

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 1	Gary VanDeaver incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friend	Member of education committee. Voted to reduce testing. Voted to increase funding for PK. Voted against limiting PK classe size. Voted for SB 149. Voted for suicide prevention training. Voted against home rule. Publicly stated school continue to be underfunded. Opposed to using high stakes standardized testing as a measure of the student performance to be used for teacher evaluation. Supports increasing basic allotment for schools. Supports more local school district control of their state funds. Believe the state should increase its investment in the lives of educators by providing affordable healthcare options. Believe the resources are available, it is simply a matter of making affordable healthcare for educators a priority. Is absolutely committed to maintaining the TRS system as a defined benefit pension. Convinced that the defined benefit retirement system offered through TRS is one of the best recruiting tools for attracting talented young people into the profession. Former superintendent. Wife is a teacher. Endorsed in 2016 by Texas Parent PAC. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Attended the RALLY in AUSTIN on July 17. ; voted for HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill); Sponsored HB320, additional funding for program enhancement for students with dyslexia, autism, speech, or LD. Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
House District 2	Dan Flynn incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friend	For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. For home rule. For restoring funding. Against school vouchers. For TRS funding. Against raising cert standards. Against Texas Teacher Residency Program. Against requiring ASDs to conform to PubEd rules. Against limiting class size in ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. Endorsed by TSTA. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Attended the RALLY in Austin on July 17. ; voted for HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Bill Brannon	D	neutral	Need to fully fund public education, can do this by reviewing "equal and uniform" clause as well as the state's funding of federal issues such as border security. State should be funding 50% of public education. Priorities would include teachers, administration, transportation, and maintenance. Against vouchers because it makes no sense to take already limited resources and divide them further. Vouchers also would not open up the doors for many. Supports a hard cap on class size so teachers can work with students as individuals. Standardized tests may be helpful to offer indicators of areas where teachers or students need additional help or support. We can't tie teacher evaluations to the test unless we want them to be stuck teaching to the test. In order to keep dedicated teachers, we should have a floor/incentives in teacher pay. Supports the idea of Pastors for Texas Children with regard to faith based organizations working with or mentoring struggling schools. Supports keeping TRS as a defined benefit and believes we need to fix our insurance to keep dedicated teachers.
House District 3	Cecil Bell Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friend	For reduce testing. For increased PK funding. For suicide prevention training. Against limiting PK class size. Against Privatization & Home Rule. For increased Educational Funding. Against public ed funds being spent on private school vouchers. For TRS funding. Against Texas Teache Residency Program. Against raising cert standards. Against 15:1 cap in ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC in 2014. President of Magnolia School Board, supports local FFA, youth clubs. Elected to the Texas House in 2012. 2017 UPDATE- Authored HB1191-secondary level student assessment of students and use of individual graduation committees to satisfy certain public HS graduation requirements. Co-authored HB 136- relating to inclusion of career and technology education. Co-authored HB395-relating to CTE allotment and essential knowledge and skills of CTE applications curriculums. voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) ; voted for HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Lisa Seger	D	neutral	Response to FB inquiry: as a product of public schools myself (Randolph High School in San Antonio and the University of Texas) I am a huge believer in them and proponent of them. And I oppose voucher schemes that take money out of public schools, disproportionately harming the children of working class families who are left behind. I think the amount of standardized testing is excessive and detrimental to real, meaningful education. And I think we don't put enough resources into early childhood education.  I don't have kids, so my knowledge of many of the current concerns is probably behind. But I'm always willing to listen and learn. My campaign is mostly focused on civil rights, and I do believe that education is a civil right.
House District 4	Eston Williams	D	neutral	The father of two daughters and the grandfather of one granddaughter, the future of all the children of Texas is one of my highest priorities. Having served on Mabank ISD's board of directors for six years, I am familiar with the challenges our schools face and believe they deserve our faithful support. And I remember dealing with "unfunded mandates" from Austin where the legislature required us to provide services without providing the money to pay for those services and then blamed local school boards for raising property taxes. According to the Texas Education Agency, since 2008 when the state paid half of the costs of public education, the legislature has decreased financial support for our schools to 38% forcing local school boards to increase taxes or to eliminate vital programs. I want to restore state funding for our schools and enable local school boards to lower property taxes. All Texans should do their part to fund our schools, not just property owners.
	Keith Bell BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	President of the Forney ISD School Board, A graduate of Dallas Baptist University and Mesquite High School, Bell has served on the board of the Forney ISD for 20 years and is the current president. He has fought for changes in our education system and believes that a skilled and educated workforce is vital for the future of our state. He is a founder and past-President of the Forney Education Leadership Foundation, past-President of the Mesquite Lions Club, and serves on the Board of the Baylor Scott and White Medical Center in Sunnyvale. FROM WEBPAGE: "As President of the Forney ISD School Board, Keith has an impressive record of protecting our local public schools. He is dedicated to ensuring that our kids have the best education possible and is firmly committed to fixing our broken school finance system. Keith will initiate positive changes in how we educate our children—because he believes that a skilled and educated workforce is vital for the future of Texas."
	Allen Miller	L	neutral	FUNDING: ensure Lotto funds go directly to schools. Reduce not essential commissions and agencies and reallocate funds to schools. Lower amount of administration staff in schools and districts. PRIORITIES: meal program so no student or teacher pays for breakfast or lunch. Would like to see a program in which kids grow crops on campuses to teach kids about real life opportunities and offset some costs. Also possibly a program like in Japan where students take turns cleaning campuses to offset the need for a janitorial crew. This teaches responsibility and teamwork. CHOICE/VOUCHERS: does not support tax funded incentives or vouchers. State has a responsibility to offer free education, if someone does not wish to participate, that is their right, but in no way, shape or form should we create an incentive program to give deferential treatment to those who opt out. CLASS SIZE: would support a hard cap for larger ISDs, but in smaller districts funds would be stretched too thin. Soft cap for smaller districts but ultimately teachers and parents should be making these decisions. TESTING: should only be used to evaluate the student and never as a end-all-be-all, no person fits in a box and neither should their education. It should only be used for student placement and measuring progress. A better measurement would be students applying their skills to real-world scenarios. TEACHER EVALUATION: test scores should only matter a fraction, and we should hear what educators and administrators have to say on the matter. Most effective bureaucracies are run from the ground level. SALARIES: There should be an incentive program for teachers who stick it out for the long term, and I would have no problem supporting a bill that raises the floor for teachers with experience, so long as there is also an ability to raise or incentive program based on merit as well. ACCOUNTABILITY: should be handled at the district level, I believe our legislators could get more done if they worried about their responsibilities instead of the responsibilities of others. HEALTH CARE: should give educators a multitude of options and put them in charge of the decisions that rule their life. (hesitant to make a platform issue on insurance because it depends on what happens in Washington) TRS: allow teachers to opt into a 401k but would not support if that was the only option. 401ks offer better chance for increased benefits but also have much higher risks and the state shouldn't make that choice for our educators.

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<b>House District 5</b>	Cole Hefner Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by the Texas Home School Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary and general election by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), a group that has supported budget cuts and limiting state spending on public education; eliminating educators' and other public employees' rights to use payroll deduction for payment of their voluntary dues to professional organizations; private school vouchers; and privatizing the management of existing public schools. Education not listed as an issue of concern.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Bill Liebe <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	Attorney from Lindale, Texas; office is in Tyler.
<b>House District 6</b>	Matt Schaefer Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018,,2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR). First elected to the Texas House in 2012. Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by the Texas Home School Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary and general election by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), a group that has supported budget cuts and limiting state spending on public education; eliminating educators' and other public employees' rights to use payroll deduction for payment of their voluntary dues to professional organizations; private school vouchers; and privatizing the management of existing public schools.Voted against a bill to increase state funding for pre-kindergarten programs. Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districtsVoted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. Voted against a budget bill providing increased funding for public education. Voted against an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)
	Neal Katz <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	I	friendly	Neal, his wife & 3 children attended Pub schools; children (Tyler ISD), involved in Collective Impact Study. Will work w/Pub Ed community to be Pub Ed Champion in Austin. ATPE responses (2018): 1. Pub Ed top priority-restore equitable funding from state, provide prop. tax relief, state adds 80,000 new students/yr & state has not kept pace w/growth, lack of funding puts intellectual & economic future at risk. 2.Inc.of funding & how-securing more revenue is a constitutional and moral obligation, safeguard all tax revenues from prop taxes for Pub Ed not other state projects, need honest discussion about tax loopholes and be sensitive to business interests that drive state's economy, need sensible compromise. 3. Healthcare-have to create long-term funding for active/retired, "state has to keep the promise to take care of the people that take care of our children", recruitment/retention comes from investment w/promise of liveable retirement. 4. TRS-stay as defined benefit plan, 401k plans benefit private companies who handle these plans. 5. Stand Tests-is an imperfect system cause no such thing as standardized students, can be legitimate baseline to measure growth but cautious not to politicize results, would like to work w/ed experts to make sure tests are designed and promote interests of students in mind. 6. Raises-Tx ranks 37th, state needs to be more aggressive to attract high quality teachers, "state needs to be willing to pay the price." 7. Student Perf/Teacher Pay-NO, he is for differential pay for schools that are struggling, not opposed to add'l stipend for teachers w/high risk students/campuses. 8. Vouchers/Tax Credits-NO, it is a communal responsibility to fund and pay for excellent Pub Ed schools not take away funding, is against the non-accountability, "to put funding elsewhere is a backward logic, it's like funding a road you don't drive on." 9. Dues/Payroll ded-Absolutely for it, if other state employees can then teachers should not be singled out. 10. DOI's-is proud to live in a DOI district because it has a large committee of: commun. members, educators, admins, clergy + more, is aware there are concerns and must be taken seriously and address them before implementing, is a balancing act. ***Last Comment-"I truly enjoyed the exercise of answering these questions. It takes a lot of time to process these issues facing our educator community-and I welcomed the challenge. My end goal is to be an advocate for our Public School Community"
<b>House District 7</b>	Jay Dean Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Former mayor of Longview. States that he is for parent choice on his webpage. Wants cutting-edge technology in classrooms "without spending beyond our means." Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by Texas Parent PAC, a pro-public education organization that advocates for adequate and equitable funding of public schools, local control, teacher quality, and the prevention of private school vouchers. Quoted from his webpage "Our schools are the foundation of our community. Jay Dean will fight for our kids' future by allowing for more local control and providing cutting-edge technology in the classroom – without spending beyond our means". Endorsed by Texans for Lawsuit Reform. Still probably a better choice than Watts, although this is a lose/lose district.2017 Update:voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
<b>House District 8</b>	Wesley D. Ratcliff	D	Neutral	Former Army captain. Cattle rancher. BA from Prairieview, MS in math from UH. Taught at Texas Southern University. Also worked for NASA. Very brief blurb on education on his website: Reduce class size, modernize facilities, hire new teachers. Support lifelong learning and Distance Learning Good pro-education tweets. Trolled by ET.
	Cody Harris <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	supports more funding for schools. Improving public education and supporting teachers and retired teachers is a top priority. We need to look at every avenue, including school finance reform and tax restructuring to ensure we increase funding and the bulk of those funds are going to teachers and the classroom. Priorities are fully funding schools, taking care of retired teachers by maintaining the TRS system, and focusing on more vocational training. Does not support a voucher program. Believes we should have a cap in class size so as not to overburden teachers. We need a better testing and accountability system with teacher input. The current system is unfair and punitive and forces teachers to teach to the test. We need to focus on meeting individual needs of students. Does not support tying teacher evaluations to test scores. Wants local control for failing schools. TRS should be actuarially sound and we need to ensure we have high quality benefits for retired teachers. Supports keeping the defined benefit for TRS. Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC.

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House District 9	Chris Paddie BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR). Mayor of Marshall. First elected to the Texas House in 2012, as reelected to a second term in November 2014. Chris has earned the support of a wide range of groups including Texas Alliance for Life, Association of Texas Professional Educators, the Combined Law Enforcement Agencies of Texas, and Texas Parent PAC. On the board of directors for the Marshall Harrison County Literacy Council, the Boys & Girls Club of the Big Pines (past president), and Junior Achievement for East Texas. Voted to reduce state testing. For additional suicide training. For increase PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. Against home rule. For increased school funding. Voted for an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. Voted for a bill to shore up the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) and provide most retirees with a benefit increase. Voted against a teacher quality bill to raise the standards for entering the education profession; require districts to provide appraisal results to teachers in a timely manner and consider multiple years' appraisal results in making personnel decisions; and require the state to conduct a survey of teacher working conditions and salaries. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. (Voted for the motion to table the amendment.) Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. (Voted to table the amendment.) Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. On his Facebook page he states, "I agree with you on standardized testing and have continually supported and voted for legislation that would lessen the emphasis that is put on standardized tests." voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 10	John Wray BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	Former Mayor of Waxahachie. Voted for reducing state testing. Voted for SB149. Voted for suicide training. For increase PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. Against home rule. For increase school funding. Supports local control. Says state money should be spent on public schools, not to subsidize non-public school attendance. Should maintain the traditional defined benefit pension plan for current and retiring teachers. Favor local administrators having the flexibility to perform more holistic evaluations of our teachers, and reward them accordingly for good performance within that framework, and believes that teacher evaluations should include a number of factors rather than just state test scores. Stand by our commitment to keep the student-teacher ratio low, so that each student gets that essential one-on-one time with teacher, but with the waiver system dire times there could be adjustments locally. Believe it is best to gauge the effectiveness of existing and forthcoming charters before we consider further expansion. He believes we must create a school system that hires and rewards the best teachers, and empowers parents and schools with more local control and fewer state mandates. Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Voted for HB 21 (Huberty school finance bill) Voted for HB 515 (same as 1776)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Matthias J. Savino	L	Unfriendly	From his website: "Parents should be allowed to send their children to the education institution of their choice or the option to home school, free from government interference. The purpose of school is education and that should be the focus. Tax money is being spend on stadiums, gymnasiums, sports equipment and uniforms, and that is not fair to the parents of children that don't participate or the people that do not have children at all. The state needs to remove the restrictions placed on schools. Parents and teachers of the children attending each school should be the ones to decide how funds are spent not politicians or board members. On average private school and home schooled children perform better than public school children. Let's learn from that for the children's sake."
	Kimberly Emery	D	Neutral	Holds a BS degree in Psychology. Unable to locate website. Sent a message via Twitter (not her account, she doesn't have one) waiting to hear back
House District 11	Travis Clardy incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	Chairman of Higher Ed Committee, and on Post-Secondary & Workforce Committee; 2013: against vouchers; for increased edu funding; 2015: against privatization & Home Rule; against PK & class size limits; for PK funding; for suicide prevention; for pathway to graduation; 2017: Voted for HB 1776 to eliminate history test; voted for HB 21 School Finance; voted for HB 515 to eliminate tests; (Sp Sess) Authored HB 198 to set up levels of teacher attainment, increase teacher salary of district salaries do not avg \$51K (not intended as unfunded mandate); Website: for equitable & fully funded school funding system and for fewer tests; 2014 said need funding but need increased efficiency in delivery of edu services through technology; direct funds from ESF to balance inequity; no vouchers; TRS stay a defined benefit plan; reward best teachers; generally thinks charters successful; Facebook: for TEOG HB653; co-authored HB1390 to repeal small school funding and replace with better funding multiplier; shared Dan Patrick's legislative priorities (January, 2017); "Every Texas student deserves the opportunity for a quality education," said Rep. Clardy. "That means we must have motivated teachers joining the ranks of the many outstanding professionals we have in Texas classrooms today. The first step to accomplishing that goal is providing competitive pay for our teachers while encouraging some of our best and brightest to work where our education needs are greatest. We must also give our school districts the tools they need to retain and reward our best teachers."Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Alec A. Johnson	D	Friendly	Responses to survey questions received on 12/11 show the following: agrees that we need and deserve better funding, higher pay, and says he will work hard to locate streams of revenue to pay for it. Wants to prioritize funding of arts education. Anti-voucher, says public money should go to public schools. Supports a hard cap on class sizes. Anti standardized test. Believes teachers should be evaluated holistically rather than evaluations being tied to testing. States teachers should be treated and evaluated as professionals who know what works best in their classroom. Believes we should have a state floor for teacher salaries and that it should be increased regularly. Supports local control of schools and does not support TEA coming in when schools are rated "failing". Believes that parents and community members should be the ones to hold elected school board members responsible if their schools are failing. Believes the state should the percentage paid on our health premiums. Believes TRS should remain a defined benefit pension plan, especially since teachers cannot draw social security.
	Tony Sevilla	I	Neutral	School choice is not the option for better education. Instead of transferring funds away from public education, with an already underfunded system, we must propose positive reform by supporting our teachers and having local control. How do we achieve this? 1. Enabling voters to vote for prayer in school. 2. Eliminate STAAR testing. 3. Teachers should receive that same benefits as state employees. 4. Establish checks and balances in our schools. A. Give teachers voting power in ISD decisions B. Hold superintendents financially responsible for bad decisions. Also, if there are state budget issues, I will do my best to protect public education funds and teacher benefits from any cuts. If there are my cuts, I will personally donate my rep salary to help protect teacher benefits.
House District 12	Kyle Kacal incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	For reducing testing. For 149. For increase PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. Against home charter districts. For restoring funding to PubEd. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. Webpage states supports higher teacher training standards, early childhood education programs, increased vocational opportunities. 2017 Update: Co-authored and voted for HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); Voted HB 21 School Finance; Voted for HB515 Eliminate tests; WEBSITE: "Kyle believes that an educated workforce is necessary to maintain our state's record-setting economic growth. He has supported higher teacher training standards, early childhood education programs and increased vocational opportunities." Little info on his education stanceSponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)

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	Marianne Arnold	D	Neutral	From website: ON SCHOOL FUNDING: "School funding in Texas is a mess. The cost of living in Texas is ten percent less than the national average. Despite this, we spend fully twenty percent less on education than the national average. On a per student basis, state educational spending has fallen sharply, leaving it to local property owners to pickup the tab. Some school districts have been forced to eliminate football, band and FFA to make ends meet. The state needs to meet its obligations to students." ON PRE-K: Follow Florida's lead in making free universal Pre-K available to all Texas families. Studies have shown that, over the long run, every dollar invested in free universal pre-K results in about nine dollars in economic growth and cost savings. The Florida experience has shown that free universal Pre-K can be both cost effective and a key component in attracting young workers to our communities." ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION: "A skilled workforce is the key to the future. If elected I will work to increase financial aid for students in technical and vocational programs at TSTC (Texas State Technical College) as well as Blinn (Brazos County) and McLennan Community College. I will seek to increase funding for youth job placement, college and technical school recruitment, and career counseling in rural, low income, and minority communities."
