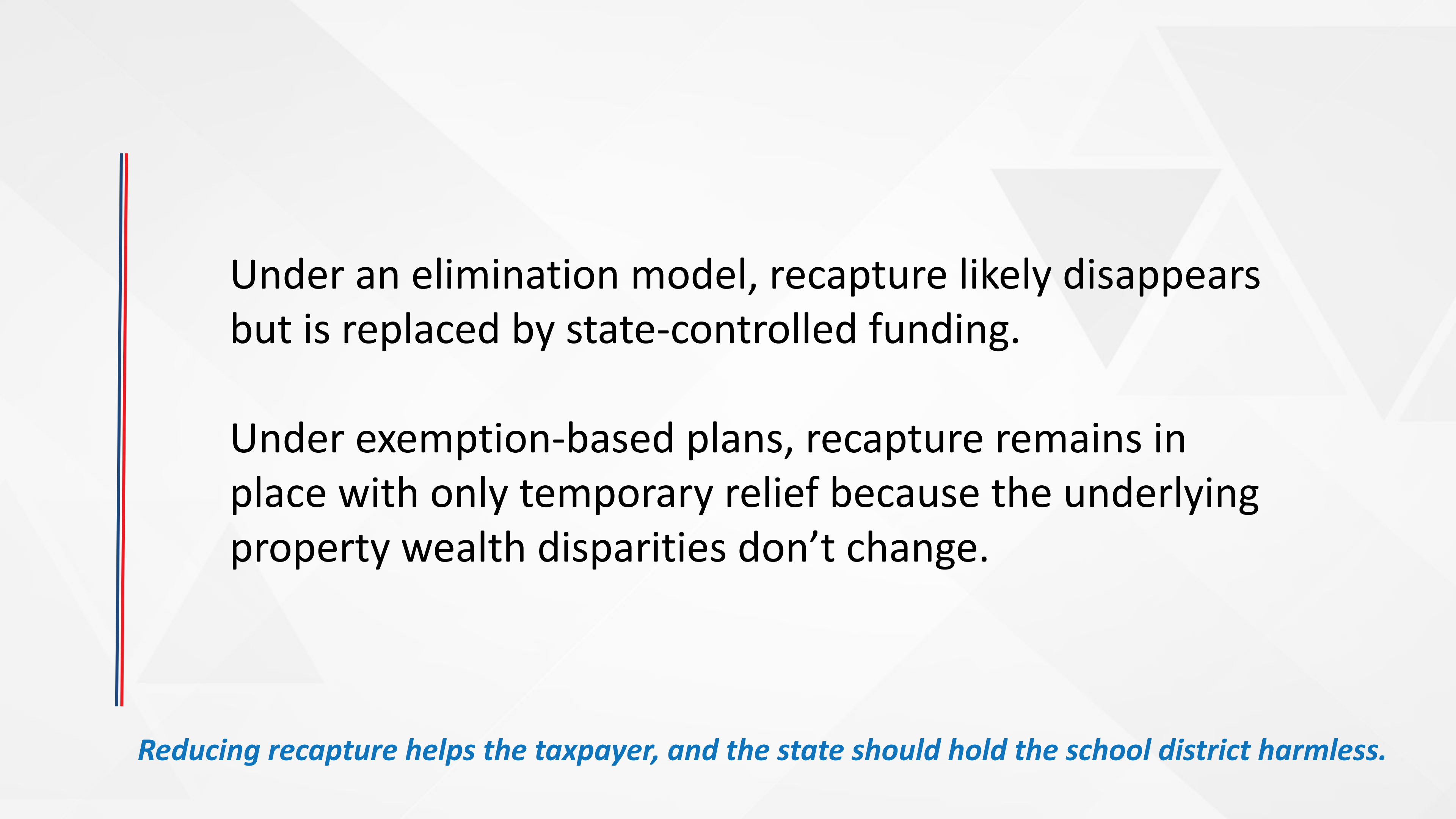
- ▶ Local M&O taxes reduced or eliminated
- ▶ Recapture could shrink or be replaced with another mechanism to maintain equity
- ▶ State redistribution model likely needed

Incremental Relief



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick

- ▶ Higher exemptions reduce taxable value
- ▶ Temporary recapture relief
- ▶ Recapture continues to increase with value growth



Under an elimination model, recapture likely disappears but is replaced by state-controlled funding.

