

The cornerstone of democracy is public education. Both active and retired teachers deserve the support of our state's leaders because this profession charts the future of our state and gives unselfishly to our communities.

The best state education policy is one which attracts and retains the best and brightest in teaching. That means we start paying our teachers like the professionals they are by providing additional state funding for long overdue salary increases. When retired, teachers must have a retirement that keeps pace with the economy.

This is how I will support Retired Teachers

TRS was created in 1937 at a time of great economic stress for our nation. If we could afford it then, we certainly can afford it now.

- **I support a defined benefit** retirement system, and the promises made to teachers.
- **I support an increased state contribution** rate to help make the system actuarially sound.
- **I support a real cost of living** adjustment.
- **I support amendment of the WEP and the GPO** to allow teachers to receive social security due to them from other jobs covered by social security.

TRS-Care was created in 1985. My father signed it into law. At the time, the discussion was that a more permanent funding mechanism had to be created. For over thirty years, that has not happened.

- **I support an insurance program that is affordable.** No more raising rates that eat up your annuity. No more deductibles that are sky-high.
- **I support a new funding mechanism** that is related to the cost of health care, not some unrelated factor like the current statewide payroll.
- **I support pre-funding TRS-Care** similar to what is done for the TRS system.

Public education is where our state's future begins.

- **I support using public funds for public schools.** I will veto any voucher funding scheme.
- **I support and will invest in strong pre-K programs.**
- **I support** paying teachers like the professionals they are by giving them a **\$5,000 raise.**
- **I support property tax reform that closes tax loopholes** currently rigged against homeowners and currently costing Texans \$5 billion per year.
- **I support the state as the majority funding source** for public education.

It's time, as Sam Houston said, to "do right and risk the consequences."

VOTE MAY 22 (early voting May 14-18)