House District 13	Cecil Webster BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	FUNDING: One of the most fundamental requirements we have as a state and as citizens is to ensure our youth are prepared for and are capable of leading our nation into the future. A first-class public school education ensures that every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. Their success is our success; their failure is our failure. Over the last decade, the Texas Legislature has under-funded our public schools education, thereby limiting our student's potential. I strongly encourage of legislators to right this wrong by increasing and protecting the funding for public schools. This will be my top priority, if elected as state representative. PRIORITIES: As mentioned in Q1, fully funding and protecting public schools from budgetary cuts is my top priority. This is followed by (not necessarily in priority order) de-emphasizing standardized testing where too much focus is placed on passing the testing instead of learning how to apply the concepts learned to everyday living; ensuring teachers are adequately compensated for the tremendous responsibility they have to us and to our students; and ensuring the Teacher Retirement System, including healthcare, for both active and retired teachers is solvent. VOUCHERS: For some students, private and charter schools are a viable option, and I support a parent's and student's right to avail themselves of the educational services offered by these institutions. However, I vehemently oppose any efforts to transfer taxpayers' dollars to these institutions, either through vouchers, tax credits, or any other scheme. CLASS SIZE: Yes, class sizes should be capped. One cap does not apply to all types of classes, however. The tools and method of instruction must be taken into consideration. As for a district getting a waiver on these class size caps, I believe that a district must always have the right to request a waiver, but the granting of a waiver must be by exception, and not the norm. TESTING: I believe standardized testing can be useful in identifying areas needing more focused training, but it should not be used as a major determinant in student advancement from one grade to the next or for graduation requirements. Nor should the students' abilities to pass a standardized test be used as a determinant in teacher pay or performance evaluations. There are too many factors which affects a student's 'success' in these tests that are beyond a teacher's ability to control, including that some students are great 'testers' but poor performers in life, while others are poor 'testers' but have great success in life. SALARIES: Undoubtedly, teachers are a critical resource in any community and should be compensated as such. My belief has been that there are more women teachers than men teachers, and data shows that women are more often underpaid for the services they provide. I believe this is one major factor as to why teachers in general continue to be underpaid, in comparison to comparable professionals. Having said that, I question an across-the-board pay raise for all teachers. I believe locality, specialty, and performance (if properly measured by objective standards) should be considered in determining whether a pay raise is warranted and appropriate. Obviously, some teaching positions are more difficult to fill than others (e.g., STEM vs. humanities) and some localities are more or less desirable than other (e.g., rural and inner city vs. suburban). These considerations must be factored into the amount of increases provided teachers. As to funding these pay raises, both the community and the state have a vested interest in attracting and retaining quality teachers, and both must be involved in providing adequate pay raises. Locally, hopefully, this can be done without property tax rate increases. At the state level, I would support use of the Economic Stabilization Fund (aka, Rainy Day fund) to offset the state's share of this pay increase. Other savings that could be redirected to offset this cost is elimination of the state's funding of state troopers to secure international southern border. Currently the state is spending \$800M on this federal obligation. I'm sure a more in-depth analysis of the state budget could yield further savings that could be used as well. HEALTHCARE: The unchecked rising cost of healthcare is not just a teacher problem, it is a national problem. Every citizen deserves access to affordable and quality health. I do not believe that the government, at any level, should seek to directly control these costs in the free market system we enjoy, but the government does need to be more aggressive in negotiating such services for its members. TRS: Keep defined benefit and offer the choice of the 401k plan for those who want it.
	Ben Leman	R	neutral	Former county judge. Wife was on school board and family members are teachers. At a candidate forum, Leman answered a question about funding TRS by responding that we have to have taxpayer accountability and watch for fraud and abuse. He stated on property taxes that they are a shell game, with everyone finger pointing, and there needs to be transparency. Interview responses: Has not done enough research about school funding, priorities in education, class sizes, compensation, health care. Admits he needs to research these issues more. CHOICE/VOUCHERS: Against public funds for private schools. There is a lack of opportunity for rural kids in public school if they are not funded. Would be okay with a voucher program that didn't take revenue from public schools. Says there should be some kind of cost offset but not at the expense of public schools. Possibly a tax credit or an ESA. Believes in school choice, says that should be up to the parents. His own kids have been in public school and are now home schooled. He was a private school student, his wife went to public schools. ACCOUNTABILITY: he hasn't looked at enough data to know if testing system is effective. This is an area of concern for him because he doesn't want teachers teaching to a test, we should be teaching to life skills. Believes in accountability, would support merit-based teacher reviews. Need to look at data to find areas of improvement. TRS: should be kept as a defined benefit. Commitments were made and need to be honored. We do need to make sure TRS is solvent. <b>Update May 2018: lost THSC endorsement.</b>
House District 14	John Raney incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	Updated info as of 9/19: Pro-teacher and has received the endorsements of several pub ed friendly organizations including TSTA, Texas American Federation of Teachers, Texas Parent PAC and recognized/awarded by the Brazos County Chapter of the Texas Retired Teachers Assoc. and by the Texas Association of Community Schools. For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. Against home rule districts. For partial restoration of budget to PubEd. Voted against vouchers, but later recorded statement in house journal that he now intends to vote for. For TRS funding. Absent for teacher quality vote. For TTRP. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against caps for ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. Website lists education as an issue, but takes no stance. Still a better candidate than Fields. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Voted for HB515 Eliminate tests; Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Josh Wilkinson	D	Neutral	<p>PRIORITIES: meet state's obligation of public school funding. Increase teacher pay to, at the very least, levels equitable to other states with high-performing public school systems. Other priorities involve addressing things that happen outside the classroom that affect what happens inside, such as addressing wealth inequality by raising the minimum wage, promoting healthy nutrition and making all school meals free of charge to Texas students.</p> <p>FUNDING: Raise funding by raising the franchise tax and using tax revenue from the decriminalization and regulation of marijuana. HEALTHCARE: Proponent for single-payer, but since that is a long shot in this legislature, I would expand Medicaid eligibility and implement health insurance exchanges to make sure no one falls through the cracks. TRS: should be maintained as it is today. TESTING: should only be used for measuring one aspect of student progress. Assessment of learning is much more complex. We need to reinvigorate our education system with the tools it desperately needs to be able to assess student progress in a more comprehensive and holistic way. We can discuss school accountability and teacher evaluation after that is accomplished. PAY: supports a raise for teachers, no info on funding. There is too much disparity between schools and districts to make student performance a determining factor in teacher pay. VOUCHERS: does not support vouchers or tax credits. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: I oppose right to work laws and thus support letting all public employees use payroll deduction for their membership dues. DOIs: I have had little exposure to DOI criteria. It sounds like a progressive concept if implemented correctly, but this does not sound like progress to me. We should be encouraging smaller class sizes and certified teachers for all districts, regardless of their accountability ratings. So I would recommend making criteria for becoming DOIs actually pro-education in nature, and I would absolutely place limitations on state laws that can be waived by DOIs, provided the state laws were pro-educational goals.</p>
House District 15	Steve Toth	R	Unfriendly	<p>Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Retired teacher. Anti-voucher. Wants to "reduce ration of instructional professionals to non-instructional." Code for firing many paras, administrators, and support personnel. Openly hostile and involved in ET attempted takeover of Montgomery County Republican Party. . ATPE Survey Responses: PRIORITIES: Increase local control, end unfunded mandates, ensure that CEI funds are used to pay teachers and not used for non-classroom expenses, limit TEA reporting requirements. Teachers have too much paperwork limiting time with kids. FUNDING: current levels are about right. The problem is ISDs have placed a greater emphasis on buildings rather than classrooms. If Texas cuts back on its crusade of unfunded mandates we will have the money needed to properly educate our kids. HEALTHCARE: TRS Care is grossly underfunded. My colleagues and I made a big issue out of this in the 83rd session when I came in as a freshman. The state of Texas has betrayed the trust of its teachers by not properly funding TRS care. I will continue to speak up about it and to vote to properly fund this program. TRS: retired and currently employed teachers should be guaranteed the DB program they were promised. Future hires should be moved to a defined contribution. Teachers should not trust their retirement to politicians. TESTING: high stakes testing is a failure. Too much time is spent teaching to a test. There are plenty of ways to judge quality of education without STAAR&gt; PAY: does not support a raise "because it won't go to teachers. CEI funds are supposed to go to teachers and yet only 5 out of 1240 ISDs comply." Student performance should not determine teacher pay. VOUCHERS: In a situation where the State of Texas has identified a school that is failing, i. e., kids are being recruited by gangs or excessive violence, I would support parents having the choice to move them to another school with a voucher. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: should be teacher's choice. DOIs: I would have to see what the legislation consists of.</p>
	Lorena Perez McGill BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	<p>Lives in The Woodlands; attorney; UH Law Center faculty; specializes in alternative dispute resolution and international litigation. From website; supports public education that fairly distributes funding by closing the corporate property tax loophole. I will also focus on improving education outcomes by decreasing the burden of standardized tests, ensuring access for students with unique needs, and safeguarding our teachers retirements so we can attract and retain the best.</p>
House District 16	Will Metcalf Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	<p>Elected 2014: endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC, a pro-public education organization that advocates for adequate and equitable funding of public schools, local control, teacher quality and the prevention of private school vouchers. 2015: Voted for HB 743 to reduce time state-mandated testing, grades three-eight, shorten time required for students to complete tests; Voted for HB 149 to provide for IGCs to allow graduation if not all STAAR tests passed; Voted for HB 2186 suicide prevention training; Voted for HB 1 increased PK funding; Voted to table amendment to reduce class size; Voted against privatization and Home Rule.</p> <p>2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance). ATPE survey: Texas has spending problem, not revenue problem; said "need to look... why our school system is failing in the first place. Vouchers are simply a way to live with the problem, they are not a solution to the problem"; About TRS pension program: "It needs to be a defined contribution model from this point forward for new hires... in order to avoid breaking the bank." Clarification by Metcalf about the defined contribution statement: states that the statement was made while in his initial run before learning about how things work. Sees no need for change now that in. About evaluations on state scores: base "as little as possible" but come up with a way that finds teachers not up to standard and reward teachers who do well.</p> <p>Regarding allowing private entity to manage unsuccessful schools: no, need to fix problems; Charter school success: need to fix public schools; Candidate's remarks in response to the 2014 ATPE Candidate Survey: Education is one of my top priorities. My wife was a life skills teacher, my mother was a teacher, my sister was a teach and councilor, and many other of my family members are educators. I also have two young children for whom I am trying to create a better life through elected office. Trust, that I will not be able to come home and face any of them if I do not meet the standard that you, and more importantly they expect of me. I will take care of teachers because they are responsible for the future of Texas and our nation. TWITTER 6/7/17 "I appreciate @GovAbbott's leadership and look forward to working on these priorities in the special session." WEBSITE: Campaign site: "Local control for education is key. We need our teachers to get back to doing what they do best, teaching our children, not teaching them to just pass a standardized test or check a box."</p> <p>To prepare our current generation of students for their future as productive, contributing members of society and to become leaders in our communities, we have a moral imperative and an economic necessity to maintain a world-class educational system. Achieving student success requires an unwavering state commitment to provide every Texas child the opportunity to receive a quality education from pre-K through college or career programs. Every child should be provided the opportunity to succeed – not just a select few. The changing demographics of the Texas student population pose new challenges that must be met to keep the Texas economy strong and our communities prosperous. Every child should have access to an educational program that values highly skilled teachers and encourages critical thinking and creativity, without the harmful impact of high stakes standardized testing.</p> <p>To achieve these educational goals, proper funding must be a top priority in our legislature. The record of the Texas Legislature this decade has been abysmal. Creating unfunded mandates that sound good politically (like the Governor's proposal for a \$1,000 pay raise for teachers, but not coming out in favor of additional state funding to actually provide the money for the raise) are not constructive solutions. The Lt. Governor announced his "funding solution" last summer when he proposed "school districts 'reallocate' money to increase teacher pay by 5 percent over the next five years" [Allyya Swaby July 17, 2017, Texas Tribune]. These examples show how disconnected the current state administration is from the financial realities faced by local school districts. The Republican legislative majority has shortchanged education funding every session since taking control of both houses. In 2011, Republicans cut public school funding by \$5.4 billion despite having more than enough in the state "Rainy Day Fund" and still haven't fully restored those funding cuts. Correcting the deficiencies in funding Texas public education must be a legislative budget priority. The state should establish a 100% equitable school finance system with sufficient state revenue to provide every child the opportunity to learn in an exemplary program and state funding formulas should fully reflect all student and district cost differences and the impact of inflation and state mandates.</p> <p>I support the Texas Constitution's "duty of the legislature" to provide suitable support for a system of "free public schools" and prohibition on using public school funds for the support of "any sectarian school." The misnamed "school choice" schemes, using public tax money for the support of private and sectarian schools, is deceptive marketing that purports to advocate something that already exists – school choice – but whose true purpose is to divert public school funds to vouchers on tax credit systems supporting private and sectarian schools. That adoption of any vouchers or tax credit scheme would unavoidably financially and academically damage public schools in Texas.</p> <p>Resources must be provided to reverse the loss of classroom units, teachers' aides, and other staffing deficiencies due to the 2011 cuts. Every student should have a highly qualified teacher in the classroom. Half of new teachers leave the profession within five years, leaving many students taught by teachers who are not certified to teach the subjects they are teaching. Early career educators are driven from the profession by low teacher pay, the constraints placed on them by high stakes testing, and inadequate funding that forces teachers to spend hundreds of dollars from their own pockets for their classrooms. I believe we must work to attract the best teachers and keep them in our classroom. One way to help do this is to bring Texas teacher pay and benefits in line with other professions that have similar qualifications. With optional and required training requirements, teachers having "the summer off" is a thing of the past. The average hours in a work week for teachers continues to increase. Teachers more than earn their salaries and their importance in our children's intellectual and social growth is immeasurable. An increase in the state contribution to health insurance for educational employees, which has remained stagnant for 14 years while premium costs have eaten away at take home pay for teachers and other school employees, is long overdue. The headlines may read "Teachers Get 2% raise" but that is offset by the 2% raise in insurance costs (which isn't mentioned). This needs to be addressed.</p> <p>Education spending is the second largest expenditure by our Texas state government at 23% of the budget. Collection, allocation, and management of education funds should be a major concern for all Texans and I rank it as my top priority. Our children are our future and we should put their education above all else.</p>
	Mike Midler	D	neutral	

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 17	John Cyrier incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	2015: Voted for reducing state testing. For 149. For suicide prevention bill. For increased PK funding. Against PK class cap. Against home charter districts. 2016: Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC Website only lauds past support of public ed, provides no future vision.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 School Finance; Voted for HB 515 Eliminate tests Website and Facebook indicate nothing new on education stance; little information
	Michelle Ryan	D	neutral	Per website: "Our kids need a world-class education to prepare them to compete in a global workforce. Our graduates aren't simply competing with their peers in their community for jobs, but with people across the globe. Additionally, reports anticipate 38% of US jobs lost to automation in the next 15 years and we must prepare our students for that reality.  A good education begins with being fed. No hungry child can learn. Texas should provide free breakfasts and lunches across all of our public schools for every student. Nearly 62% of students are being fed through these programs and I believe breakfasts and lunches should be available for 100% of our Texas students.  Texas teachers are the foundation of our schools. We should be strengthening pay and benefits for our public school teachers. A pension is a promise and we cannot take that away or reduce the guarantee though privatization which is nothing more than a handout to big financial and investment firms."
House District 18	Ernest Bailes Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Wife is 3rd grade teacher. Supports "reduction of standardized tests, increased local control, teachers' classroom resources, and the ability for parents to have a say in their child's education." Not sure exactly what that last phrase means. 2017 Update: Voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 School Finance; Voted for HB 515 Eliminate tests Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)  <a href="http://www.bailesfortexas.com">http://www.bailesfortexas.com</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bailesfortexas">https://www.facebook.com/bailesfortexas</a>
	Fred Lemond	D	neutral	Interview responses: wife and son are former teachers, sister in law and brother are teachers. FUNDING: School funding should be increased. The way to do this is to close corporate tax loopholes and make sure money collected in recapture is going to schools and not to general fund. Needs to research Robin Hood more. PRIORITIES: Address unfunded mandates, take this pressure off of schools as soon as possible. Stop discussion about vouchers - this is a distraction from real issues. Legislative session is too short - need to prioritize things that will help the youth in the state as quickly as possible. VOUCHERS/CHOICE: Does not support vouchers, we should be giving this money to educators, not corporations running private/charter schools. TESTING: we need to have baseline standards, but we need to stop teaching to the test and relieve pressure on educators. Needs to research the data on if testing has been helpful. Testing should be a component of student graduation but should not be the only thing holding a child back. We should evaluate teachers based on how to help them develop, not punitively. SALARIES: should be raised, can be paid for by using Rainy Day fund, closing corporate loopholes, and letting districts have some control over ending unfunded mandates that don't apply to them/don't help them, and using that money for teachers. INSURANCE: we have not only promised this, teachers have earned it, we owe it to them. Dan Patrick has proposed using HMOS, that is one possibility, but we need to talk to experts and figure out how to lower costs and burdens on retired educators. TRS: remain a defined benefit. Post interview statement: I am proud to stand on these issues, and to listen to the expert advice of educators. Plans to join T4PE.
House District 19	James White	R	neutral	Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by the Texas Home School Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. Voted against creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Open to Charter Schools expanding. Has stated, "Article 7, Section 1 does not allow this and also current proposals endanger the freedom that my parochial schools need. I am supportive of giving our locally elected school boards more discretion in using their funds to provide the educational opportunities that their communities desire." Voted against a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. Voted for a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing. Voted for suicide prevention training. Voted for increase funding for PK.
				Opposed an amendment to a pre-kindergarten bill that would have limited class sizes to no more than 18 students. Voted for a budget bill providing increased funding for public education. Voted for an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. Voted for a bill to shore up the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) and provide most retirees with a benefit increase and to remain a defined benefit program. Voted against a teacher quality bill to raise the standards for entering the education profession. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored & voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); Voted for HB 515 Eliminate tests Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee); Sponsored HB 358 (raise state sales tax, mandatory reduction in school district property taxes)
House District 20	Sherry Ann Williams <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	FUNDING: Funding should be increased and money taken from Rainy Day fund to put back what was taken in 2010. Then we should be committed to never borrowing from education fund again. I'm sure I can find many other ways we can cut wasteful spending in order to better fund public education without having to raise property taxes. STATEMENT: Public education is necessary for a democracy and a vibrant economy. You can be free only if you live in a free society, and no society can be free without freethinking people and freedom of access to knowledge. Also, the more education is limited to an elite, the more it will cost to access the knowledge education offers. VOUCHERS/CREDITS: I absolutely do not now, nor would I ever support vouchers/tax-credits for private or charter schools. As Texas schools are so underfunded as they are, to take any funding from a public school can pose a death sentence to many, and pave the way for private for-profit schools to take over, limiting the ability of many students to attend, thus robbing them of their constitutional right to a free public education. CLASS SIZE: supports caps, does not support waivers. TESTING: totally against testing to determine student advancement/graduation. We should go back to teaching subjects not the test. Teachers should be able to design their own creative teaching methods to reach their students, as each student learns differently. Testing should not be tied to teacher pay and never to performance evaluations. PRIORITIES: #1 each child receives the best education to the fullest of his/her ability. Strong advocate for special needs kids. Retired public librarian, put together a special needs parent group. #2 see that our school systems educate students to a proficiency that equals or surpasses other states. Texas students that graduate are only 50% proficient in English, 40+% in math, and only 30+% in both. We must do better as a state in order to compete in better universities, and job recruitment throughout the US. #3 provide different career paths for those who wish to specialize and cannot or do not wish to go to college. #4 seek and hire qualified teachers, trained in the subjects that they teach, and paying them the highest levels of pay that can be paid by the district. I believe that all teachers should have a pay ladder based on time served and not performance. SALARIES: support raising them to much higher levels. How high depends on the size of the school, the tax base, the level of academics offered and the teacher's specializations. The word "taxes" has a negative connotation but used to mean money paid for worthwhile and valuable government projects that make people's lives better. I have not had the opportunity to be privy to the documents and information, so I cannot say at this point where I get extra funding, but I do know there is plenty of waste to go around, and I would find it first to be re-appropriated to education, then consider raising and appropriating a % tax hike for public education only. HEALTH CARE: I would recommend and fight for the right of teachers to be covered the same as our legislators and other state employees. TRS: supports the defined benefit.
	Terry Wilson	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Website: very vague on all issues.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 School Finance; Voted for HB 515 Eliminate tests Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) 2017 Facebook post states: "Empower Texans and I both agree that the legislature needs to pass the governor's agenda items for the special session" but he also refused to accept from Empower Texas a stack of letters to him that he could not verify. He basically called out Empower Texas's veracity.