Under exemption-based plans, recapture remains in place with only temporary relief because the underlying property wealth disparities don't change.

Reducing recapture helps the taxpayer, and the state should hold the school district harmless.

....but there are some
operational implications

- ▶ More state funding means **less local control**
- ▶ **Increased exposure** to state budget cycles
- ▶ Planning **uncertainty** for districts

It's campaign season, so this is message-testing time

We still do not know

What is the **replacement revenue** mechanism?

What is the **future of the recapture** system?

How is **funding stability** maintained during downturns?

Agenda



Statewide May Bond Election Results

presented by:

Missy Bender

Texas School Coalition

Executive Director

Statewide May Bond Election Results

SUMMARY OF BOND ELECTIONS	
# of Districts holding bond elections	73
Total Bond Value on Ballots	\$12,502,060,790
Total Bond Value Approved	\$11,290,865,790
% of Bond Value Passed	90.31%
Total # of Bond Propositions Proposed	124
# of Bond Propositions Passed	93
# of Districts where At least 1 Bond Prop Passed	56
% of Districts where at least 1 Bond Prop Passed	77%

Largest 5 ISD Bonds in May Election Cycle

District	Total Bond	Election Outcome
Dallas ISD	\$6.2 billion	\$6.2 billion PASSED
Arlington ISD	\$501 million	\$469.7 million PASSED
Birdville ISD	\$475 million	\$475 million PASSED
Magnolia ISD	\$465 million	\$465 million PASSED
Lancaster ISD	\$376 million	\$376 million PASSED

May 2, 2026 ISD Bond Election Re...

Prepared by Texas School Coalition
School District Bond Results (at least 1
proposition passed)