	Stephen P. Wyman <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	2014 statement to Troy: It is the obligation of government to educate everyone, pre-k to 12th grade (with options for post secondary: tech certification; professional certification; associates, bachelors and graduate degrees; etc...), to the best of our ability. No other institution has the means or motivation to accomplish such a massive undertaking. Works on data telemetry technology; ran unsuccessfully for State Senate District 5 in 2006 & 2010, for US House District 31 in 2012; for TX House District 20 in 2014.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 21	Dade Phelan BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC Voting record: 2015: HB 743 voted to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight, shorten the time required for students to complete state tests, and conduct a state study of testing and curriculum standards that are included on the tests. SB 149 voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. HB 2186 Voted for a bill to address the epidemic of youth suicide by making available additional training for educators in spotting and responding to the warning signs of suicide. HB 4 voted for a bill to increase state funding for pre-kindergarten programs that implement certain quality control measures. Opposed an amendment to a pre-kindergarten bill that would have limited class sizes to no more than 18 students per educator. HB 1798 Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts that would not be required to maintain salary and employment protections for educators, comply with regulations such as class-size limits, or be held accountable to local voters. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) HB4 provides additional funding to school districts that opt to implement the high quality, accountable prekindergarten (pre-k) program. voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); attended T4PE rally
House District 22	Joseph "Joe" Deshotel BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	Voting record: 2015 HB 743 Voted for a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight, shorten the time required for students to complete state tests, and conduct a state study of testing and curriculum standards that are included on the tests. HB 149 Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. The bill allows individual graduation committees to decide, based on the student's academic record and other measures, if the student is college- and career-ready HB 1798 Authored and voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts that would not be required to maintain salary and employment protections for educators, comply with regulations such as class-size limits, or be held accountable to local voters (did not pass). 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 23	Mayes Middleton	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Endorsed by Texas Homeschool Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Only mention of education on his webpage is a proposal to reform school finance, abolish Robin Hood and eventually abolish property taxes altogether.
	Amanda Gail Jamrok BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	Education is an embarrassment in Texas. Our state has not made education a priority and that must change immediately. The youth are the only future we have. If we cannot provide a solid and worthy academic foundation, we are setting them up for failure. Using our resources more efficiently and supporting our teachers and students is a top priority. She is against the bathroom bill. Website: The Public Education Crisis has hit public school students in Texas the hardest. I will fight every day to make sure our students are not being left behind by an administration that seeks to privatize public education. FB: supports a pay raise and better health care for teachers. No specific plans to achieve this though. Shared the article about the "blowing the whistle" twitterstorm and said she supports us. Nothing on Teach the Vote.
	Lawrence Johnson	L	neutral	No information on FB or Twitter. No website.
House District 24	Greg Bonnen Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	Endorsed by Texas Parent Pac 2014. Voting Record 2015:HB 743 Voted for a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight, shorten the time required for students to complete state tests, and conduct a state study of testing and curriculum standards that are included on the tests. Voted against HB 149 Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. Voted for HB 2186 Suicide Prevention, For HB4 Pre Kindergarten bill to increase state funding for pre-kindergarten programs that implement certain quality control measures. HB 1798 Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts that would not be required to maintain salary and employment protections for educators, comply with regulations such as class-size limits, or be held accountable to local voters 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Enndorsed by Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	John Y Phelps	D	Neutral	Unable to location information on a website, Facebook, or Twitter; Attorney and MD in League City. OBGYN at UTMB Women's Healthcare;
	Dick Illyes	L	unfriendly	Website: wants to completely end public employee pensions with the exception of police and firemen. "State level education funding should pay only for accomplishment. I propose creating an educational endowment for each student, with the money paid out only when that student achieves a specified annual level. Education funds are currently paid in at the top and are expected to be used properly to educate the students, but often are not. Big inner city public school systems have become a funding source for Democrats, while turning out poorly educated graduates, and leaving dropouts to fend for themselves. We should change all state level funding to an endowment at the individual student level. The money stays in the student account until each level is met, making poor students much more valuable to educators who can catch them up. For example, bringing a fifteen year old at the sixth grade level up to sophomore level would pay four years of compensation to the successful educator. Unpaid funds should stay in each student account indefinitely, allowing people who finally get their act together as adults to obtain an education. Opening educational services to the free market will see most students moving through material much faster than at present. This will allow for practical job related instruction, and college level courses, to be included. Competition among educational providers will make full use of technology, will provide useful training for actual jobs, will deliver far more education for the same money, and will free the taxpayers from the grip of an incredibly corrupt and self-serving educational establishment. The school funding mess cannot be ended simply, but if state level funds were used to set up student endowments, paid out only after educational accomplishment, it would start dramatic change. In a world of free market provision of educational services, quality and variety will increase and costs will fall. Tax funding might eventually end, with charities providing for poor students, and the cost of education dramatically lower than it has become. The largest source of endless property tax increases could be removed.
House District 25	Dennis H. Bonnen Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	Voting Record 2015 HB 743 Voted for a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight, shorten the time required for students to complete state tests, and conduct a state study of testing and curriculum standards that are included on the tests. SB 149 Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. The bill allows individual graduation committees to decide, based on the student's academic record and other measures, if the student is college- and career-ready. SB 2186 Voted for a bill to address the epidemic of youth suicide by making available additional training for educators in spotting and responding to the warning signs of suicide. Opposed an amendment to a pre-kindergarten bill that would have limited class sizes to no more than 18 students per educator. (Voted for a motion to table the amendment.) HB 1798 Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts that would not be required to maintain salary and employment protections for educators, comply with regulations such as class-size limits, or be held accountable to local voters(did not pass). 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance); Voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance special session)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
<b>House District 26</b>	D.F. "Rick" Miller incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition. Voting record: for reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. For increased PubEd funding. For vouchers. For TRS. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against the delay of charter schools. Webpage: Complete statement about education is, "Choice in education founded in traditional American values, history and exceptionalism. Purge common core and C-SCOPE curriculums while continuing to reform the public education system." He is obviously unaware that common core is not used in Texas. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	L. Sarah Demerchant <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	From website: "Education is an investment for the future for our children and our country. We lead the world in innovation due to investing in education. While public school funding is continually removed by the State, additional legislation for schools to spend money keeps happening. This forces higher taxes in the local community. In addition, we need to ensure college is attainable and affordable for working families."
<b>House District 27</b>	Ron Reynolds incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Voted for reducing state testing. For 149. For suicide prevention bill. For increased PK funding. For PK class cap. Against home charter districts. For restoring budget cuts. Against vouchers. For funding TRS. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For classroom size caps in ASDs. For delaying charter school expansion. For increased funding for PubEd, teacher salaries. Still refers to the test as TAKS. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
<b>House District 28</b>	John Zerwas	R	Neutral	From his web page: Improving Education:Maintained his commitment to Texas students last session by adding an additional \$1.5 billion for public education. Supported legislation that reduced the number of standardized tests Voting Record: 2015 HB 743 Voted for a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight, shorten the time required for students to complete state tests, and conduct a state study of testing and curriculum standards that are included on the tests. SB 149 Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. The bill allows individual graduation committees to decide, based on the student's academic record and other measures, if the student is college- and career-ready. HB 2186 Voted for a bill to address the epidemic of youth suicide by making available additional training for educators in spotting and responding to the warning signs of suicide. HB 4 Voted for a bill to increase state funding for pre-kindergarten programs that implement certain quality control measures. HB 1798 Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts that would not be required to maintain salary and employment protections for educators, comply with regulations such as class-size limits, or be held accountable to local voters.(bill failed to pass) 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	Meghan Scoggins <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed by Mike Collier. From webpage: Education should be one of the top priorities of this state. It's an investment in our society, and we will all reap the rewards. Now, our schools are underfunded and overburdened with arbitrary testing requirements, causing headaches for students and teachers. I've watched as our classrooms become more and more crowded. Under previous gubernatorial administrations, this state funded education at student population plus an additional \$1B. Texas currently is allocating funding for 50% of the student population. The rest has to be made up from your local property taxes. We need to: -Stop shortchanging school districts and pushing unfunded mandates -Revisit the way this state administers standardized testing, the need for such an exorbitant number of tests and the amount of time teachers are forced to spend catering to them instead of instructing students. This includes giving serious consideration to getting rid of STAAR and exploring other options, such as a move to the Iowa Basic Skills Test, the most common standardized test -Provide teachers and the students the resources they need, like textbooks -Stop punishing teachers by refusing to allow them their earned Social Security benefits from other jobs -Involve more active teachers in state level curriculum planning. T4PE member.
<b>House District 29</b>	Ed Thompson incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Voting Record: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. Against home rule. Against increased PubEd funding (2011 reinstatement). For vouchers. For TRS. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying charter school expansion. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance) Pro-voucher statement from 2012: <a href="http://tfn.org/texas-lege-candidates-indicate-support-for-key-private-school-voucher-argument/">http://tfn.org/texas-lege-candidates-indicate-support-for-key-private-school-voucher-argument/</a> . Record vote 1 SB 1968 (no dues). Voted against floor amendment 9 by VanDeaver to SB 1 to clarify that no public funds should be used to support any type of private school voucher. Originally voted for a motion by Ron Simmons to alter HB 21 to allow vouchers. Later changed to vote against it in the house journal. 2013 Originally voted against the Abel Herrero amendment to prohibit funds for vouchers, but then indicated he intended to vote for it in the house journal.
	James P. Presley	L	Neutral	supports a mandatory "life skills" course in which students are taught how to manage their finances, pay taxes, take care of a child, etc. "I would only support a voucher program if the amount of money spent for private school is less than the money spent at a public school. This way, the leftover funds can be recycled into the public education system to benefit at-risk youth. The savings would have to be significant. I fully support school choice for all special education/disabled students." Standardized testing misses the mark and is a waste of time and money. As for tying it to teacher evaluations, it really only evaluates how well a teacher can teach repetitively. TRS should be a defined benefit and should be strengthened. Wants to explore ways to make the healthcare system for teachers more affordable, and provide a yearly percentage increase in pay and benefits to correlate with inflation and cost of living.
<b>House District 30</b>	Geanie W. Morrison <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Voting Record 2015: For HB 743, SB 149 absent but made a comment she would vote for it. For HB 2186 Suicide Prevention For HB 4 PreK funding For HB 1798 Privatization and Home Rule 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Robin Hayter	D	Neutral	From website: In the last decade Texas has cut K-12 education funding by 16%, yet Texas' population continues to increase by about 20% every 10 years. Robin Hayter is dedicated to return the money to the local school districts. Teachers and administrators deserve to be properly funded so they can make sure the future of Texas is the best it can be. Everything we are as a state is riding on our ability to educate and prepare future Texans for the workforce. Background: US Army veteran; works a Convent for the Sisters of the Incarnate Word in Victoria

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 31	Ryan Guillen BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	For reduce testing. For giving HS students who didnt pass the STAAR options to grad. For suicide training. For increase funding for PK. For increase funding for pub ed. Against Pub Ed funding for vouchers. For TRS funding increase. For Teacher Residency program. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits.Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher in lo Against limiting PK classes at 18. Voted for home rule. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance) Bio submitted by candidate: Recent statement on education: "As the son and grandson of teachers, and as a former teacher myself, it's an honor to work to improve our public education system. We've always worked hard on behalf of our students and teachers, and with the continued support of Texas teachers, we'll carry on the fight for greater educational opportunities and fair compensation and benefits for teachers and retirees." Statement on Education from www.ryanaguillen.com: "There is no task more important than cultivating the minds of our youth. By maintaining competitive academic standards, arming educators with necessary resources, training students for college and career preparedness, and increasing opportunities and affordability, we create a stronger workforce, an informed society, and a better future for our children."
House District 32	Todd Hunter BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	Served on Civil Practices Committee as Chairman, State Affairs Committee as vice-chairman, Appropriations Committee as Chairman of Ed Sub-committee. Has also been member of ways and means, elections, calendars, urban affairs, and higher ed committees. Chairman of Calendars committee, sleect committee on election contest. Elected for 8th term in 2014.
House District 33	Justin Holland Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	neutral	Sidesteps the Trib's question about providing more revenue for PubEd. Says "tough decisions need to be made in school funding" but pledges to be a friend and champion for Texas public schools. Wants zero-based budgeting for state departments and programs. Endorsed by Patriot Texas, Conservative Activists. States that he currently does not support a school voucher program, but he might if he saw one which he believed viable. Wants to reduce testing. Believes state should maintain floor for salaries. Believes poorly performing schools should be addressed by local boards.2017 Update: sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Laura A. Gunn	D	neutral	FUNDING: School funding should be increased. Teachers need to be paid the same rate as someone in the IT field. We depend on our teachers to bring a standard of education that we depend on, but we are not compensating them. PRIORITIES: Reduction in class size. Teachers will be able to evaluate the children to better serve their needs. VOUCHERS: Absolutely not. With that thinking, why not let people who don't have children opt out of paying taxes? If parents decide to opt out of public education, they can find a way to pay for it themselves. I have one child in public school and one in private. I would never expect someone else to foot the bill. CLASS SIZE: I think 15 children to a classroom is reasonable. No waivers. TESTING: A quarterly report card is sufficient to determine where a child falls grade wise. The curriculum is in place. The success in the classroom has many variables that a standardized test doesn't have. The teacher is a professional who is skilled at assessment. "D" is passing. If a child does well in class but is poor test taker, why should that keep them from graduating? The testing success is on the student and not the teacher, should not be tied to salary. SALARIES: Starting salary should be 70,000 a year. We can fund this increase by eliminating the STARR testing. It has no value and causes stress. It is money in a private company's pocket. Critical thinking is lost. HEALTH CARE: Educator's have been hit hard and pay much higher rates despite the fact that they are also state workers. I would make it equal across the board. TRS: Teachers are happy with it the way it is, it is their decision, and it should be respected. Has created a petition and made eliminating STAAR testing her key issue.
House District 34	Abel Herrero Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	State Representative. (2005-2011, 2013-Present). Stated on his webpage-"The only thing the Republicans didn't attack were standardized tests, so the average Texas student still spends one out of every four days – 45 days a year – taking or preparing for a standardized test. As our State Representative, Herrero will send out a SOS – Save Our Schools! He backs a plan that will:• Free up teachers to spend more time with each child• Eliminate money-wasting standardized tests and state red tape• Reinstate class size limits • Restore programs for dropout prevention and educational equality". For reduce testing. For giving students that failed the STAAR options to grad. For suicide prevention training. For PK funding increase. For limiting PK class sizes. Was absent during HOME RULE vote. For TRS increase. For teacher quality. For teacher residency program. For ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. For impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. For delaying expansion of charter schools. Voted against Pub Ed funding increase. Authored and voted for prohibiting pub ed funds for vouchers. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Chris Hale	R	Neutral	Whether it's through public schools, private schools, parochial schools, charter schools or homeschooling, every child in this state deserves access to whatever educational model best resonates with them and inspires learning. State involvement must be minimal in this effort, with curriculum decisions and teaching methods best deferred to our local school boards, educators, and parents.
House District 35	Oscar Longoria Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2012. For reduced testing.Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding and Limited class size in PK. Against home rule. For the vote for increased Pub. Ed funding. Against Pub. Ed \$\$ for vouchers. For increased TRS funding. For teacher quality. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. For an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. For delaying charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 36	Sergio Munoz, Jr. incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Absent on vote to reduce testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against home rule districts. For restoration of partial funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For classroom caps of ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. Would vote for vouchers, but not at the expense of public schools and with the understanding that same standards must be met. Wants state to increase contribution for teacher insurance. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 37	Alex Dominguez BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	Article that announced his candidacy noted that he had once been a teacher and believed we could find "creative solutions for our classrooms." No website, did not respond to email.
House District 38	Eddie Lucio Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 2006. Son of Texas Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. For reduced testing.Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding and Limited class size in PK. Against home rule. Was absent for the vote for increased Pub. Ed funding. Against Pub. Ed \$\$ for vouchers. For increased TRS funding. Was absent on the vote for teacher quality. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. For delaying charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 39	Armando A. "Mando" Martinez Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2004. For reduced testing. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding and Limited class size in PK. Against home rule. For increased Pub. Ed funding. Against Pub. Ed \$\$ for vouchers. For increased TRS funding. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. For delaying charter schools. Authored HB 1259 which requested a 5% cost of living for retired teachers. Authored HB 84 which requested an annual cost of living adjustment for retired teachers. As State Representative for District 39, I strongly support: ✓ Ensuring education budgets are not reduced. In 2016 received contributions from Texas Federation of Teachers. Texas State Teachers Assoc. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
House District 40	Terry Canales (D) incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>		friendly	For reduced testing. For 149. For Increased PK funding. For limiting PK class size. Against home rule charter. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For delaying expansion of charters. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 41	Bobby Guerra (D) incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	friendly	For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against home rule charter. For increased PubEd funding. For shoring up TRS. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For classroom caps for ASDs. For delaying expansion of charters. Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC, TSTA, NEA. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Hilda Garza DeShazo	R	Neutral	McAllen ISD. Retired Teacher, Coach, Assistant Principal, Dean of Instruction, & Interim Pre-K Principal. Former Board Member, lost incumbency in 2015. Legislative Committee of the TASB Board of Directors.  no campaign site <a href="http://www.mcallenisd.org/hilda-garza-deshazo/">http://www.mcallenisd.org/hilda-garza-deshazo/</a>
House District 42	Richard Pena Raymond Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HJR 24 (Constitutional admendment prohibiting vouchers) Sponsored HB 64 & 65 which both provide \$1 Billion from different state funds to provide for the \$1000 raise for teachers. Sponsors include Texas AFT & TSTA; voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Luis F. De La Garza	R	Neutral	We need additional resources for Career & Technology and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) fields. Public-Private partnerships could stimulate opportunities in security software, management and administration. I believe that through apprenticeships and incentives, our labor force can flourish
House District 43	J.M. Lozano incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	neutral	For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against limiting PK class size. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For shoring up TRS. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charters. Education not listed among the issues important to him on his website. Endorsed by Texans for Lawsuit Reform 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored SB 463 (IGC Extension) Endorsed by Abbott and Rick Perry- Campaign Finance Page is empty????voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Dee Ann Torres Miller	D	neutral	candidate is filling out questions - will update when I receive them back..
House District 44	John Kuempel incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	For reduced testing. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against delaying expansion of charters. Only mention of education on webpage is "maintain quality schools." 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty's school finance bill) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	John David Rodgers	D	Neutral	The first step to ensuring every Texas child has a quality education is making sure our educators have the proper resources. Then we can begin providing all students a quality education which they deserve. John will work with educators, educational agencies, and educational advocates to establish free SAT/ACT prep courses in our public schools in developing effective measures to help our children become more well-rounded. He will push for higher availability of Dual-Enrollment and Advanced Placement classes. When faced with today's high college costs coupled with the prospect of taking on significant debt, more students from lower-income households will likely choose not to attend college. This, in turn, may make it harder for them to attain the skills required for thriving in a mature, service-oriented and technology-driven Texas economy. John would champion the fight to reduce the cost of obtaining an advanced degree in higher education. Not all student may want to seek a college education so they should be afforded an opportunity to obtain a technical, vocational, or trade skill. He would address the student loan debt that is crippling the futures of young Texans.
House District 45	Ken Strange <b>This race is voter's choice</b>	R	Friendly	Strange, also a Republican, has served as the director of Wimberley EMS and currently serves on the Wimberley ISD board of trustees. He also owns a small business in Wimberley and is an honorably discharged veteran of the Air Force. "For two decades I have invested my heart and soul in serving our neighbors during their times of greatest need and worked to give our kids a school system we can be proud of," he said in a news release, adding he was running to "make a difference," "solve problems, and make government responsive and accountable to the people." He has received the support of former Hays County Commissioner Will Conley, who is running for county judge in 2018. Strange cited reducing property taxes, supporting public schools, securing the border, growing economic opportunity and defending traditional values and the Second Amendment as high priorities. 1. Unfunded mandates—believes if additional requirements are adopted that there should be adequate funding to get that done 2. Chapter 41-believes school finance is broken and we have to fix Ch 41. Schools in small communities are one of largest employers and need to keep them viable 3. Believes teachers or former teachers should be involved in legislation affecting education rather than people who have no classroom experience. TPP endorsed.
	Erin Zweiner <b>This race is voter's choice</b>	D	Friendly	children's author. FUNDING: State funding should cover at least 50% of K-12 costs, and would support a constitutional amendment to establish that minimum. Bolster existing franchise tax and use the Economic Stabilization fund in poor revenue bienniums, which is why the fund was created. PRIORITIES: relieve overcrowding and inadequate budgets, hire more educators, increase individual student allotment so districts can have flexibility to address site-specific needs like overcrowding. Direct more funding to special education. CHOICE/VOUCHERS: Does not support vouchers, if we properly fund public schools they can offer top quality education to every student. We should not be subsidizing private schools when we have our own schools to fund. TESTING: The purpose of testing is to evaluate, so educators can assess and react accordingly. The purpose is not to shame students, blame teachers, and undermine schools. Supports reducing testing down to federal minimum and eliminating A-F grading system. In the future, we can use testing to identify patterns in schools so that administrators can implement solutions. ACCOUNTABILITY: Tying teacher evaluations to tests fundamentally punishes educators who work with the students who are most in need. A-F system encourages administrators to emphasize test scores in evaluation, which is yet another reason to dismantle the rating system. If a school fails to perform, and we do have reasonable accountability standards and full funding, we should offer administrative support and tools. Only if problems persist, are constantly egregious (civil rights violations, extreme financial mismanagement, etc) and include the district not cooperating with TEA, would I support more extreme interventions such as a management takeover. i would never support privatizing a school. SALARIES: support a floor on salaries, and coupled with increased funding for schools, an increase to the minimum teacher pay schedule. INSURANCE: interim interventions (cash infusions, increasing state contribution level) should be implemented. We need to deal with the core issues of rising costs in Texas by expanding Medicaid. TRS: keep the defined benefit.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 46	Gabriel Nila <b>This race is voter's choice</b>	R	Neutral	Science and Technology teacher at a community's alternative education campuses. Submit legislation that will help reduce suspensions on Secondary campuses. His campaign is focusing on his experience as a teacher. His main issue seems to be "ending the school to prison pipeline." FUNDING: should be increased. My priority is to work on school finance and review recapture as well as ending the school-to-prison pipeline. CHOICE/VOUCHERS: do not support vouchers/tax credits at this time. Have come to understand that not all kids fit in standard classroom settings. Parents should look at alternatives to empower their child's educational growth. Private and charters could possibly fit these needs. However, those schools need to look at how they can help their students who need assistance when mistakes are made rather than expelling them and referring them to public schools. CLASS SIZE: we absolutely need caps. Waivers were one of the biggest errors made in the Districts of Innovation system. No waivers. TESTING: should not be used for advancement or graduation, unless the test is tied to a performance grade so the student has some incentive to do well. Would look at other options for teacher performance evaluations, including documented student academic and behavioral growth. SALARIES: should be raised, would recommend an increase of up to \$3000 for starting salaries. Funding would be state-mandated and paid for through tax dollars by introducing new industry to the state. HEALTH CARE: we need to bring in other companies to increase competition and help lower rates. Would also encourage school districts to help off-set premiums and add to educators' HSA through monthly stipends. TRS: should remain a defined benefit.
	Sheryl Cole <b>This race is voter's choice</b>	D	Neutral	From website: "A robust and well-funded public education system is vital to a successful Texas. As a mother of three and a former PTA President, I know the difference a good education can make. Far right Texas Republicans refuse to put enough towards public education in the biennial budget, proposed bills will push public dollars toward private school vouchers, and members of the State Board of Education seek to erase our history and deny science. While on City Council, I found funding for afterschool programs and in school specialists. At the Texas Legislature, I will be a staunch defender of Education, from Kindergarten through College."
	Kevin Ludlow	L	neutral	Education not listed as an issue on website. Nothing on FB page either.
House District 47	Paul Workman	R	Unfriendly	Voted for reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK caps. Against home rule districts. Against restoring funding for PubEd. Against vouchers. For funding TRS. Against ASDs going by PubEd rules. Against ASD class caps. Against delaying charter schools. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) Endorsed by Greg Abbott.
	Vikki Goodwin <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Stated the TX Constitution Article 7 on website. "Ensure the investment we make into public education serves all our children and provides a reasonable salary for our teachers. Keep public dollars in public schools, and not send those dollars into private or parochial schools through vouchers or education savings accounts. Fix the school finance formula to include both a cost-of-living and an inflation index. Ensure the state provides a minimum of 50% of the school funding so local school districts are not forced to increase local property taxes to make up the difference. Respect the value and expertise of our teachers by funding reasonable class sizes, paying competitive salaries, and providing professional development opportunities. End high-pressure, high-stakes tests for students, as well as the school grading system criticized by professional educators. Include enrichment activities in the curriculum to develop a child's full potential. Support adequate funding to our public institutions of higher education.
House District 48	Donna Howard Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored the rally!Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
House District 49	Gina Hinojosa incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Austin ISD Board trustee. Endorsed by Austin American-Statesman. Endorsed by Education Austin. Endorsed by TSTA. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Kyle Austin	R	Unfriendly	His GoFundMe fundraiser page says that donations are not campaign donations, but will go to his food and personal bills so that he can campaign in the community full time. No donations have been made. Per FB conversation on 1/23, supports a decrease in school funding and says he believes in school choice. Says private education has a better return in value."When we fund education through central planning, we reduce the families ability to choose the best catered education for their own kids. I would say that a decrease in funding from government would be a step towards the right direction but there would need to be a focus on promoting more private options. The end goal would be complete privatization of education as that has proven to be the most efficient way to teach kids. Also, it is my understanding that the proper role of government is to retaliate against criminals that have infringed upon the rights of its citizens. Providing a product or service, or subsidizing a product or service, is not a proper function of government." Sees education as a product and believes it should be handled in the free market without any government control or interference. Asked him about Article 7, section 1, and he said he disagrees with it because he doesn't see education as a proper function of government.
House District 50	Celia Israel incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>		Friendly	ATPE survey: Need to increase funding. Current funding is being spent well. Would not support private school vouchers. Would not support changes from traditional TRS. Teacher evaluation is a local issue. Would consider giving some local districts autonomy on caps, but would not support "busting the cap." Does not support privatization of struggling schools. Cites studies which indicate that charters do not educate better than PubEd. Voting: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. For PK caps. Against home rule charters. Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) ; absent for HB 21 final vote (Huberty Finance Bill)
House District 51	Eddie Rodriguez Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	2014 ATPE Survey: Did not Respond - Authored legislation related to National School Breakfast2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against SB13 (payroll deductions); voted against SB3 (ESAs); authored and voted for SB463 (extension of IGCs); for HB3976 (retired insurance); voted for SJR 42(tax exemption for-profit charters); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance);
House District 52	Cynthia Flores	R	Unfriendly	Attacked by Empower Texans and called a Democrat for using a website vendor who works with Democratic candidates. Says she is the "handpicked establishment candidate to succeed the outgoing liberal Republican State Rep Larry Gonzales." States that she believes in school choice on website. Supports charter schools, online learning academies, private and parochial schools as options. Endorsed by Gov. Abbott. From website: Education is the means to a better future for all children, regardless of their background and family means. I believe in conservative reforms to education, including school choice. For many families, the local brick-and-mortar public school is their school of choice. But not every child fits into the same box. When we give parents a choice, we give children a chance. I support alternative public options, such as charter schools, online learning academies, and private and parochial schools. Let's give parents options so children can succeed.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	James Talarico <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Former public middle school teacher. Master's in Ed Policy from Harvard. FUNDING: would substantially increase and fix formulas. We need to simplify the finance system. Would support an amendment proposed by Donna Howard to the state constitution that would ensure the state never falls below 50% of funding for public ed. PRIORITIES: immediately fixing school finance, stop kicking the can down the road, and also getting out of the way of our expert teachers, treating them like professionals, and allowing them to do their jobs. This is the only profession where this happens and it's not right. CHOICE/VOUCHERS: vigorously opposed to vouchers, feel it is insidious, dangerous policy and undermines civil rights. The only reason privates/charters can be shown to have "better" outcomes is because they are able to self select their student population, and remove students who do not perform. This leaves those students with no choice but public schools and with funding stripped away. CLASS SIZE: hard caps, no waivers, ratio is what is important. Classes with 40 kids can't get the instruction they deserve - this is at ALL levels. TESTING/ACCOUNTABILITY: Does not support the current system. Assessment of some sort is fine, but the current test is ineffective, a disaster, and doesn't help drive instruction. The point of testing should be to get data to drive instruction, and it makes no sense to take a test the teachers have not seen, and get results after kids are gone. This does not inform instruction. Testing should not determine graduation - should inform decisions, but not be the final factor. Students should be judged holistically. Teachers should not be evaluated based on test scores. The current system is punitive and unfair. There should be a local system designed with educator input to evaluate teachers holistically based on overall performance. Testing should be integrated seamlessly into our instruction to drive data. It should not be punitive. SALARIES: raise salaries and quit playing political stunts with teachers' livelihood. We need to look to other systems around the world. They pay their teachers as professionals, 60-70000 a year and the chance to make 6 figures with experience. If you're good you should be rewarded and given opportunity to advance. The current system locks teachers in and that is unfair. We would finance this by stopping funding of federal issues such as immigration/border security, and closing the commercial tax loophole. It's estimated that would be up to \$5 billion in additional revenue. HEALTH CARE: promises made are sacred and should be kept. We need to find sustainable sources of income to fund better health care. TRS: keep defined benefit and do more to fully fund it. Against privatization of any kind. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: allow people to make their own choices, this is a blatant power grab.
House District 53	Andrew S. Murr Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	ATPE survey: Non-answer to increased PubEd funding. Non-answer on whether dollars are being spent wisely. Says he does not support vouchers. TRS should remain as structured. Opposed to testing being used to evaluate schools, teachers, or kids. Non-answer on class caps. Does not support privatization of public schools. Non-answer on effectiveness of charter schools. Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. Against home rule charters. Certified teacher (agriculture.) Doesn't say that he ever taught. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Stephanie Lochte Ertel	D	Neutral	Pro public school funding and anti voucher.
House District 54	Kathy Richerson	D	neutral	no information found, website is inoperative.
	Brad Buckley <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	neutral	Former member of Killeen ISD school board. Lists public education as one of his top 3 priorities. Does not support vouchers for special education. Believes fully funding our education system will best solve problems facing students with special needs.
	Robert Walden	L	neutral	No website, FB page has no info about issues
House District 55	Hugh D. Shine Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	ATPE survey answers: non-answer for school funding. Does want to increase funding to both M&O but also I&S? (Maybe bring back grants???) Against vouchers. Feels testing has a limited role, but not to the extent of driving curriculum. Teacher evaluations should not be based on test scores. Current salary schedule floor is adequate. Does not support privatization for struggling districts. Non-answer on insurance contribution. Supports TRS. Webpage: "Review efficiency and productivity of K-12 ed. Remove state mandates that drive inefficiency, Establish policy that encourages competition and efficiency, Maximize parental freedom and educational opportunities, Review and revise curriculum standards and testing, review and revise classroom teacher/teaching requirements." Smacks of vouchers. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance) Voted against HB22(ASATR in special sess)
House District 56	Charles "Doc" Anderson Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 2004. For reduced testing. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For PK funding. Opposed an amendment to a pre-kindergarten bill that would have limited class sizes to no more than 18 students. Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. For increased Pub Ed funding. Voted against an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. Voted for a bill to shore up the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) and provide most retirees with a benefit increase. Voted against a teacher quality bill to raise the standards for entering the education profession. Voted against creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance). Posted on his facebook page 7/24/17 - With the dramatically rising healthcare costs, the current structure of the TRS system is not adequate to fund the 260,000 participants it serves. While efforts were made during the 85th legislative session to keep the fund from dissolving there is still much more work to be done. This is why I have signed on as a co-author to House Bill 151, known as the TRS-Care Stabilization Act. This bill will provide for a \$1 billion one-time distribution from the Economic Stabilization Fund to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas for the TRS-Care retiree health insurance plan. " voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee); Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	Kat Turner-Pearson	D	Neutral	Website education statement shows a pretty good grasp of the reduction in state funding, issues with using property taxes to fund education, problems raised by vouchers, and states that she understand that the state constitution mandates providing for public education and that the state is "shirking their duty." Beyond that, there is no statement about what she would do to change that, other than that she will "work to make public education a priority again in the Texas House, so that all children in this district get the education they were promised."
House District 57	Trent Ashby Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	ATPE Survey: Supports funding public schools, appears to be against vouchers, against on-size-fits-all accountability or assessment program, 2017 Update: sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction)
	Jason K. Rogers	D	Neutral	candidate does not have a webpage and did not respond to an email inquiry. Does not have anything about education on his Facebook page.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 58	DeWayne Burns incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC, a pro-public education group that advocates for public school funding, local control, teacher quality, and the prevention of vouchers. Voting Record: For reduced testing. For 149, For suicide prevention training, for increased PK funding, against PK class caps, against home rule districts. ATPE survey responses: no choice but to increase funding for PubEd. Districts should have flexibility to target their own programs instead of state deciding for them. For caps, but okay with waivers in certain conditions. Must reduce frequency and import of testing. non-answer on testing and teacher evals. Against state control or privatization of struggling schools. Must figure out a way to lower insurance costs. Supports TRS. Website only lists past accomplishments. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
House District 59	J.D. Sheffield incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent Pac.Voting Record: for reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. Against home rule. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. For delaying charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
House District 60	Mike Lang Incumbent <b>LEAVE THIS RACE BLANK</b>	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. 2016 ATPE Survey: Did not Respond - Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Pro-voucher.2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
House District 61	Phil S. King Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	2014 ATPE Survey: Did not Respond - 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.); voted for HB 3976 (Retired Insurance); voted against SB13 (PAYroll Deduction); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
House District 62	Valerie Hefner	D	Neutral	good education for all Texas children – arming our children with the job skills and even more importantly the values that prepare them to be good citizens and to hold competitive jobs. Believes we need to invest in public schools and stand up for teachers.
	Reggie Smith <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Reggie is committed to our schools, to our teachers, and most importantly, to our children. He wants every child in Texas to have access to a first-class education. Reggie understands that we must reform our broken school finance system. He will work to reduce the burden of over-testing and to further empower parents and teachers to improve their local schools. Reggie is committed to reducing the reliance upon local school property taxes to fund education by restructuring the state's share of the funding burden. He will also work to eliminate unfunded mandates on our schools that come down from Washington and Austin, ensure that local education decisions remain local, and that education dollars remain focused on our local schools, not sent elsewhere to unaccountable entities and initiatives.
	David L. Schaab	L	Unfriendly	Pro school choice - this is all his website lists for education.
House District 63	Tan Parker	R	Unfriendly	2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	Laura Haines <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Texas should fully fund public education. Providing for the free & adequate education of our youth is an investment in our future.
House District 64	Lynn Stucky Incumbent	R	neutral	Endorsed by Dallas Morning News. Website supports reduced testing, local control. Former school board member. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Andrew Morris <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	friendly	PRIORITIES: Funding, testing/accountability reform, infrastructure reform, including restructuring teacher pay/benefits. FUNDING: As highlighted above, financing public education will be my most important priority. As per-student funding falls, I see a clear need to increase state funding to meet the needs of our student population. There are numerous potential revenue sources available to avenues to increase funding for our public education systems, including: - restructuring sales or consumption taxes - dividing up current tax revenues to be more equitable towards education - reversing corporate tax breaks/cuts - increasing taxes on the wealthiest, - raising taxes on products such as tobacco, alcohol, or marijuana - reforming, expanding, and funding the Additional State Aid for Tax Reduction, to allow more districts to qualify. As Colorado in particular has proven, legalizing marijuana and using the tax proceeds to invest more in our education systems can work. It's a conversation we must be brave enough to have, and it's a conversation I'm willing to have in Austin. HEALTHCARE: Healthcare costs remain a concern for too many Texans, especially those working in education. We must reduce out-of-pocket expenses, and that starts by evaluating and changing the healthcare plans offered to educators, retirees, and other public education employees. Legislators can negotiate with healthcare and health insurance providers for further discounts or cost reductions, advocate for expanding the Affordable Care Act, and working towards state-based healthcare solutions that reduce both overall costs and out-of-pocket expenses. TRS: As a member of the Teacher Retirement System, I believe TRS must be maintained as a traditional defined benefit pension plan for all future, current, and retired educators. TRS plays an important role in ensuring our educators have security in their retirement. A 401(k) plan does not provide that security, and would not be an avenue I would explore as a legislator. TRS is a distinct carrot to attract teachers to the profession, so must be maintained and protected. TESTING: I recently got involved with the Transparency in Testing Facebook group, and I would advocate for a bill that helps quantify the costs associated with standardized testing. When testing costs run as high as \$13 billion, it is fiscally conservative as well as budget-sensitive to ensure we spend effectively and achieve intended outcomes. Student test scores should be used as part of a holistic process in evaluating student progress, teacher effectiveness, and school district accountability. In my view, however, I think that standardized testing is not the most effective tool to measure student outcomes, and more conversations should be had with educators, school board members, students, and parents to find the best way of assessing student learning. TEACHER PAY: Absolutely. Teachers are grossly underpaid for the work that they put in, so any bill I can vote on that improves teacher pay I would be in full support. Texas teachers are among some of the most underpaid professional workers in any industry, so it is time that their salaries reflected the key role they have in teaching and raising the next generation. PERFORMANCE PAY: Student performance should be a factor in determining teacher pay, but not the SOLE factor. Teachers can only be as successful as the students who want to learn, and in many situations it should be how teachers turn potential into excellence that should drive teacher pay. Other factors, such as the socio-economic make-up of districts and the role of parents, should be considered when setting teacher pay. VOUCHERS: No. Public education is the best option to educate our students, and no money should be removed from the public system. This is a hard line I would maintain, as any proposal that provides incentives parents to remove students from the public education system, ultimately weakens the institution of public education. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: I would support allowing all public employees to use payroll deductions for their membership dues. Not only will this help reduce their taxable income, but it would make being a part of a union more straight forward. Strong unions built the middle class, and we have seen with the erosion of unions how the middle class has declined. Allowing public employees to use payroll deductions for their membership dues will promote unions and make collective bargaining easier, and allow teachers and other public employees a louder voice in the concerns they all share. DOIs: Districts of Innovation are an important part of our education system. They allow districts to implement new policies and procedures that can help students. While this may be true, however, I have concerns that some school districts could manipulate this designation to avoid certain responsibilities, thus harming student outcomes. I would recommend changes to DOI criteria, and would advocate for certain limitations on the state laws that can be waived - for instance, elementary school class-size limits: the lower the teacher-to-student ratio, the better student outcomes often are - especially that this young and impressionable age. Response to researcher following up on TRS: "I'd add to the TRS part that I would explore options that combine TRS and ERS that ensures all retirees have a livable salary on which to retire. Maintaining two systems - especially two that have a gross disparity hurts more than helps."
	Nick Dietrich	L	neutral	No information available.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 65	Ron Simmons (R) incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Dallas Morning News. Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule districts. Against restoring funding to PubEd. For TRS. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. States that he is pro-voucher. When asked about TRS, states that he would not be in favor of changing the system for "currently vested participants" leaving the door open to dump TRS for future teachers. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); wrote HB 4193 (education credits for SpEd. Never got out of committee.); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	Michelle Beckley <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	Education is the foundation of a strong economy, by providing the knowledge and skills needed to meet the ever-changing requirements of the global workforce. Every child should have access to a high-quality education and the opportunity to achieve the American dream. Public schools must be fully-funded to achieve the goal of providing children with the tools they need to succeed. We must never allow school voucher systems, which have failed time and again, to siphon funds into the coffers of for-profit businesses at our expense.