148 views

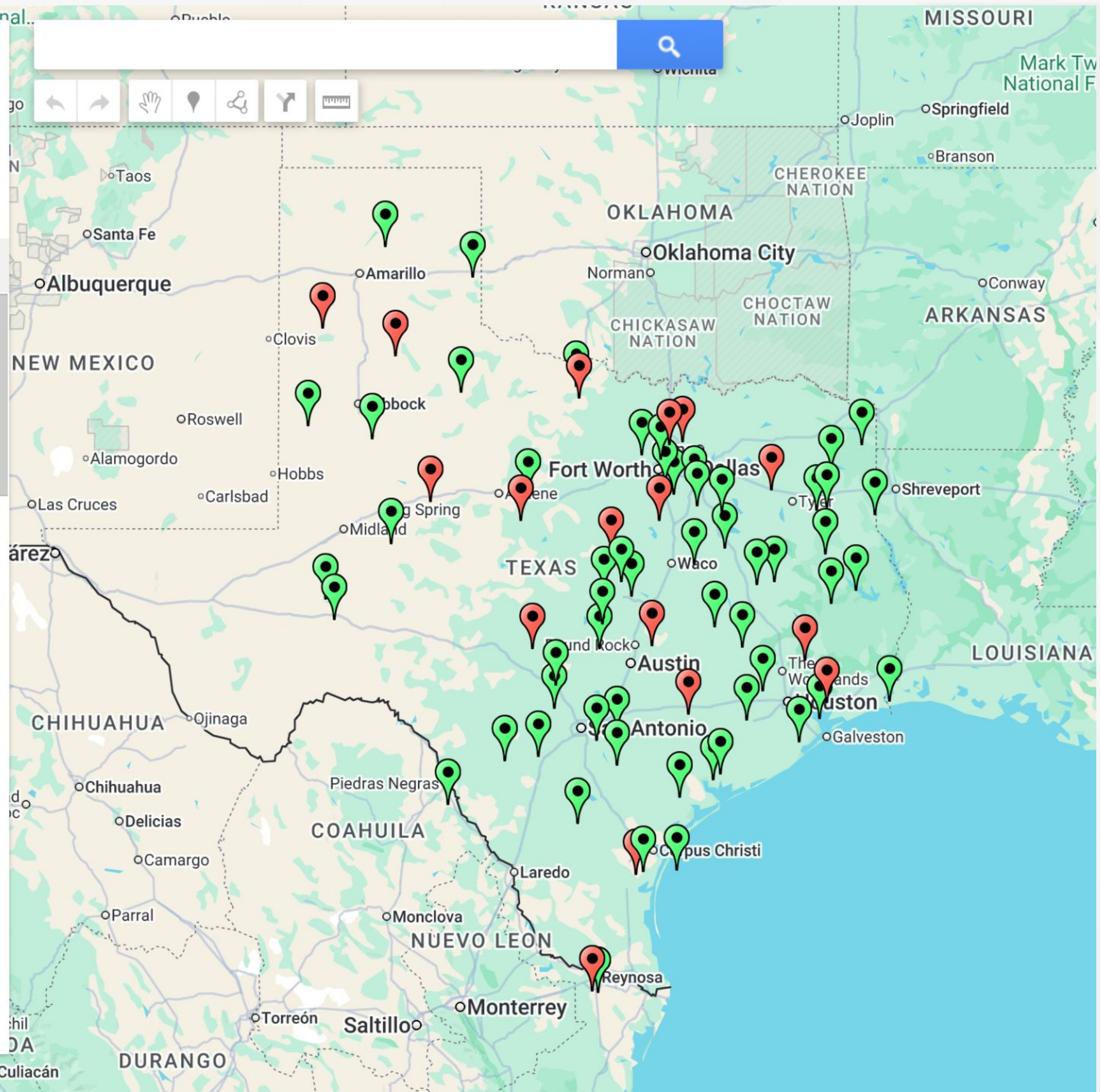
Last edit was 2 days ago

 Add layer  Share  Preview

☒ Texas School District Bond Electi...

Individual styles

-  Alba-Golden ISD - Failed
-  Albany ISD - Passed
-  Arlington ISD - Passed
-  Baird ISD - Failed
-  Barbers Hill ISD - Passed
-  Bartlett ISD - Failed
-  Birdville ISD - Passed
-  Burkburnett ISD - Passed
-  Burnet CISD - Passed
-  Chireno ISD - Passed
-  City View ISD - Failed
-  Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD - F...
-  Comfort ISD - Passed
-  Crane ISD - Passed
-  Daingerfield-Lone Star ISD - ...
-  Dallas ISD - Passed
-  Decatur ISD - Passed
-  Eagle Pass ISD - Passed



Agenda



New Website Features

presented by:

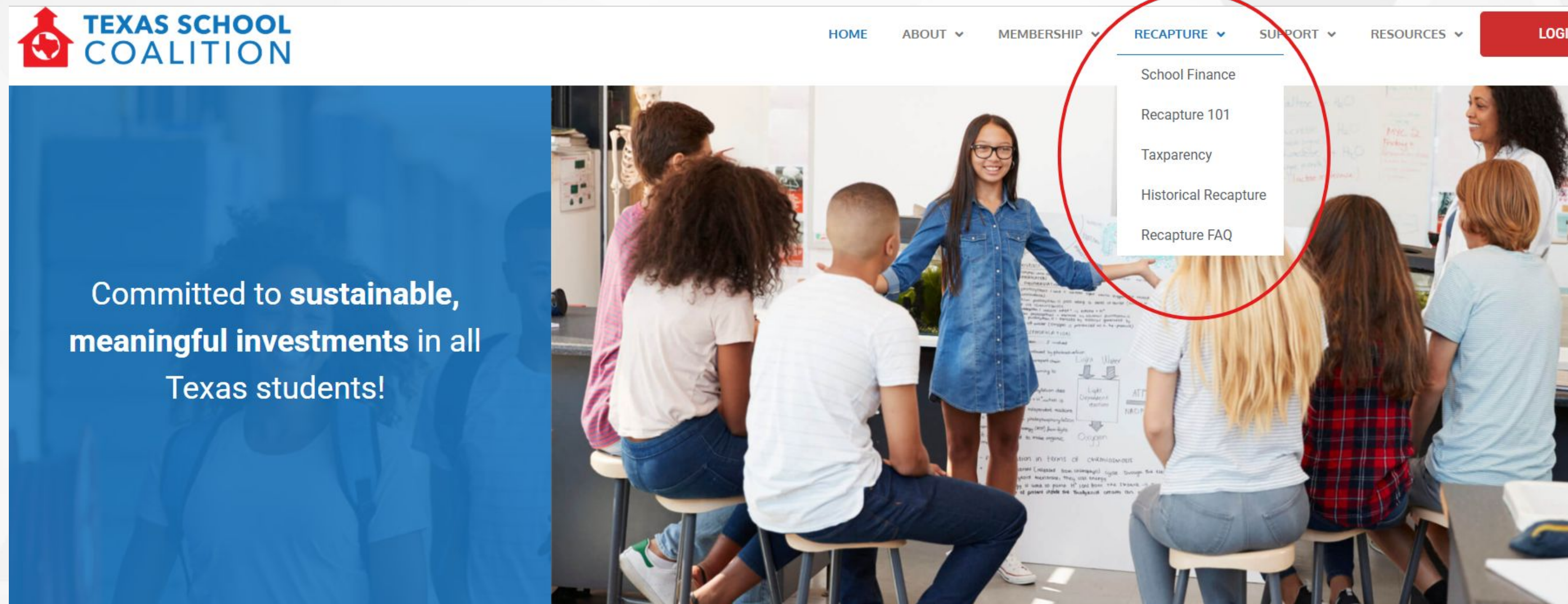
Missy Bender

Texas School Coalition

Executive Director

TXSC Website Updates

New Tab



New School Finance Webpage



School Finance



Who determines how much funding Texas public schools receive?

The Texas Legislature establishes the formulas that set the level of public education funding per student that all Texas school districts are entitled to have for the maintenance and operations (M&O) of the school district. Once these entitlements are established, the formulas are used to determine how much a school district can generate locally (local share) through property taxes before making up the difference with state funds (state share). The state share is funded through the Foundation School Program (FSP).

When local M&O tax collections exceed the funding level formulas set by the legislature, the excess in local tax collections for M&O is sent to the state and is called "**Recapture**." Recaptured funds are collected in the Foundation School Program (FSP) which is used to distribute the state share of public education funding.

Recaptured funds do not automatically increase the level of public education funding – only the legislature can do that.

How do local property taxes fund public education in Texas?

Texas school districts levy a property tax rate that contains two separate parts. The tax rate is the sum of these two parts:

1. Maintenance & Operations (M&O)

New Recapture 101 Webpage

Recapture 101

The following video provides a clear, high-level overview of how Texas' school finance recapture system works. In this video, you'll learn why recapture exists, how it's calculated, and how it affects school districts across the state—breaking down a complex topic into plain language and practical context.



The following links provide more information about how recapture works.

[Click here to view School Finance Basics by Texas Association of School Business Officials](#)

[Click here to view Excess Local Revenue FAQs by Texas Education Agency \(TEA\)](#)

New Historical Recapture Webpage

How much recapture has been paid by school district?

Select a school district, a start year and an end year. Only school districts that have paid recapture at some point in time appear on this list of school district options.