House District 66	Math Shaheen incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Voting record: For reduced testing. Against 149. Against increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Only information on webpage is a Monday Night Football Fundraiser. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) Posted newsletter before T4PE Rally claiming organized by an extremist liberal, and that the teachers who attended were paid protesters who were bused in. Endorsed by Patriot Texas, Conservative Activists.
	Sharon Hirsch <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	friendly	Residents of House District 66 are immensely proud of their public schools - so am I. I believe that public schools are the foundation of our neighborhoods, our communities, and our democracy, and that how we treat our children and how we teach our children is critical to our future. We know that education provides both a private benefit to the individual student and a public benefit to society. I will defend and strengthen our public schools by working to provide staff, students, and parents the resources they need to be successful. Investing in public education is good for Texans and good for business. On this important issue, I support: Updating and modernizing the school funding formula to reflect the current and future needs of our growing student population. This must include reduction or elimination of recapture and the inclusion of additional state funding for education. Reduction of mandated standardized testing and a focus on individual student progress. Quality, universal Pre-K programs. The continuation of the TRS defined benefit pension plan. A secure retirement is a valuable incentive in recruiting and retaining our teacher workforce. A comprehensive, long-range solution to TRS-Care to ensure sustainability and decrease uncertainty in the future. Finally, I do not support vouchers or any other schemes, such as educational savings accounts and tax credit scholarships, that divert funding from public schools. ATPE Teach the Vote: PRIORITIES: My top priority will be restructuring the Texas school finance system. Additionally, I will oppose any efforts to divert public funds to vouchers, educational savings accounts, or other mechanisms aimed at reducing funds available for public schools. Standardized testing should be kept to the minimum necessary to ensure student improvement targets are met. More local control should be returned to school districts in terms of governing their educational funding and programs. FUNDING: Yes, there is a need to increase state funding to meet the needs of our student population. Property value growth should be returned to the school districts as it was prior to the 2006 legislation which capped local property taxes and returned growth revenue to the state's general fund. This has allowed the state's percentage of education funding to decrease significantly in the past eleven years. In addition, the state's rainy day funds should be allocated to fill any emergency shortfalls in public education funding. Finally, returning local control to school districts will allow them to set local tax rates needed to support identified education funding needs. HEALTHCARE: First of all, the state should have fully funded the critical shortfall recently experienced. I will support legislation to provide additional funds to decrease the current premiums. In the future, contributions for health insurance should be based on the cost of healthcare rather than payroll and should be fairly distributed among all parties. Had the state been following the process of adjusting rates based on the cost of healthcare, we would not have experienced the current crisis. TRS: I believe we should maintain the traditional defined benefit pension plan for all future, current, and retired educators. TESTING: The primary use of standardized testing should be to measure individual student progress based on their current achievement level versus age or grade level standards. District leadership should take the responsibility of determining if student growth at each campus meets local targets. Campus leaders should be responsible for determining individual teacher effectiveness. PAY: Yes, I would support a state-funded across-the-board pay raise for all Texas classroom teachers. PERFORMANCE PAY: I strongly believe that any relationship between student performance and teacher pay should be determined at the local level. VOUCHERS: No, I would not vote for any of the above-mentioned diversions of public school funding to private entities or home schools. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: I support the ability of all public employees to use payroll deduction for membership dues. DOIs: This is an example of where these types of decisions should be granted as local control to school districts without needing a program such as Districts of Innovation. I will support legislation that provides this level of local control back to all school districts
House District 67	Jeff Leach incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Voting Record: for reduced testing. For 149, against increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charter. Against increased PubEd funding. For vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. Against delaying charter school expansion. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) Endorsed by Patriot Texas, Conservative Activists.
	Sarah Depew <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	A strong education system is absolutely necessary for Texas to thrive now and in the future. Teachers need to be paid competitively and their lecturing hours need to be capped to provide time during the work day to grade papers, develop curriculum, and communicate with parents. We cannot have a system that exhausts those who have dedicated themselves to educating our children. We must stop over-relying on standardized tests to know how our children are doing and trust our teachers more.
House District 68	Drew Springer Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 2012. Endorsed in 2014 by the Texas Home School Coalition PAC, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Endorsed in 2014 by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), a group that has supported budget cuts and limiting state spending on public education, as well as private school vouchers. Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. Voted against a budget bill providing increased funding for public education. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance); Voted for HB 21 special session (Huberty School Finance Bill)
House District 69	James Frank Incumbent <b>LEAVE THIS RACE BLANK</b>	R	Unfriendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2012. Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by the Texas Home School Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. Voted against a budget bill providing increased funding for public education. Voted against an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 70	Scott Sanford incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Voting record: for 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. Originally against home rule charter, but then flipped to for. Against increased funding for PubEd. For vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charters. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition and by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) Endorsed by Patriot Texas, Conservative Activists.
	Julie Luton BLOCK VOTE	D	neutral	FUNDING: The current school funding formula is outdated and confusing. The Texas Commission on Public School Finance has been hearing testimony and will be making recommendations regarding funding, whether for improvements to the current formula or for new methods of funding. The state legislature must make education funding a true priority and increase the state portion (as opposed to putting more and more burden on local school districts).PRIORITIES: My very first priority is providing equitable, adequate funding for our educational system. I also believe that we must return to respecting our educators and compensating them fairly with pay and benefits for their expertise and passion. Thirdly, I believe our over-reliance on expensive mandatory testing must be reduced. We have spent years tying teacher and student assessments to these tests and yet our progress in meeting the educational needs of our country hasn't noticeably improved (according to the National Assessment of Education Progress). Instead, as we've reduced funding, all we've achieved is increasing the gaps between the highest- and lowest-performing students.VOUCHERS: I would not support vouchers/tax-credits. Whatever these funding schemes are called, the bottom line is that they deprive badly needed funds for public education and give it away to private institutions, churches and home schools. We have a constitutional responsibility to provide education for all (not to mention, this is educationally-sound policy), and we cannot do that without the funds to educate. CLASS SIZE: I believe we should have class size caps. Although I know that Districts of Innovation are popular now and one reason is because local districts can overrule class size caps, I will be watching to see whether waivers for this mandate and others impact educational quality. I believe there should be a baseline of acceptable (funded) mandates and still give districts/schools the flexibility to work within accepted parameters to impact their individual situations.TESTING: There are certain types of testing that are helpful as benchmarks in order to assess learning. However, an over-reliance of these tests has mitigated their usefulness ... by that I mean that, rather than helping educators determine where additional teacher resources/time could be better spent on certain subjects, the tests themselves and their results are the only things that matter. While we must have measurements to ensure progress, testing results should be only part of things considered. As far as student advancement/graduation, I believe standardized testing is part of a package that can indicate success or need for improvements. As I mentioned above in the priorities question, I do not believe it is helpful to tie standardized testing to teacher pay or performance evaluations. SALARIES: Yes, teacher salaries should be raised, as should pension payments. I believe the state should raise its investment in education and should fund these necessary increases. HEALTH CARE: I believe that the state must contribute more (an infusion of cash) to the TRS healthcare plan, in order to keep benefits in line with rising medical costs. It does little good to raise salaries if healthcare premiums and costs rise drastically. TRS: I believe TRS should remain as a defined benefit plan. A huge majority of Texas' retired school employees haven't paid into Social Security and rely on TRS pension checks as their sole source of income. We must continue to guarantee the financial stability of all retired teachers who have devoted their lives to educating our children by guaranteeing the pension benefits for educators.
House District 71	Stan Lambert Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	ATPE survey: Need to increase PubEd funding. Wants to target bilingual ed, CTE, teacher salaries with funding. "Never" will support vouchers. Favors flexible classroom cap. Testing has its place, but needs to be reduced. Non-answer on salary floors, admits has not studied the issue. Likes current system for struggling schools. Website uninformative.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Sam Hatton	D	Friendly	FUNDING: we need to dramatically increase funding. Does not support current recapture process only because it has become a way for the state to syphon money from the public school system. He does support a system that attempts to create equity among the districts. Two problems with regard to securing revenue: one, getting funding back to pre-recession levels. Two, an overall, general revenue increase for education once the first problem is met. We are spending the same amount per student as we did 15 years ago. Our investment has not kept up with inflation or the rising population of Texas schools. Believes the system is set up to favor privates and charters at the expense of public schools. Public money should be for public schools. Wants lottery money to go to schools but not to be dependent on that. 25% of rainy day fund should go to improving infrastructure and schools. Set the oil and gas exploration tax to 1970 levels and use that money to fund schools. As for teachers, we need to treat them like the educated, competent, government professionals they are and compensate them justly. Not only in pay but in benefits and retirement. PRIORITIES: Retirement, pay and benefits, recruitment, new funding, school equity, core classroom funding, arts and humanities funding, life skills and trade classes. VOUCHERS/CREDITS: Does not support giving public money to charter or private schools. There is nothing better about them, but funding is being syphoned from public schools to them. They get to cherry pick their students. Naturally,, they produce good results. This is disingenuous and creates a bifurcated system in which the affluent children go to private school and the poor children go to underfunded, underinvested school. This fundamentally undermines the idea of educational equity. Multiple arguments can be made against giving tax money to private schools but in the end, the argument is that public schools are funded by public money and private schools are funded by private money. CLASS SIZE CAPS: Complicated question, straightforward answer is yes, supports a hard cap. Has learned through teachers that the ideal class size is 12-15. We must inject funding in order for this to happen. TESTING: the proper role of testing is for placement. Testing should not be used or be of a fractional weight in accountability, evaluation, progress measuring of students. However, my thinking has evolved on STAAR. When I began I was of the opinion that standardized testing should be done away with. I'm still firmly on the anti-test side of the fence. In talking with stakeholders I became convinced we do have to test for placement. RATING SYTEM: Does not support. Further exacerbates the problem of parents feeling underfunded schools thereby taking more funding from the school with them. EVALUATION/TEST SCORES: State standardized testing should play NO role in evaluating teachers. Period. SALARIES: supports a floor in salary. Wants to develop a comprehensive salary plan with teachers and researchers at the table. SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY/PRIVATIZATION: supports administrative review. In my interviews with education professionals, I have learned that a lot of our school problems can be traced back to a poor and disconnected administration. INSURANCE: believes in Medicare for all on a path to universal healthcare. This is a federal issue. I am running for state office. I believe the legislature needs to grant amnesty for TRS Care and allow those people who opted for Medicare to return without a penalty. The flight from TRS Care is the legislature's fault. It requires a legislative solution. Our governor needs to accept the Medicaid expansions, and we need an immediate injection of capital into teacher health insurance to cover increased costs. I al so believe that we should expand Medicaid coverage to teachers until a better solution is raised. TRS: I would not vote to convert TRS to a defined contribution plan. Texas needs to permanently fund TRS with automatic cost of living adjustments. OTHER THOUGHTS: included a letter to the editor about STAAR. These responses are the culmination of months of earnest research and interviews with real teachers. I purposefully provided my full thoughts on each question as I sought to illustrate my sincere desire for a dialogue with and the responsibility I feel toward teachers. If in my answers I did not provide an adequate response or if I am not seeing these issues with enough perspective, please engage me rather than chastise. It is my sincere desire to do right by teachers. Candidate included letter to the editor on STAAR testing (basically reinforced his answers above) and a breakdown of his education policy positions, which are available on his webpage. For the sake of space, I am not including them here.
House District 72	Drew Darby Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee)
House District 73	Kyle Biedermann Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Endorsed by the Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans) PAC. ATPE questionnaire: Does not support more funding for public schools, says we need more oversight. Non-answer about vouchers. Non-answer on classroom caps. Against testing. Wants merit pay rather than years of service. Repeatedly talks about competition, so very probably pro-voucher. Also mentions needing choice on his webpage. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee); Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)
	Stephanie Phillips BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Website info on education: "A free and public education is a right promised to all Texans by the Texas Constitution, and as your Representative I will do everything in my power to strengthen our public schools and keep the promises we made to our retired teachers. I vow to: Support Teachers and Public Schools Decrease Ineffective Standardized Testing Fight Against Vouchers Reduce Property Taxes and Fix School Funding" Site goes on to explain each. Mentions strengthening TRS, repeal of WEP and GPO. Teach the Vote info: top priority is to increase teacher pay, protect TRS, decrease testing, support transition from STEM to arts integration. Acknowledges that state diverts funds to other programs from property taxes. Says teachers need better healthcare. Maintain TRS as defined benefit. No public funds for private schools. DOI should be limited.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 74	Alfonso "Poncho" Nevarez Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2012. For reduce testing. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. For limited PK class size. Against home rule. For increased Public Ed funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. For ASDs following Public ED rules. For class cap on ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 75	Mary E. Gonzalez Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Endorsed by El Paso Times. Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Authored bill to limit PK class size. Against home rule. For restoring PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. For ASDs following PubEd rules. For class cap on ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. ATPE questionnaire: Need to increase PubEd funding. Raise teacher pay. No vouchers in any form. TRS should continue. Little emphasis on testing for teacher evaluations. Support class caps. Against privatization of struggling schools. Unsure of charter school effectiveness. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 76	Cesar Blanco Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 77	Evelina "Lina" Ortega Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Wants to extend free kindergarten to all 4-year olds. Wants to fully restore 2011 cuts, de-emphasize testing. Endorsed by TSTA, AFT, Texas Parents Pac. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 78	Joe Moody incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Voting record: for reduced testing. For 149. for increase PK funding. For PK class caps. Against home rule charter. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For shoring up TRS. For ASDs following PubEd rules. For class caps on ASDs. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Jeff Lane	R	Neutral	No website, Facebook page has only a photo declaring he's a candidate. Emailed, will update with a response.
House District 79	Joseph C. "Joe" Pickett Incumbent BLOCK VOTE		Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 1994. For reduced testing. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding and Limited class size in PK. Against home rule. For increased Pub. Ed funding. Against Pub. Ed \$\$ for vouchers. For increased TRS funding. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Against an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. For delaying charter school expansion. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 80	Tracy O. King Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 1994; served through 2001; re-elected in 2004. For reduce testing. For suicide prevention training. For PK funding increase. Supported an amendment to a pre-kindergarten bill that would have limited class sizes to no more than 18 students per educator. (Voted against a motion to table the amendment.) Was absent during the vote on a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. For increased Public ED funding. Against vouchers. For increase TRS funding. Voted for a teacher quality bill to raise the standards for entering the education profession. Voted for creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. (Voted against the motion to table the amendment.) For delaying the expansion of charter schools. Texas State Teachers Association Endorses Representative Tracy O. King. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 81	Brooks Landgraf incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	neutral	Endorsed in 2014 by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Voting Record: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. Against PK caps. Against home rule districts. ATPE questionnaire: Increase funding by reducing mandates and testing. Allow local districts to target which programs get additional funding. Will not rule out vouchers. Not in favor of classroom caps. Tests should be a part of teacher evaluation. Against pay floors. Non-answer about privatization of struggling schools. Does not favor higher state contribution for insurance, says should negotiate better instead. Wants promises kept to teachers in TRS, but should look at other options for future teachers. No information about issues on website. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Armando Gamboa	D	neutral	We need to use our Rainy Day fund and the state lottery to fully fund schools. Audit the lottery and ensure the money is being used appropriately. Additionally, make sure our education spending is being put into programs that will make positive impacts in classrooms. Emphasizes local control in allocation of funds, but would like to see an increase in technical and vocational programs. Transition to teacher-driven curriculum and give teachers the freedom to create their own lessons. Does not support vouchers or similar programs. Does not support class size waivers, believes classes should be capped at 20 kids. Standardized testing is an outdated model and should not be used to measure school accountability, student progress, graduation requirements, or teacher evaluation. Focus on student growth instead and put testing money toward teacher pay, school infrastructure, fine arts, and health care costs. Teacher evaluations should be decided upon by local school districts with guidance of community members. Does not support a floor for teacher salaries, believes this should be left to local districts to decide. Failing schools should be placed under the guidance of local officials, board members, community leaders and parents. We need to work with local officials to come to a resolution on health care costs, and work with insurance providers as well. TRS should be a defined benefit, and we should look at diverse options of saving for the future, but would never vote for TRS being converted to a 401k plan.
House District 82	Tom Craddick Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Spencer Bounds	D	Neutral	24 years old. Education is his #1 campaign issue. Says he saw firsthand while in school what cuts to education do to teachers and students. Give teachers more freedom and higher salary. Smaller class sizes, and we need to increase the graduation rate. Does not favor Robin Hood.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 83	Dustin Burrows Incumbent	R	neutral	<p>2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)Endorsed by Empower Texas and TX Homeschool Coalition in 2016.Voted against funding for Pre-K in 2015. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)Endorsed by Empower Texas and TX Homeschool Coalition in 2016.Voted against funding for Pre-K in 2015.House Vote #12 - 2017: EDUCATOR QUALITY</p> <p>Opposed measures to improve educator quality. Voted against a bill to establish a mentoring program for inexperienced teachers and state funding for mentor stipends, scheduled release time, and training. ATPE supported the bill, which later died in the Senate.</p> <p>House Bill 816 by Rep. Diego Bernal (D-San Antonio), 85th Legislature, Regular Session. The House approved the bill on third reading on May 11, 2017. (Record vote #1162. View an official record of the vote in the House journal.) The bill ultimately did not pass the Senate.</p> <p>House Vote #13 - 2017: EDUCATOR QUALITY</p> <p>Opposed measures to improve educator quality. Voted against a bill that would prohibit school districts from assigning elementary school students in core subject classes to inexperienced or uncertified teachers for two consecutive years. ATPE supported the bill.</p> <p>House Bill 972 by Rep. Helen Giddings (D-Dallas), 85th Legislature, Regular Session. The House approved the bill on third reading on May 6, 2017. (Record vote #954. View an official record of the vote in the House journal.) The bill later died in the Senate House Vote #6 - 2017: PAYROLL DEDUCTION</p> <p>Voted for a payroll deduction-related amendment that ATPE opposed. The amendment, which failed to pass, called for a state school finance commission to study whether educators should continue to have access to payroll deduction for their voluntary association dues</p> <p>Floor amendment #20 by Rep. Bill Zedler (R-Arlington) to Senate Bill 16 by Sen. Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood), 85th Legislature, Special Session. The House voted against the amendment on Aug. 14, 2017. The amendment failed to pass. (Record vote #167. View an official record of the vote in the House journal.) First elected to the Texas House in 2014.</p> <p>Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary election by the Texas Home School Coalition, which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools.</p> <p>Endorsed in the 2016 Republican primary and general election by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), a group that has supported budget cuts and limiting state spending on public education; eliminating educators' and other public employees' rights to use payroll deduction for payment of their voluntary dues to professional organizations; private school vouchers; and privatizing the management of existing public schools.</p>
	Drew Landry BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	<p>assistant professor of government at South Plains College. Education is his top issue. State needs to increase education funding to lower property taxes. Feels many in government are not honest about this and simply choose to address the property tax side while not adequately addressing school funding. Member of T4PE. Against the bill to prevent association dues from being deducted from paychecks. ATPE Survey responses: Top priority is fulfilling constitutional responsibility to public education and fully funding it. Fund TRS with Rainy Day fund and introduce a bill to prevent pensions from being used to fund programs and departments. Reduce the number of exams students take and the emphasis on STAAR. Increase in technical and vocational programs. Let teachers teach so students are college-ready. Encourage students to get into the education field by extending the state's student loan forgiveness program. Associations should be allowed to negotiate price of insurance plans and prescription drugs for members. Create a competitive market with out of state companies competing with in state companies. Close donut hole of benefits for teachers who retire prior to 65. TRS should remain a defined benefit. Standardized testing should not be used for school accountability, graduation, or evaluating teachers. Money could better be used for teacher pay or bringing down health care costs. Supports an across the board pay raise for teachers, as long as it is guaranteed to remain a permanent part of teachers' salary and is not an unfunded mandate. Student performance should not determine teacher pay. Against school vouchers/choice. We need to audit the A-F rating system. Districts of Innovation should not be able to hire uncertified teachers, skirt classroom size limits, or rights to a contract. Place limitations on DOI waivers.</p>
House District 84	John Frullo incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	<p>Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. Against home rule districts. For restoration of PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rule. Against ASD caps. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. No info on website about educational issues. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)</p>
	Samantha T. Fields	D	neutral	<p>PTAs can only do so many fundraisers a year to support their teachers. Property taxes can only go up so high. And while Texas is sitting on \$10 billion in the Rainy Day Fund, schools in Lubbock were closed and "consolidated" in 2011 to make up for the state's shortfall. If we must live in a world where "corporations are people", then they should pay their fair share. Stop punishing counties with corporate tax loopholes, and let's start building a better future for all of us by funding education and equipping our students with the tools they need to succeed.</p>
House District 85	Phil Stephenson incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	<p>Voting record: for reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. For increasing PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. For delaying expansion of charters. Don't understand the position on home rule charters, as it is not consistent with a generally friendly demeanor toward public ed. Friendly, but with reservations. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)</p>
	Jennifer Cantu	D	Neutral	<p>My time as a social case manager at Alief Elisk Ninth Grade Center where I saw firsthand that our students were worried about how they will eat over the weekend because school is their breakfast and lunch.. I also saw that they were worried about whether they would graduate since some were still reading at a 3rd grade level. Gerrymandering is a fact. What is less obvious to a lot of folks is what it is doing to school district lines. We must address issues at a school district level. We cannot say that public education is the great equalizer if the same quality education is not available to all students. A family should not have to move because they feel they are not zoned to a good school. And even worse, a family should not feel their children are at a disadvantage because of where they live and the school they attend.</p>
House District 86	John T. Smithee Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Neutral	<p>2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)2015- Voted against increase in funding for public ed.</p>
	Mike Purcell	D	Neutral	<p>retired educator. "I think that the present government of Texas is crucifying out childrens' education on the cross of taxes."</p>
	Matthew Flores	L	Neutral	<p>Nothing on FB, no website</p>
House District 87	Four Price Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	<p>2017 Update: sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)</p>
House District 88	Ken King Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	R	Friendly	<p>2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB22(ASATR in special sess). Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC in 2014; <b>ATPE responses:</b> 2) school finance?—"make sure recapture dollars actually go to pub ed" 3) teacher benefits?—"have always voted for benefits going to teachers both active &amp; retired...need to give serious consideration to meaningful COLA" 4) defined benefits?—"should stay as a benefit." 5) testing &amp; accountability?—"standardized testing should count for as little as possible in accountability" 6) support state funded pay raises?—"I would." 7) student performance determining teacher pay?—"growth...most important...local control on accountability is best way to measure teacher performance" 8) Vouchers?—NO!!!! 9) payroll deductions for membership dues?—"Support" 10) limits on state laws waived by DOI's?—"DOI's...not around long enough to know if changes needed."</p>

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Ezekiel Barron	D	Neutral	no website or social media
<b>House District 89</b>	Candy Noble	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Texas HomeSchool Coalition which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools. Endorsed by Patriot Texas, Conservative Activists.
	Ray Ash <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	From website: Let's be clear about what "school choice" is NOT about. It's not about improving opportunities for low-income students as voucher advocates would like you believe. Instead, vouchers are an elitist strategy for subsidizing tuition of students attending private schools, of which about 85 percent are religious based. Vouchers are not only a means of circumventing the Constitutional prohibitions against subsidizing religious practice and instruction, they also deliberately encourage economic, racial, ethnic, and religious stratification in our society. Where vouchers are in place -- Milwaukee, Cleveland, and Florida -- a two-tiered system has been created which holds students in public and private schools to different and inequitable standards. America's success has been built on our ability to unify our diverse populations, and vouchers actively undermine our community and national unity. I am proud of the public schools we have in House District 89 presently. These public schools are the foundation of our neighborhoods and communities. They provide both a private benefit to the individual student and a public benefit to the residents of HD-89 and all of Texas. And they represent the future student body of many Texas Colleges and Universities. I will work hard to support all Texas legislation that provides the same flexibility to Independent School Districts that are vested in Charter Schools. This will allow teachers to "teach to the child" and not "to the test". I will also work hard to fix our broken school finance system, so that more money is directed directly to the teachers and class rooms and not to the administration.
<b>House District 90</b>	Ramon Romero incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) ; 2015- Supported/voted for bills favorable to schools (reduced testing, Alt. grad. committee; PK funding, suicide training).
<b>House District 91</b>	Stephanie Klick incumbent	R	Unfriendly	<b>2018 Endorsements: (Empower Texans associated groups) Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, TX Right to Life, NE Tarrant Tea Party PAC, &amp; other candidates rated Unfriendly.</b> 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR; 2015- voted to reduce testing time for STAAR; voted against funding for PK; against class size limits in PK; and voted for home rule (charter) districts; 2013- voted for funding for TRS; voted against public funds being used for vouchers; voted against increased spending for public schools. Endorsed in 2016 by Empower Texas and Texas Home School Coalition. Her voting record is generally supportive of TRS funding, but not of public school increased funding. She supports charter schools, but not using vouchers to pay for them out of public funds.  http://stephanieklick.com/ endorsement page 2018: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dwQr3sjsVsfSIDXNcC7HXmTEo5ymMGvQSMdRq8m_SPIO/edit
	Jeromey Sims <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	PUBLIC ED: Public education is one of the most important components of our society. This fact becomes evident in reading Article VII of our own Texas Constitution: "A general diffusion of knowledge being essential to the preservation of the liberties and rights of the people, it shall be the duty of the Legislature of the State to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools." This acknowledges that without our Public Education system, we lose our ability to even maintain our own liberty. This reason alone is enough to justify the placing of our school system at the top of our priority list. Building on that, I also believe: For many students, it is the only path available to achieve the "American Dream" because education can open the door to better job opportunity. Every sector of our Texas economy relies on the return that we, the citizens of Texas, realize from our investment in Public Education. In this globally-connected world, our employers and employees compete with people and companies all over the world. Without a quality public education, Texas students will be severely disadvantaged in this global market. A quality Public Education should offer the tools necessary to be successful - and it should be offered to "every" student. VIEWS ON CURRENT LEGE: The 85th Texas Legislature again failed to properly address their failed experiment of 2008: the Texas Margin Tax. Our Legislators have had a decade to try to clean up the mess they created when they performed the equivalent of a shell game trick with our Public School funding and swapped the Franchise tax for the Margin tax. Combine that with the complicated formula for determining how funds are allocated among districts, and this issue gets difficult to take action on in a polarized environment like the TXLEGE of 2017. I believe we've come to the point where extremists hold the majority hostage to try to push through agendas based on ideology rather than logic and reason. PLANS FOR OFFICE: Here's what I believe: - Public Education short-term funding fixes should be one of the first items agreed to in the TXLEGE. Shortly following this should be an agreement to a bipartisan-led commission to study and present 3 solutions to completely reform our school finance system for the long-term. These solutions should be ready-to-go bills to be submitted to the 2021 TXLEGE session. - Public funds should not be used to pay for private schools; therefore, I do not support vouchers or any other mechanism to funnel education dollars to private schools. - The increase of Charter Schools in Texas is draining desperately needed funds from our Public School system while attracting, largely, better-performing students from the Public Schools in surrounding areas. - High-stakes testing hurts children by teaching them that success in life means being able to memorize test answers instead of teaching them "how" to learn and reason using logic and exploration. - High-stakes testing handcuffs our educators by removing the ability to teach and evaluate each child on his/her own progress or interests. - Students learn best when they are not hungry. Neither shame nor the inability to ask for assistance should prevent our schools from feeding our children who are in need. - Pre-K should be freely available to all Texas students. - Smaller class sizes allow teachers to better direct the classroom and provide individual instruction when necessary. - Teachers should be compensated at a rate which attracts and retains quality teachers. They also shouldn't have to wonder if the next TXLEGE will provide enough funds for standard cost of living raises. - Teachers will be able to more effectively educate our students when they are actually able to afford to use their health insurance. I will vote for legislation that help advance this cause. - Retirees of our Public Education system deserve the benefits they were promised. It is morally indefensible to build up a billion-dollar slush fund while squeezing every dollar from our retirees.
	Steve Wallace	L	neutral	Could not find any information.
<b>House District 92</b>	Jonathan Stickland incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Not even going to get into his voting record. Here's all needed to know to classify as unfriendly: "I just wrote a \$2600 check to the state of Texas for my property taxes that will go to pay for a [sic] educational system that sucks and my family will never use. It is bullshit and unfair." In a private message to T4PE, Mr. Stickland disputes this statement and says that it was made up by his opponent. However, the statement is documented in an article by Dallas-based magazine "DMagazine" in an article dated January 20, 2014. (https://www.dmagazine.com/frontburner/2014/01/state-rep-jonathan-stickland-has-a-facebook-problem/) Additionally, in an article in the Texas Tribune dated Feb 4, 2016, various statements made in social media are documented, including one which he states that rape does not exist in marriage, racist statements such as referring to a person as a DFA (Dumb F***ing Asian), etc. home schooler. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition and by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Posted the following on Twitter during 2014 primary campaign: 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted against HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance) Suggests using bond money/debt to buy consumable classroom supplies. Kills other legislators' bills out of spite or for retaliation.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Steve Riddell <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Lead item on website: "My issue of primary concern is funding for public school education in Texas... An investment in public schools is an investment in Texas' continuing growth and prosperity, and I believe it should be the top priority in our state's budget..." Business background. well-versed in the classism effect associated w/ vouchers & school choice. "Data have shown that states that approved voucher programs have shown no significant improvement in student performance. Vouchers will remove badly needed funds from public schools and give them to institutions that are not answerable to the public, and whose performance is far from guaranteed." Sources cited on campaign site.
	Eric Espinoza	L	neutral	primary issues seem to be medical marijuana and disability rights. Nothing about education on FB. No website.
<b>House District 93</b>	Matt Krause incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition and Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. Against increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. For vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. Against ASD class caps. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	Nancy Bean <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	neutral	Counselor at AISD "Public schools are under attack from extremists in the Texas Legislature, who would replace community schools with Private School Vouchers and Corporate Charter Schools. I will fight for full funding of Public Education, including universal pre-kindergarten and post-secondary/technical/career training. I will work to reduce high-stakes testing and to re-establish the respect and credibility of the teaching profession." <a href="https://www.nancybean4tx.org/">https://www.nancybean4tx.org/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NancyBeanforTexasHD93/">https://www.facebook.com/NancyBeanforTexasHD93/</a>
<b>House District 94</b>	Tony Tinderholt incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Pro-voucher. Voting record: For reduced testing. Against 149. For suicide prevention, but placed comment in house journal that he intended to vote against. Against increased funding for PK. Against PK caps. For home rule districts. Website: reiterates that parents should be free to find a school that can challenge students to succeed (vouchers).2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted against HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)
	Finnegan Jones <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Currently runs an anti-bullying pro LGBT nonprofit group, works a lot with the ACLU on civil rights issues. Wife is a former teacher. Supports the Texas Educators Vote GOTV initiative with teachers. Supports requiring civics to graduate. Supports an increase in school funding, wants to research to find the best way to fund that. Would like to see more funding for SpEd programs, increase teacher pay, and programs like anti-bullying efforts. Fought against the bathroom bill. Anti voucher, exact quote was "Oh yes! It's a scam!" Would support a cap on class size. Against standardized testing as an evaluation tool for both teachers and students. Believes the current tests hurt both students and teachers. Against private takeovers of failing schools, believes it should be left to local control. Would support a floor for teacher pay, ending the Windfall Elimination Provision, keeping TRS defined benefit and raising state contribution to teacher insurance.
	Jessica Pallett	L	unfriendly	From FB: "Parents should have the right to educate their children where and how they see fit. When Texans pay for school, they deserve choice."
<b>House District 95</b>	Nicole Collier incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed by Texas Parent Pac, a pro PubEd group. VOTING: For reduced testing, for 149. For increased PK funding. Against home rule. For increased PubEd funding. For TRS. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For classroom caps for ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Stephen A West	R	neutral	From Crowdpcac site: I am working on a plan that will not only fundamentally change the education funding formula, but will give more resources to the teachers in the classroom and be more equirable and efficient. Wants to offer more choices for vocational training.
	Joshua Burns	L	neutral	No info on FB, no webpage.
<b>House District 96</b>	Bill Zedler incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018. Former vice-chairmant of PubEd Committee. Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Voting: For reduced testing. Absent for 149, but placed journal comment against. For suicide prevention training. Against increased PK funding. Against PK caps. For home rule districts. Against restoring funding to PubEd. For vouchers. For TRS funding. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. Against ASD caps. Against delaying expansion of charter schools.2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships) During testimony for HB 21 in the special session, demonstrated that he has no idea how school finance works with his testimony, claiming that the state should not have to fund as much of education because of rising valuations. Does not understand or believe recapture.
	Ryan E. Ray <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Member of Crowley ISD school board. "I support public education wholeheartedly. I am fighting for this seat principally because I believe the legislature has failed to meet its obligation to properly fund Public Education.If elected I will push for more funding for public schools. I also be believe we need a thorough review and overhaul of our funding formula which simply does not accurately account for the additional cost of educating special populations. Access to high quality full day pre-k programs for all children is a must, we know that every dollar invested in will produce significant returns on the investment. Texas puts too much emphasis on the backend and not enough on the front, our legislators priorities are out of whack, we have more people prisoners in Texas than in any other and we are the 6th highest in the nation in our proportion of incarcerated individuals to population with 1.13% of the population behind bars at year end 2013, while we are 38th in per pupil funding and with legislature that invested \$1.4 billion in public education in 2017 than in 2016, less even than 2009.If make more investments in public education we will see reductions in criminal justice spending down the line. Texas spends around \$1 billion a year incarcerating rather than rehabilitating 46,000+ drug users. We could invest half that much is high quality rehabilitation programs and spend the remaining \$500 million to hire 10,000 teachers and reduce class sizes around the state or expanding access to pre-K.Rising property values should mean that schools have more money to invest in these priorities but that's not the case when the State reduces its contribution to match the increases in local funding. My opponent probably needs no introduction but I will just note her serves as the Vice-Chair of the so-called Freedom Caucus and is a darling of Empower Texas. He authored legislation this past session to stop teachers unions from being able to collect dues because he knows that teachers don't support him."
	Stephen Parmer	L	neutral	Nothing on education on website, twitter only has 2 tweets, no website

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 97	Craig Goldman incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK caps. For home rule districts. Against restoring PubEd funding. For vouchers. For TRS funding. Against ASDs following PubEd rules. Against ASD caps. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)
	Beth Llewellyn McLaughlin <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Retired French teacher. On teachers: Attracting and retaining quality teachers - the backbone of successful public schools - requires investment. The legislature has failed to adequately fund TRS health care for over a decade, and the system is in crisis. Benefits to current and retired teachers - on fixed incomes - have been slashed. We must honor our promises and provide teachers an income and benefits that match their commitment and importance to the children of Texas. On high-stakes testing: We need to create lifelong learners... not test-takers. Billions of dollars have been spent on testing. We need to have an honest conversation about the value of continuing on this path. <a href="https://www.beth4tx97.com/">https://www.beth4tx97.com/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/beth4tx97/">https://www.facebook.com/beth4tx97/</a>
	Rod Wingo	L	neutral	No website, FB, or twitter
House District 98	Giovanni Caprigliani Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. Against increased PubEd funding. For vouchers. For shoring up TRS. Against delaying charter school expansion.Website: talks about "ending Robin Hood" so there's a gap in his understanding of school finance. Promoting charters is a priority. Texas Virtual School is a goal. Boasts of championing home school. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); Sponsor of HJR 46, proposed constitutional amendment to direct excess revenue into TRSSponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee) Communicates with local trustees and supts. Attends ISD & PTA events, accessible to the public. Responsive to districts' legislative requests(assisted ISD with online school, filed taxpayer bill in cooperation w/ISD & trustees).Voted for 4 special session House school finance bills(21,22,23,30). ATPE notes: supported additional education funding, relief from high stakes testing, and short-term funding health insurance, absent for payroll deduction vote but would have voted for amendment(ATPE opposed), supported David's Law, overall of 13 ATPE votes, opposed 6, supported 7. "2018 ATPE survey available soon" Website: fight for ed dollars to go to direct teaching expenses, end Robin Hood, tie grant/ state money to direct academic improvement & require accountability audits. Member of House's Public Education Finance workgroup. Local control to school districts: end unfunded mandates, more community involvement, less \$ sent to state for redistribution. Kids in public schools.
	Mica Ringo	D	Neutral	ATPE survey: 4 ed priorities--"real school finance reform that increases state share...no vouchers in any form...reduce high stakes testing...keep financial promise to teachers"-close commercial property tax loophole, roll back franchise tax cuts, reduce testing & shift funds to retirement, keep TRS defined benefit, pare back standardized testing, examine raises(not committ to across-the-board), performance should not determine pay, supports all public employees payroll deductions, hasn't studied DOI. [end ATPE info] Website: Oppose A-F, replace high-stakes w/multiple measures. No previous public office held. No kids. No school involvement listed.
	Todd Moore	I	Neutral	No info found. ATPE "survey results pending"
House District 99	Charlie Geren incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Endorsed by Ft. Worth Star-Telegram. Voting: For reduced testing. For 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK caps. For home rule districts. For restoring PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. Against delaying expansion of charter schools.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)ATPE votes: of 13 votes, supported ATPE including opposing vouchers, supported additional education funding, relief from high stakes testing, short-term funding health insurance, & David's Law. ATPE "survey available soon"
	Michael Stackhouse	D	Neutral	No website found. ATPE "survey responses pending" FB page has no education information.
House District 100	Eric Johnson incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) 2013- authored leg. for a early grad. program; proponent of full day K and more funding for PK. Voted against expansion of charter schools and against vouchers. Supports contributions to TRS; 2015- Voted to reduce testing time for STAAR; against home rule districts and for increased funding for public education.
House District 101	Chris Turner incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent Pac. Voting: for 149. For increased PK funding. For hard cap on PK classes. Against home rule. For increased PubEd funding. For prohibiting vouchers. For TRS. For making ASDs use PubEd rules. For hard caps on ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	James Allen	L	Neutral	No information available
House District 102	Linda Koop incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Endorsed by Texas Parent Pac 2014. Voting: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK hard caps on class size. For home rule. 2014 ATPE survey responses: Need more funding through a different system. Uses Richardson ISD as a financial model. Against vouchers. Keep TRS. Supports comprehensive approach for teacher evaluation. Likes current cap/waiver system. Evades private takeover of struggling schools question a bit, but seems to be against it. Does not believe charter schools should be expanded. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Ana-Maria Ramos	D	Neutral	I am committed to fighting for Texas children and families by strengthening our public schools and empowering our students and teachers.
House District 103	Rafael Anchia Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 2004. Was absent during the vote on a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing. For giving HS students that failed STAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For PK increase funding. For limiting PK classes. Against Home Rule. Against Pub Ed money going for vouchers. For TRS increases. For teacher quality. For teachers residency programs.Was absent during the vote on an amendment to the Achievement School District bill. Was absent during the vote on an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Matt Green	L	Neutral	no information available about this candidate.