School district

ALAMO HEIGHTS ISD

Start year

1994

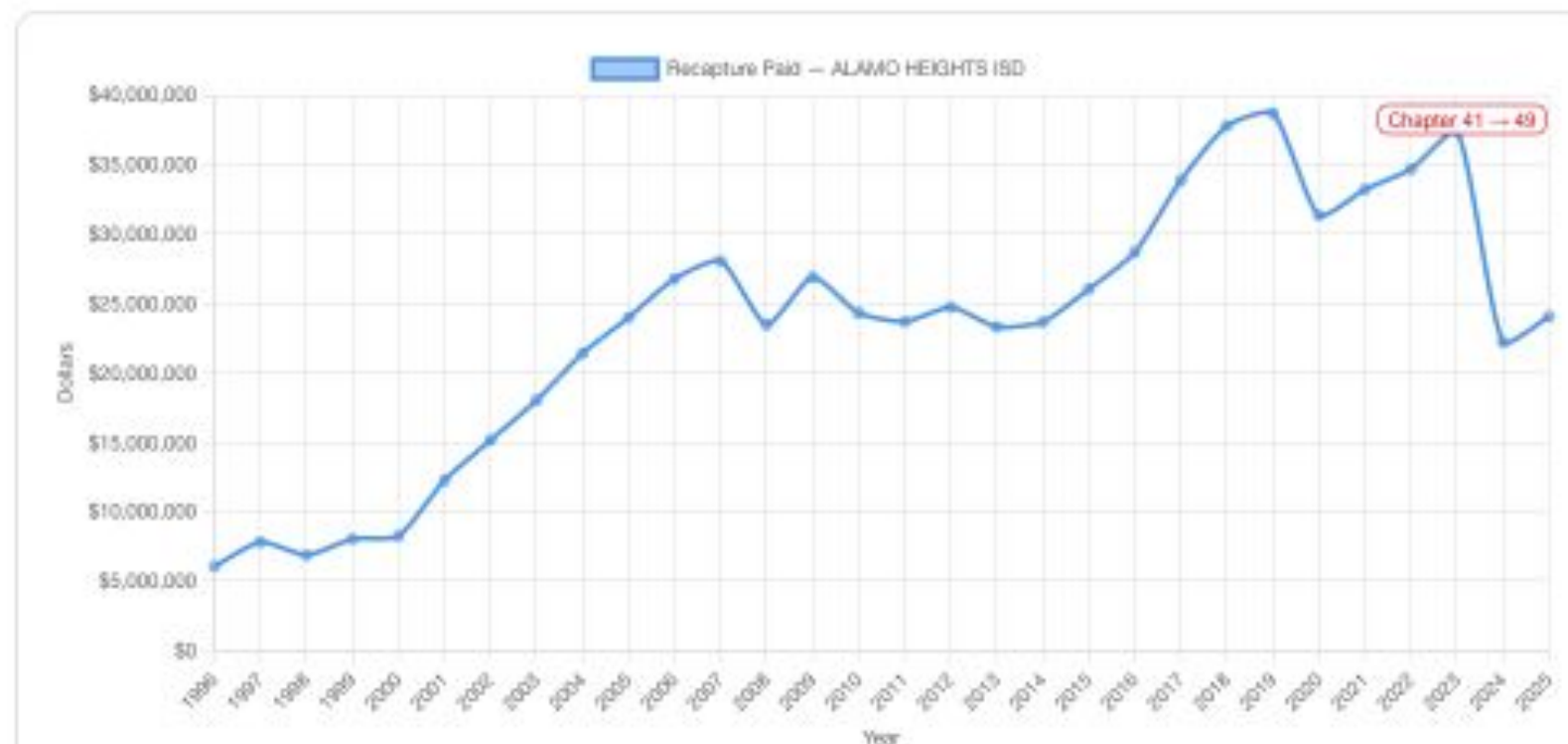
End year

2025

Download chart image (PNG)

Export CSV (selected district)

Showing 30 year(s) for ALAMO HEIGHTS ISD (1994–2025).



Source: Texas Education Agency, 1993-1994 to 2025-2026 recapture paid by district (November 2025).