	Jerry Fortenberry	R	Neutral	no information available about this candidate.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
House District 104	Roberto R. Alonzo Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 1992; was defeated in his 1996 re-election bid, then re-elected in 2002. For reduce testing. For giving HS students that failed STAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For PK increase funding. For limiting PK classes. Against Home Rule. Against Pub Ed money going for vouchers. For TRS increases. For teacher quality. For teachers residency programs. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Supported an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. Voted for the delay of expanding charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Jessica Gonzelez	D	Neutral	nothing on education on her webpage or social media. Emailed her, waiting for response.
	John W. "Red" McBee	i	Unfriendly	From Youtube: less crowded classrooms, more parent empowerment, higher quality education. Return to local control. Pro-school choice. Pro voucher.
House District 105	Rodney Anderson Incumbent	R	Neutral	Endorsed in 2016 by Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans) and Texas Home School Coalition PAC, both hostile to PubEd. Voted for reduced testing, for 149, For increased PK funding, against PK caps, for home rule. Website says nothing about issues. Actually a decent voting record, but very worried about the two endorsements noted. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee); Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Terry Meza <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	FUNDING: must restore \$5 billion taken from schools in 2011. We also need to account for inflation and increased student enrollment. Would like to see the legislature heed call to action and study how to fix the finance system. Examine impact of a provision that has allocated money to school districts to offset mandated property tax cuts. It should also examine the use of local property taxes to fund education and its effects on educational quality and Texas taxpayers. PRIORITIES: Supports the use of Rainy day funds and other sources to fully restore education cuts and increase teacher salaries. VOUCHERS/CHOICE: Oppose state assistance for private education, commit to opposing it and have a track record of doing so. Successfully kept LULAC at the state level from supporting vouchers. Vouchers do not provide choice for all students. They serve to weaken public schools and sacrifice equity. Opposes full time, privately operated "virtual schools" as well. Special education is one of the best examples for why vouchers should be opposed and charters should be more closely regulated, because they do not meet the same standards and protections that public schools must meet. Public schools work daily to meet the needs of all students. Charter schools do not. CLASS SIZE: supports limits on class size and waivers. TESTING: support and believe in the need for some standardized testing. Scores show that it is working in that more kids are going to college, more are trying, and we are closing the achievement gap. Federal dollars also require testing. next session needs to reconcile state concerns with federal NCLB legislation. Reduction in # of tests is an improvement. Open to hearing suggestions from educators. Since we use a variety of methods to evaluate student performance in the classroom, couldn't we apply that to evaluating teachers and schools? support rewarding exceptional performance, but there are problems with incentive pay based on student performance on tests. Supports accountability but feels we are misusing tests to penalize. Excessive high stakes testing takes away instruction time and narrows curriculum.SALARY: state should maintain a floor for salaries that increases based on experience over the first 20 years. FAILING SCHOOLS: support local control. There are already provisions in place for TEA to come in, correct the problems, and return to local control. Those closest to the process should have a voice in the process. INSURANCE: state has not increased contributions since 2002. Advocate that public school employees be provided the same level of contribution and should be eligible for the same COLA/increase as other state employees. TRS: support defined benefit. Need to give a cost of living increase.
House District 106	Jarred Patterson	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and Endorsed by Texas HomeSchool Coalition which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools.
	Ramona Thompson <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	anti choice and voucher. Wants to restore funding. Says we need to improve academic excellence. "I'll fight for public schools rather than diverting tax revenue to fund private and home schooling." Campaign site includes a list of resources & articles referencing Public Ed & school funding. "When I get to Austin, my number one priority will be to end the shell game that the legislature is playing with our taxes. ALL our school tax money should be going to public education, but it isn't." <a href="http://ramona4tx.com/schools/">http://ramona4tx.com/schools/</a>
House District 107	Victoria Neave <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Website: "Victoria will fight to: •Fully restore budget cuts to our children's public schools; •Improve student to teacher class size ratios; •Recruit and retain the best and brightest people into the teaching profession; •Reduce high-stakes testing and give teachers the freedom to teach; •Invest in full-day Pre-Kindergarten; and •Ensure that textbooks accurately reflect and do not omit critical history lessons." Looks like her platform actually hinges on public education. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Deanna Maria Metzger	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas HomeSchool Coalition which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools.
House District 108	Morgan Meyer Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Voting: for reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against hard cap for PK. For home rule. Website: Education points are listed as •Raise the standards for our public schools, because education is the key to economic opportunity •Provide for local control and support compensation structures for teachers that reward performance, not seniority •Promote policies that encourage real learning instead of "teaching to the test" •Continue reforming Robin Hood, which saves DISD and HPISD taxpayers millions, while maintaining or increasing levels of education funding •Work to revise the 10% rule that prevents deserving students from being able to attend our top state schools •Lead for cutting edge technology in our classrooms that will better prepare our students to compete in a global marketplace 2014 ATPE survey: more funding if done responsibly. Need to cut more waste and improve efficiency. Pro vouchers. Evaded TRS question. Very slick with most answers...hard to classify. Favors a hard cap. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Joanna Cattanaach	D	Neutral	Educator. Anti voucher. Wants to restore state funding. Supports technical training.
House District 109	Casey Littlejohn	R	Neutral	no republican challengers, will be filing as a write in candidate in July. Anti Joe Strauss. Emailed candidate, waiting for a response.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Carl Sherman <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	friendly	former mayor of DeSoto. ATPE Survey answers - PRIORITIES: 1. We need to recruit and retain quality teachers in our classroom (higher pay, better and more secure benefits and build a culture of collaboration not standardized testing) 2. We must make a significant investment in early childhood education with a priority on fully funding full day Pre K programs. 3. Realign budget priorities to fully fund our schools. FUNDING: I will push for full restoration of the billion dollar cuts immediately. Funding these recommendations would simply require the Legislature to realign the state's budget priorities to increase the emphasis on providing high quality public education to every Texan. Finally, I will stand up to protect the Property Tax Relief Fund, which some House members continue to threaten after last session. Alterations to business franchise tax will lead to significantly less funds for crucial programs in our public schools, like STEAM programs, specialty schools and, of course, Full Day Pre-K. HEALTH CARE: This again goes back to a funding issue. The State must increase its contribution to our educator healthcare system. The teacher who recently died because she didn't have the money to pay for flu medications is a stark reminder of our responsibility to fight for our public employees. If the State refuses to pay its fair share, we should consider creative ways to cap the amount that educators are asked to pay. TRS: defined benefit, cost of living raise for retirees. TESTING: Testing should be used as one measure of student progress and of maintaining a baseline of student knowledge – that's it. Tests should NOT be the only measure for school accountability purposes and scores should definitely not be the major tool used to evaluate teachers. TEACHER PAY: Yes – but the key is state funded. Our local school districts are already overburdened with unfunded mandates from Austin. I will push the State to fund across the board pay raise. PERFORMANCE PAY: Teacher pay should be passed on quality and experience. Student GROWTH should only be used as a small portion of a teachers evaluation. It is absurd to think that teachers should be responsible for student performance on one test. No other profession is judge off such a simplistic and dangerous metric. VOUCHERS/TAX CREDITS/ESAs: Absolutely not. I will oppose private school vouchers in any form whatsoever. It is ludicrous that lawmakers in Austin would even consider funding for private school vouchers, when we can't even fully fund our public schools. I will oppose any attempts at privatization and fight for more equitable funding of public schools. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION DUES: I support. Worker's rights are fundamental to what it means to be an American. Besides, hardworking Texans should be able to do whatever they want with their money and Republicans in Austin should not interfere with this right just to push an anti-union political agenda. DOIs: I support DOIs to the extent that local districts can reduce the enormous amount of standardized testing in our schools – this should be the focus of such local control initiatives. I do not support increasing the class size limit – there is no way in the world that a teacher can be as effective in a room of 30 students, as she or he can be in a class of 18 students. We must also require our educators to be highly qualified. The teacher shortage in Texas should not be addressed by lower standards – it should be addressed by increasing pay and employment conditions.
House District 110	Toni Rose Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Nothing about education in article. Committed a faux pas involving selecting her father for an honorary position. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 111	Yvonne Davis incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Voting record: for 149. for increased PK funding. For PK class caps. Against home rule charters. For reinstating PubEd funding. For TRS. For requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. For class caps for ASDs. For delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); absent for HB 21 vote (Huberty Finance Bill)
House District 112	Angie Chen Button incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Endorsed by Dallas Morning News. For reduced testing. For, then against, 149. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. Against PK caps. Absent for home rule districts, but indicated that she was for. For restoring PubEd funding. For vouchers. For TRS funding. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against ASD caps. Absent for delaying charter school expansion. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools) voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 2329 (Eliminate county school districts ability to levy taxes); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Brandy Chambers	D	Neutral	favors free public education from pre-k through college in exchange for military or community service. Anti voucher. Education is her number one priority. The daughter of a public school teacher. She is a product of public schools. She has a daughter in the Garland public school system. Education is the only way one can be successful in this day and age. An educated populus is a strong Texas. Additionally, it is extremely important to pay our teachers fair wages so they do not have to work second jobs just to make ends meet. We must also strengthen teacher retirement and allow them the ability to participate in social security. Lastly, we must teach the child, not the test. High stakes testing has got to go. I will be a strong supporter and voice for public education and teachers.
House District 113	Jonathan Boos	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas HomeSchool Coalition which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools.
	Rhetta Bowers <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Wants to restore federal spending and per pupil spending needs to be higher. Anti voucher and charter. Teachers need a pay increase. We need to give teachers better support and professional development so they can do the best job possible. TRS pension needs to remain and insurance costs should be addressed. Stop teaching to the test and stop using the test to evaluate teachers. Active member of TRS and active substitute in her school district. Endorsed by TSTA and AFT in 2016.
House District 114	Lisa Luby Ryan	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas HomeSchool Coalition which supports using public funds for private and home-schools, giving private and home-schooled students greater access to public education services, and limiting state oversight of private and home schools.e
	John W. Turner <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Was a lawyer for one of the groups involved in the school finance suit. Says he would take several billion from Rainy Day fund to immediately fund public schools, then look at other solutions such as a guarantee of a certain percentage of local tax dollars remaining with local schools rather than being recaptured by the state, or using money spent on border control (which is a federal issue) to fund schools. Would allow local control of spending priorities, which he believes will boost salaries, career and technical education, tutors, extended day, summer school. Believes full day pre-k should be funded at state level. Opposes private school vouchers and believes public money should be spent on public schools. Would have voted for amendment to state budget declaring that state funds could not be used for vouchers/tax credits. Favors smaller class sizes, in particular the 22:1 in grades K-4. Would be willing to look at tightening requirements for district waivers. Believes we should use standardized tests to measure student year-to-year progress, like the NAEP, and not be used to evaluate teachers. Would support local districts experimenting in the best ways to assess teachers, but opposes statewide mandate to incorporate test results into teacher evaluation. Would support a higher, revised state minimum salary schedule. Wants to do further research on the issue. Wants to further research the area of addressing failing schools, but would not support private takeover. Says the state should raise their share of the cost of teacher health insurance. TRS should remain a defined benefit. Public education is a top priority for him and the need to fund public schools is one of the major things driving his run for office.
House District 115	Matt Rinaldi	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). For reduced testing, for 149, against suicide prevention training, against increased funding for PK, against PK caps, for home rule districts. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)Threatened to shoot another legislator. Member of the "Freedom Caucus". Voted against all major House special session finance bills(HB 21,22,23,30).

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Julie Johnson <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	2 kids in public school, website says she supports public education for all  Endorsed by Texas AFT, TSTA/NEA, Dallas Morning News, and Texas Organizing Project.  "Texas clearly does not spend enough per student. The basic allotment per student, expanding our pre-K campuses and offering more wraparound services at schools around the state is an obvious start to direct increased spending. Since 2008, property owners and local tax authorities have had to make up for the \$18B shortfall that has been enacted since the state reduced its subsidization of budget from 50% to 37%. Your education shouldn't be determined by where you're born in our state or how much your parents' property is worth-if they have any property at all. Regarding funding, our state is enjoying a healthy sales tax surplus and its revenues along with the Rainy Day fund should be considered for funding in the short term... We are at a political stalemate that shortchanges our children and Texas property owners. There are a variety of options on the table for this formula, from consolidating local authorities to centralizing and simplifying our property tax jurisdictions."  www.juliejohnsonfortexas.com
<b>House District 116</b>	Trey Martinez Fischer <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Previous incumbent. Voted for HB 743 in 2015 to reduce time on testing. 2015: Voted for SB 149 (IGC committees for graduation). Voted for HB 2186 to train educators in suicide prevention. Voted for HB 4 to increase funding for pre-k. Supported an amendment to HB 4 that would have limited class sizes to 18. Voted against HB 1798 which would allow public school districts to be converted to deregulated home charter districts. 2013: Voted for SB 1 to increase funding for education. Voted for an amendment to SB 1 to prohibit public funds being spent on vouchers. Voted for SB 1458 to shore up TRS and provide a benefit increase. Voted for HB 12 to raise standards for entering education, require districts to provide appraisal results in a timely fashion and consider multiple years appraisals when making personnel decisions, and require the state to do a survey of teacher salaries and working conditions. Voted for Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted to deny expansion of charterstrewqertyukl;']=-0987654321lkjh
	Fernando Jesus Padron	R	Unfriendly	supports school choice. Shares support of Bettencourt on his FB page. Has a statement on there about how teachers shouldn't have to buy supplies out of their own pocket when multi-million dollar stadiums are being built - shows he doesn't understand school financing.
<b>House District 117</b>	Philip Cortez Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC, a pro-PubEd group. Former incumbent. Voting record: for restoring PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding. For ASDs following PubEd rules. Absent for ASD caps. For delaying charter school expansion. ATPE responses: Increase funding. Allow local districts to allocate money to programs. No vouchers. Supports TRS. Hard cap. No privatization. Charter schools need to follow same accountability and rules. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Michael Berlanga	R	neutral	General statement on website about support for teachers and every kid needing academic opportunity. Stopping "tax abuse" is his top priority. From his webpage: " The more than 1,200 Independent School Districts for 254 Counties is outrageous and unaccountable to achieving quality academic results and protecting against wealth discrimination. Protesting property values is a right that is not understood and a sport for those who in all local governments to hide behind the illusion and deception of helping citizens by not raising rates. The inability to protect against property tax burdens overwhelming the elderly has made the American Dream a Texas nightmare for too many homeowners of all ages. When life expectancy is 80 and expected to increase thanks to modern medicine and healthier lifestyles, why is the burden of school taxes continued till death for those who do not have children in the schools for which they pay more than half their tax bill to.. When will we own our homes and not rent our houses from the government?" Attended private schools.
<b>House District 118</b>	Leo Pacheco	D	Neutral	no website or social media available.Former Bexar County Democratic Chmn; Adj. professor at San Antonio College
	John Lujan <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	As the son of a retired public school principal, I am committed to improving the quality of our education system. In order to break the cycle of poverty, we must have an educated workforce to attract high paying jobs to the district.
<b>House District 119</b>	Roland Gutierrez Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2008. For reducing state testing. For giving HS students that failed STAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For PK funding. For limiting PK classes. Against Home Rule. For increasing Pub Ed funding. Against vouchers. Voted for TRS increases. For teacher quality. For teacher residency programs. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Supported an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. For delaying the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) <b>UPDATE: announced he will be running for SD 19 Senate seat vacated by Carlos Uresti.</b>
<b>House District 120</b>	Barbara Gervin-Hawkins Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Ronald Payne	R	Unfriendly	Supports school choice. Supports a Weighted Standard Student Formula modeled after Hawaii System of Educational Funding so that education funding follows the student. Would support that money going to religious schools as well as secular. All schools that receive public funding should provide for a variety of learning styles and embrace alternative teaching methods such as the Montessori System. Should have special programs for advanced academics, occupational training, the educationally challenged and diverse elective classes designed to prepare graduates for advanced placement college credit or occupational certification so that after graduation they can rapidly enter the workforce. All schools that receive public funding should whenever possible have extended hours of operation with before, during and after school academic tutoring and meal programs. They should also have comprehensive Adult General Education and vocational training programs with classes that are online and/or have flexible days and times. Foreign Language and Culture Programs should be established to teach sociology and cultural anthropology and to teach the languages most relevant to our national security and economy and to otherwise facilitate international trade, to include, but not limited to, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, French, German, Italian, Arabic, Hebrew, Afrikaans, Amharic, Hausa, Shona, Swahili, Zulu, Kurdish, Persian, Pashto, Russian, Ukrainian, Turkish, Hindi-Urdu, Korean, Japanese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Burmese, Khmer, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese. Supports federal and state student loan payment assistance in which loans could be deferred, adjusted, or forgiven, based on economic circumstances and government/community service.
<b>House District 121</b>	Celina D. Montoya	D	Neutral	children attend public schools. Says she wants the state to properly fund public schools instead of passing the buck to the homeowner through raised property taxes.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Steve Allison <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	feedback from San Antonio area trustees: "Absolutely the best best best. Former board member from Alamo Heights. I've known him for many years. Spread the word - he's on our side. Strongly anti-voucher." Attorney, Alamo Heights School Board for 12 years & Pres for 3 terms; opposed the controversial "Robin Hood" method of school finance; instrumental in successfully challenging Austin bureaucracy to keep local tax dollars in Austin to fund the alternative ed program for Bexar County at-risk youth; former TASB board member. From vote411 -- What would you do re: School Funding - Ensure that the State provides adequate funding for the provision of an efficient and equitable public education for all children of TX, as required by the Constitution, and to reduce the increasing dependency on local property taxes. The State must prioritize public education spending with existing funds. Finally, the Robin Hood system which redistributes local tax dollars is broken & must be overhauled to address this longstanding problem Endorsed by TX Parent Pac
	Mallory Offers	L	Neutral	candidate does not have a website or any social media
<b>House District 122</b>	Lyle Larson Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 2010. Endorsed in the 2014 general election by Texas Parent PAC. For reduce testing. For giving HS students who failed the STAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. For TRS increase funding. Against Teacher quality bill. For teacher Residency program. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. Against Home Rule. For increase Pub Ed funding. Voted against an amendment to prohibit public education funds from being spent on private school vouchers. Against limiting PK classes to 18. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Claire E. Barnett	D	Neutral	supports stable and equitable funding and evidence based standards. Believes we should reexamine accountability standards so as not to put undue stress on young children. Works as an education consultant.
<b>House District 123</b>	Diego Bernal Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed in the 2015 special election by Texas Parent PAC, a pro-public education organization. For reduced testing. For suicide prevention training. For increased PK funding. For limiting PK class sizes. Against home rule. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Absent for HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)
<b>House District 124</b>	Ina Minjarez incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	During special election campaign, made restoring public school finance an issue of note. Endorsed by San Antonio Express-News. Voting record: for reduced testing, for suicide prevention training, against home rule districts. Website lists education as first legislative priority. Wants to restore funding cuts, reduce testing, increase teacher pay, make college affordable. ATPE responses: increase funding. Prioritize PK and drop-out prevention. Against vouchers. Hard cap. Testing is necessary but over-emphasized. Supports pay raises, but non-answer on salary floor. Against privatization of struggling districts. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Johnny S. Arredondo	R	Neutral	2nd attempt - still found nothing. found no information about this candidate. 1999 conviction for reckless driving.
<b>House District 125</b>	Justin Rodriguez Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	Eric S. Pina	L	Neutral	No FB or website available
<b>House District 126</b>	Natali Hurtado	D	Neutral	Three priorities are fulling funding schools, making sure class sizes are capped at a reasonable level, and limiting the number of standardized tests. Does not support vouchers or any public funds going to private schools. Should not tie standardized test performance to graduation (too many factors that influence how kids do on a test) or teacher evaluations. Would fund an increase in teacher salary by tapping the Rainy Day fund and closing tax loophole for businesses. Says we should expand Medicaid in Texas to help retired teachers and that TRS should remain a defined benefit.