New Taxpayers Webpage

Taxpayers: Follow Your District's School Tax Collections

Track how your district's M&O property tax dollars are collected, sent back in recapture, and retained locally from year to year.

Choose your district

ALAMO HEIGHTS ISD



District: ALAMO HEIGHTS ISD (CDN 15901)

Alamo Heights ISD (cont.)

District Data Table

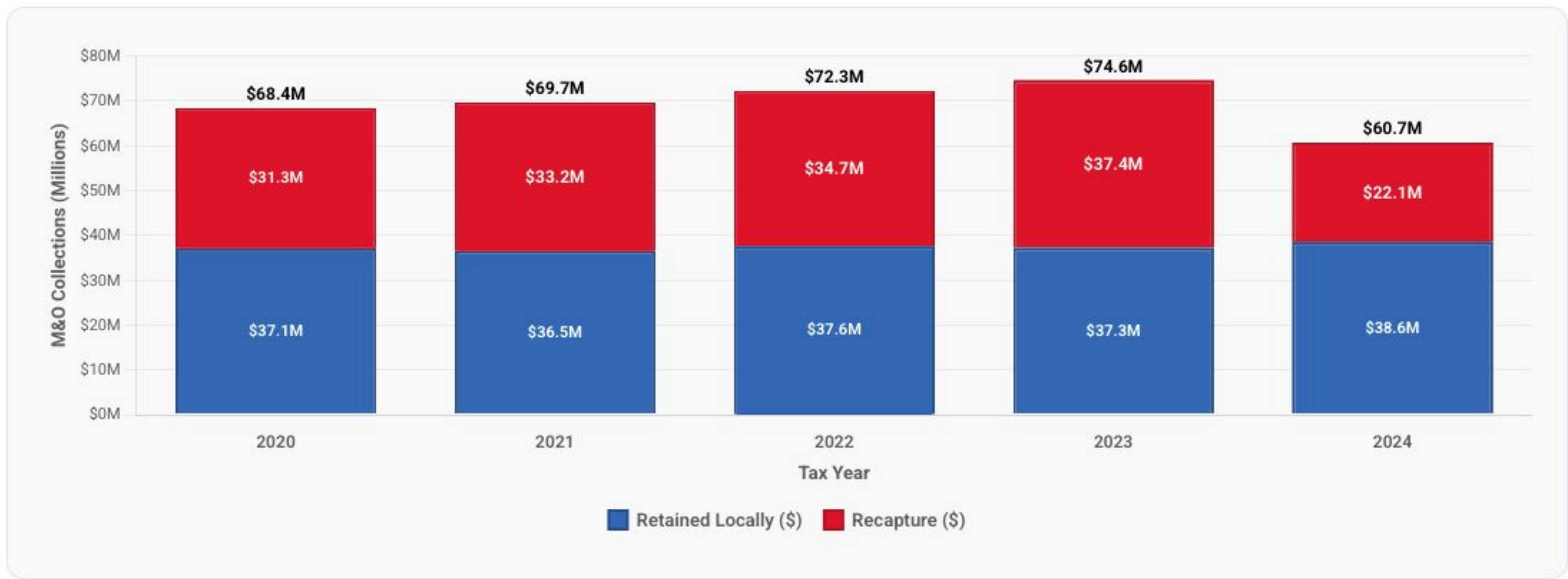
Detailed breakdown of tax collections and recapture for the selected district.

YEAR	M&O COLLECTIONS	RECAPTURE SENT	RETAINED LOCALLY
2020	\$68,445,523	\$31,327,075	\$37,118,448
2021	\$69,733,665	\$33,197,879	\$36,535,786
2022	\$72,316,420	\$34,669,154	\$37,647,266
2023	\$74,643,878	\$37,370,538	\$37,273,340
2024	\$60,715,922	\$22,108,684	\$38,607,238

Alamo Heights ISD (cont.)

Tax Collections & Recapture by Year

This stacked bar chart shows total M&O collections (blue) and recapture payments (red) for each year.



New By the Numbers Webpage

\$2,968,296,529

FY2025 statewide recapture; +10.8% from FY 2024

225

Districts in recapture: Top 10 share $\approx$ 57.1%.

\$45,505,856,377

Total Amount of Recapture paid since 1994

431

Districts have paid at least once since 1994

New By the Numbers Webpage



SY2025 Statewide Recapture	
Year totals and Top 10 are both drawn from the same year column in the source spreadsheet, so Top-10 share can never exceed 100%.	
Statewide total	\$2,968,296,529
YoY vs SY2024	+10.8%
Districts paying	225
Top-10 share	57.1%
% of statewide M&O	10.2%

Since 1994	
Cumulative totals across SY1994–SY2025.	
Total paid since 1994	\$45,505,856,377
Districts paid ≥1x	430

New By the Numbers Webpage

Top 10 Recapture Districts by Year

Pick a year to see that year's Top 10 (SY1994–SY2025).

Year:

2025

Year total: \$2,968,296,529 · Top-10 share: 57.1%

AUSTIN ISD

\$770,882,391

PECOS-BARSTOW-TOYAH ISD

\$198,046,989

PLANO ISD

\$136,249,803

WINK-LOVING ISD

\$122,635,864

EANES ISD

\$93,205,676

MIDLAND ISD

\$92,409,671

HIGHLAND PARK ISD

\$86,474,545

RANKIN ISD

\$82,364,263

GRADY ISD

\$58,483,797

HOUSTON ISD

\$55,549,094

New By the Numbers Webpage

Penny Adoption by District Type

Total number of districts in each type, with the share that have used a **Golden Penny** (≥ 6 times) and the share that have used a **Copper Penny**.

District Type	Districts	Used ≥ 6 Golden	Used Copper
Rural	462	53.5%	47.2%
Non-Metro	178	57.9%	50.0%
Other Central City Suburban	166	71.1%	60.2%
Major Suburban	74	74.3%	66.2%
Independent Town	53	56.6%	50.9%
Other Central City	35	54.3%	34.3%
Non-Metro Fast Growing	34	67.6%	58.8%
Major Urban	11	72.7%	54.5%

Major Suburban districts stand out for Copper use and higher Golden adoption — balancing growth, facilities, and operating needs.

New Recapture FAQ Webpage

Frequently Asked Questions



What is recapture?



How much have school districts paid in recapture to the state of Texas?



What causes recapture payments to increase?



Who are the districts that pay recapture?



What happens to recapture funds once the state receives them?



Can school districts simply reduce their recapture payment by lowering the tax rate?



Do recapture dollars go directly to other school districts?



Does recapture increase overall funding for Texas public schools?



How does recapture affect local taxpayers and school budgets?



Questions?

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Exclusive Discounts

EduPolaris

25% discount

TASBO

Revenue Estimation Template (free)

CG Strategies LLC

10% discount on VATRE Efficiency Audit



**TEXAS SCHOOL
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Key Dates



**TEXAS SCHOOL
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Quarterly Membership Virtual Briefing Meetings

Quarterly Membership Briefing Meeting Schedule for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Join us for a new quarterly briefing for all Texas School Coalition members and sponsors to learn about the current events affecting school districts that pay recapture.

Date	Time	Location	Purpose
March 26, 2026	9:00am-9:30am	Zoom meeting	Discuss current events and answer questions
May 7, 2026	1:30pm-2:00pm	Zoom meeting	Discuss current events and answer questions
September 3, 2026	1:30pm-2:00pm	Zoom meeting	Discuss current events and answer questions
November 5, 2026	1:30pm-2:00pm	Zoom meeting	Discuss current events and answer questions

In-Person Upcoming Events

September 23-24, 2026

Legislative Planning Meeting
Doubletree Hotel-Love Field
(Dallas)

October 11, 2026

txEDCON 2026
George R. Brown Convention Center
(Houston)