	Sam Harless <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	advocates local control, says he will fight for "more equitable funding" and end unfunded mandates, says he will work for fair pay for teachers and increased contributions to retired teachers. From T4PE member who knows him: I have known Sam and his wife Patricia for many years. They are small business owners in Harris County, live in Klein ISD, and have long been active in the community. Patricia once held the 126 seat. At her retirement, Kevin Roberts ran a successful candidacy but he is vacating the seat to run for Ted Poe's congressional seat. The Harless family is active in education circles in the community. Patricia served on the Cy-Fair CLC and is currently a board member on the Klein ISD Education Foundation. Sam has been endorsed by the Texas Parent PAC, the AFT and other education groups. Sam is the only candidate running in 126 who has taken a strong support for public education. His opponents talk about "parents choice" all the time. I surely hope others will join with me to challenge the ranking. Thanks!!
<b>House District 127</b>	Dan Huberty Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Friendly	Voting record: authored bill to reduce testing. Voted for 149, for suicide prevention training, authored bill to increase PK funding, opposed PK caps, for home rule districts, for restoring PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding, against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules, against ASD caps, against delaying charter school expansion. ATPE responses: Need more funding. focus on recruiting counselors, on 504 program, on hiring and retaining teachers. No to vouchers. Hard cap if funded properly, flexibility until then. Reduce testing. Should not be part of appraisal at all. Okay with floor. Okay with privatization of struggling schools. non-answer on higher contribution to insurance. Maintain TRS.2017 Update: sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill) Killed several anti-PubEd bills in committee as chair.
	Ryan Woods	L	Neutral	No information available.
<b>House District 128</b>	Briscoe Cain Incumbent <b>LEAVE THIS RACE BLANK</b>	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Empower Texans 2018, and endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). 2014 ATPE responses: Do not need increased funding for PubEd. Pro-voucher. Keep TRS for those in it, move to private plan for new teachers. Testing and class average should be part of appraisals. Privatization for struggling schools is an option. Too early to tell if charter schools are working. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); sponsored HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted against HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted against HB 21 (Huberty Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)
<b>House District 129</b>	Dennis Paul Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Alexander Jonathan Karjeker	D	Neutral	Believes funding should be equitable and amount should be increased statewide. We need oversight to ensure children are ready to contribute to the community/economy up on graduation. Fund public schools first, didn't answer directly on vouchers but left the door open to public funding of privates or charters. Funding should be provided with recommended class sizes, based on best practices research. Administrators should have flexibility to structure according to needs of students while being held accountable by parents and educators. Standardized tests should be one of many components used to determine advancement, graduation, teacher pay, and performance evaluations. Teacher pay should be increased, but specifics left to districts and local market conditions. General answer about educator healthcare that appeals to responding to healthcare costs for all Texans. TRS should remain a defined benefit.
	Joseph Majsterski	L	Neutral	No website or FB page. Twitter doesn't have anything related to campaign.
<b>House District 130</b>	Tom Oliverson Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). School voucher proponent. References common core.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Frederick Infortunio <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Increase school funding from state. Mentioned a \$5 billion loophole in business taxes in the state constitution that candidate Mr. White is bringing up. Believes district property taxes should be pooled and distributed between districts. Believes some construction and building spending is frivolous and should be looked at. Suggested a high level income tax on people making over \$1,000,000/businesses over \$10,000,000. Also suggested an inheritance tax (over \$10,000,000.) Anti voucher or public funding for private schools. Supports ATPE positions on class size caps, testing and accountability. Believes we should use standardized testing to measure student progress year-to-year. Against performance pay and teachers being evaluated by test scores. Supports ATPE position on state salary schedule for educators and pay increases. Believes we should revise state accountability standards for schools. TRS should be a defined benefit, and the state should increase funding for retired teacher insurance.
	Roy Eriksen	L	Neutral	MBA and works for a capital management company. According to linkedin, is a former educator and coach.
<b>House District 131</b>	Alma A. Allen incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Educational consultant. Served on SBOE. Endorsed by Houston Chronicle in 2014. ATPE 2014 responses: Need more funding. Districts should allocate. No vouchers. Maintain TRS. Do not link tests to appraisals. Pro hard cap. No privatization of struggling schools. Do not believe charter schools have been as successful as intended. Retired elementary teacher, principal, central admin.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	Syed S. Ali	R	Neutral	doctor of emergency medicine in Houston. 2nd attempt - Could not find any other information.
<b>House District 132</b>	Mike Schofield	R	Unfriendly	Endorsed on 2016 by Texas Homeschool Coalition (pro-voucher group.) Voted for reduced testing. Voted against IGCs. Voted to increase PK funding. Opposed caps on PK classes. Voted for home rule charters. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted against HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Gina Calanni <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Called out Bettencourt as trying to suppress educators voting. Believes we should do a statewide audit to determine sources of additional revenue for education, including the Rainy Day fund. Wants to prioritize Pre-k, STEM, and arts funding. Against vouchers. Favors a cap on class size. Believes standardized testing should only be a tool to assess student progress and not used for teacher accountability. Believes we should grade teacher performance on a bell curve. Wants a floor on teacher salary but stipulates that it must be part of the budget and properly funded. Against shutting down failing schools or privatizing. Believes we should audit the school and create an improvement plan. Wants to keep TRS as defined benefit and to increase contributions to retired teacher insurance.
	Daniel Arevalo	L	Neutral	No information available
<b>House District 133</b>	Jim Murphy	R	Unfriendly	2017 Update: Sponsored SJR 42 which would make for-profit charters tax-exempt. Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Martin Schexnayder <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	says his first act as a rep will be to file a bill requiring the state to use a minimum of \$5 billion from the rainy day fund to fund public education, as well as reform the Robin Hood system. Uses T4PE's unfriendly rating against his opponent on his website. Has children in public schools.ATPE SURVEY: PRIORITIES: 1. Increase funding. Our current level of funding on a per pupil basis is far below the national average and grossly inadequate to meet the needs of our students. 2. Reform school finance. The "Robin Hood" system of funding is antiquated, cumbersome & unfair. We need a fairer and more equitable funding system (that does NOT rely on increased property taxes). 3. Re-examine and reform high stakes testing. Many educators oppose the continuous forced testing of students, and this entire issue must be re-examined and reformed. FUNDING: Yes. Currently we spend far less than the national average on per pupil spending. We need to increase spending by approximately \$5 billion/year on K-12 education. This should be done ONLY by increasing the state's portion of education funding, which is now approximately 40% of total funding. This increased funding should be financed by three sources: (1) increased property taxes from businesses and industry (who currently pay less than their fair share); (2) restoration of the business margin tax; and (3) use of money in the state's "rainy day" fund. HEALTHCARE: Expand Medicaid (which would be almost entirely funded by the federal government per the Affordable Care Act), and allow current and retired educators to elect to participate in same. TRS: I believe TRS should be maintained as a traditional defined benefit pension plan. TESTING: I believe standardized testing should only be used to measure student progress, and should be limited in scope. PAY RAISE: Yes. PERFORMANCE PAY: I do not think teacher pay should be linked to student performance, due the complex variables that go into how students perform, such as SES, overall district resources/funding, etc. VOUCHERS: NO! I think vouchers are legalized theft of tax dollars, and have not been proven to be effective. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: I support permitting payroll deductions.
<b>House District 134</b>	Sarah Davis incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	R	Neutral	Endorsed by Houston Chronicle. Voting record: for reduced testing, for suicide prevention training, for increased PK funding, against PK cap, for home rule districts, for restoring PubEd funding, against vouchers, for TRS funding, Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules, against ASD caps, against delaying charter school expansion. Website lists past pro-PubEd legislation. Mostly fluff, no details. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee)
	Allison Sawyer	D	Neutral	CEO of an oil and gas startup, no experience in politics. Rice grad. Identifies issues of funding for CPS/fostercare and public schools as what got her into running. Did an interview on Soudchoice.
<b>House District 135</b>	Gary Elkins incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. For increasing PubEd funding. For vouchers. For TRS. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance) Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Paul Bilyeu	L	Unfriendly	From website: We need to remove government from our education system. First, I propose we abolish Article 7 of the Texas Constitution which calls for the State of Texas to provide free public education. Government should NOT be in the business of education period. Make no mistake, education is big business. Complete with over zealous political lobbies working to enhance their wallets in some way. They really have no interest in our children. Government education is not effective, efficient nor do they believe individual rights and freedoms are a guiding principle. Instead of government providing education, allow local communities and parents to determine, and fund, the education system for their own children. Eliminate the Texas Education Agency and reject federal education mandates and funding over the course of 5 years. Place schools back in the control of parents and their local communities. Schools are then funded using free market principles. Parents, no longer paying property and other taxes, are now free to shop around for schools that are right for their child. No more standardized tests. No more "state" created or financed curriculum. Parents take back control of their child's education. Local schools and communities will then have no other option but to compete for "Customers" (parents and children) and their money. They will have to shift to free market thought by providing strong curriculum's, great facilities and strong teachers. The administration at these institutions of learning now have the flexibility to truly reward teachers and educators for outstanding performance. Great teachers will be better compensated for their hard and successful work while marginal and under performing teachers will either work hard to improve or find another career.
	Jon E. Rosenthal <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Funding - need to increase funding. Can do so by closing big business tax loopholes and working to reduce waste/inefficiency/corruption (particularly with testing and evaluation systems and textbook buying decisions) so that more of the budget goes to educate our kids and provide better benefits for teachers and school employees. I am painfully aware that teachers are terribly under compensated and our schools have limited budgets. We need to make this a top priority for our children and future. Priorities - teacher pay increases, improving benefits in order to attract and retain great teachers. Reducing class sizes, especially in disadvantaged districts. Programs that encourage a well-rounded student experience, including robust extracurricular programs and career training. Also need to increase school open hours and provide meals for needy students. I would dramatically reduce the priority of poorly designed standardized testing and also buying unnecessary expensive texts every year that erase history. Vouchers - no public funding should go to private schools, ever. Class size - opposed to increased class size as it directly impacts student progress, engagement and achievement. Not only do we need hard caps on class size, but we need to be pushing in many cases to reduce class size. Testing - this is an area where I have serious concerns. It's apparent these tests are poorly designed and conceived and emphasis on them is disproportionate. I now firmly understand these testing programs are a very large part of the basis for evaluating teachers, students and schools, and that implementation is very expensive. I also believe there is "funny business" going on involving the contracts. We already have a full slate of federally mandated testing, and any state-added testing needs to add value. We should revise the current testing systems and let educators work on those redesigns. Evaluations - teachers are probably the single biggest factor in the success or failure of an education system. Evaluations should be one of our tools to develop better teachers and teaching methods. They should not be primarily to punish or admonish teachers. Student scores should be considered, but in context, and as a smaller part of the evaluation. Evaluations should be heavily based on feedback from students, and the feedback should be structured in two parts: to measure student preferences, and rate teachers on aspects of classroom teaching. Salaries - there should be a floor, and it should be significantly higher than what we see now. Failing schools - not comfortable with private entities taking over. After discussion with T4PE members, I would advocate: better funding for teacher pay in poorer schools, stipends for teachers with exemplary results, smaller class sizes, longer opening hours with programs for tutoring/mentoring, and meals for needy students. School boards should be accountable, but we can support them by providing training on effective solutions and focusing the TEA on being more supportive and less of a "police force." Health care - state should pay a portion at least equal to what we see from private employers. With a community as large as the educator population in the state we should be able to get some advantageous insurance plans for educators. If we want quality education we need quality educators, and we won't attract them if we treat them so poorly. TRS - keep the defined benefit. It's just not appropriate to address teachers benefits for profit. Going to 401k creates more risk, and I'm against increasing the risk for our teachers' retirement.
<b>House District 136</b>	Tony Dale incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Voting record: For reduced testing. Against 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class caps. For home rule charters. For increased PubEd funding. For vouchers. For TRS. Against requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules. Against class caps for ASDs. Against delaying charter school expansion. Website: Throwing more money at education isn't the answer. Reduce testing. Education is top-heavy. (Not true as a state when you look at the research.) Solve education without raising taxes. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1355 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers); Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Sponsored HB 510 (version of payroll deduction that never made it out of committee)
	John Bucy <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Created an organization to give public charter school students access to extracurriculars. Wife is a special education teacher and former teacher of the year. We need to increase state's share of funding to 50% minimum. In order to achieve this we need to close the property tax loopholes for corporate and commercial properties. Instead of passing the buck to local homeowners it is imperative that everyone pay their fair share so that we can adequately fund our schools. Priorities would be increasing teacher pay and healthcare so we can attract and retain quality teachers, and fully funding TRS so that it is financially solvent and secure for the future. Finally, we need to ensure that our classrooms are fully supplied and have modern equipment and technology to best prepare our students. Does not support vouchers. We should never use public funds to support private schools. Class sizes should be capped, especially for lower age groups. Testing should be used to measure student progress. Tests can be used early in the year as a diagnostic tool to see where our students are and what subjects may need extra attention. We must end the current punitive testing culture. Test scores should not factor in to a teacher's evaluation, unless they specifically measure student growth. They do not adequately portray what is happening in the classroom. School administrators should evaluate the effectiveness of teachers. There should be a state mandated floor for teacher salaries. Legislature and TEA should direct more resources to failing schools to help them succeed. This can include more funding for teacher training, counselors and career advisors, working with the community to find mentors, addressing drop out and retention rates, or other such programs. It could be worth exploring a resource aid department to specifically study and address these issues proactively. Close the property tax loophole for corporations in order to raise the state contribution rate for teacher insurance to the point where the actual soundness of the system never falters. TRS should remain a defined benefit for all future, current and retired teachers, and the state contribution must be increased to the point where the actuarial soundness of the system never falters.
	Zachary Parks	L	Neutral	Per videos and statements on Facebook: Supports free education for all (K - postsecondary) by removing all government involvement and relying on open courseware online. Refers to current system as the "education industrial complex".
<b>House District 137</b>	Gene Wu incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC, a pro PubEd group. Voting: For reduced testing, For 149, For suicide prevention training, For increased PK funding, For PK caps, against home rule districts, for restoring funding to PubEd, against vouchers, for TRS funding, for requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules, against delaying charter school expansion.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	Lee Sharp	L	Neutral	no information found
<b>House District 138</b>	Dwayne Bohac Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	Update: Bohac is all for school choice and went toe to toe with Charlie Johnson from Pastors for Texas Children during a House Pub Ed Committee meeting. He was absent from many House Pub Ed Committee meetings and was not in his office at the Capitol often. He moved into this district because he knew he could be elected due to low voter turnout. He does not support his district (Spring Branch ISD). He loves Dan Patrick and Bettencourt. They are all good buddies and live close to each other. His own kids go to private schools. Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)
	Adam Milasincic <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	Touts the fact that he attended and graduated from public schools on his website. Issues page headline says he wants to fund public schools. "Guarantee world-class education from pre-K through college by increasing state funds for public schools and keeping class sizes small. Empower teachers to focus on lessons instead of constant standardized tests. And end the school-to-prison pipeline that treats kids as criminals when they really need help and counseling." Answered ATPE survey:State share of school funding should be at least 50%; funding if needed for full day Pre-k: scale back overuse of standardized tests; supports TRS defined benefit plan; more funding for healthcare; increased pay for teachers; against vouchers and tying teacher performance to student test scores.
<b>House District 139</b>	Jarvis D. Johnson Incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	ATPE responses: Need increased funding. Focus on teachers and vocational education. No vouchers. Maintain hard caps. No use of testing in teacher evaluations. Evaluate teachers on behavior, engagement, accessibility to parents, not testing. Maintain pay scale floor. No privatization of struggling schools. Increase contribution for teacher insurance. Teachers should decide whether TRS or 401(k). Website does not address issues.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
	Shohn Trojacek	L	Neutral	Reform school spending, standardized testing, and funding. Standardized testing has gone too far. Required teaching methods limit the teachers too much. Smaller class sizes and tailored learning experiences.
House District 140	Armando L. Walle Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2008. For reduce testing. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. For limited PK classes. Against home rule. For increase Pub Ed. funding. Against vouchers. For TRS funding increase. For teacher quality. For Teacher Residency program. For the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Supports smaller class sizes in low performing schools. Voted to delay expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 141	Senfronia Thompson Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Fist elected to the Texas House in 1972. For reducing tests. For giving HS students who failed STAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. For limiting PK class sizes. Against Home Rule. For increase in Pub Ed funding. Against Pub Ed money going for vouchers. For TRS increases. For teacher quality bill. For Teacher residency programs. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. (Voted for the motion to table the amendment.) Was absent during the vote on an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. Voted to delay expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 142	Harold V. Dutton Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Neutral	First elected to the Texas House in 1984. On the House Public Education Committee and House Public Education-S/C on Educator Quality committee. For reduce testing. For giving HS students that failed STAAR options to graduate. For increased PK funding. For limiting PK classes. Voted for Home Rule. For increase Pub Ed funding. For prohibiting Pub Ed money for vouchers. For TRS increases. For teacher quality bill. For teacher residency programs. Opposed an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. Voted to delay expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.)
House District 143	Ana Hernandez BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	State Representative Ana Hernandez was elected in a special election in December 2005. Was absent (excused) during the vote on a bill to reduce the time spent on state-mandated testing in grades three through eight. For giving HS students that failed STAAR other options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. For limited class sizes for PK. Against Home Rule. For increased Pub Ed funding. Against Pub Ed money for vouchers. For TRS increases. For teacher quality bill. For teacher residency programs. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Opposed an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio within the proposed Achievement School District for certain low-performing schools. Voted to delay expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
House District 144	Mary Ann Perez Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Formerly held this office. Endorsed by Texas Parent PAC, a pro PubEd organization. Voting: voted to restore funding cuts, against vouchers, for TRS funding, for ASDs following PubEd rules, for ASD caps, for delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Ruben Villareal	R	Unfriendly	Website statement on education: As the Director of Pueblo's Royal Christian School, I know firsthand the benefits of offering school choice to families whose needs are not being met by their local public school. I believe you should have the right to choose the school you believe best meets the needs of your child. Also, I believe that we must support our school districts to ensure that they have the necessary resources to best educate the families they are serving.
House District 145	Carol Alvarado Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	First elected to the Texas House in 2008. She is on the House Higher Education Committee. For reduce testing. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAR tests a pathway to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For increase PK funding. For limited PK class sizes. Against home rule. For increase funding for Pub Ed. Against Pub Ed money being spent on vouchers. For increasing TRS funding. Voted for teacher quality bill. For Teacher Residency Program. For the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. For smaller class sizes in low performing schools. Voted to delay expansion of charter schools. 2013-had a \$5,000. contribution from John Arnold. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR) Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	Clayton Hunt	L	Unfriendly	Supports and endorses Kory Watkins for Governor (see his info in state races). Statement provided via Facebook messenger from the candidate regarding his education philosophy "I believe that to best educate our children, we should promote competition amongst schools to innovate new and better techniques, and I believe the best engine for innovation is a free marketplace. I believe it'll disincentive the one size fits all model that I witnessed during my time in public education, and empower those who are on the ground like teachers, parents, and students to find the best path forward."
House District 146	Shawn Thierry Incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	A quote from her facebook page " As the daughter of a former teacher, I am ready to fight for help fund teacher retirement pensions! I have co-authored legislation to tackle this issue now that that it has also has been added to the Special Session Call." 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Sponsored HB 21 (Huberty School Finance Bill); authored a bill in the special session to reimburse teachers for using their own money for classroom materials; appointed in Nov. to fill the position of long term rep. El Franco Lee who passed away. Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance)
	JJ Campbell	L	Neutral	no information available
House District 147	Garnet F. Coleman incumbent BLOCK VOTE	D	Friendly	Voting record: For reduced testing. For 149. For increased PK funding. Against PK class size caps. Against home rule. For increased PubEd funding. Against vouchers. For TRS. For ASDs to go by PubEd rules. For ASD class size caps. For delaying expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Wenzhou Thomas Wang	R	Neutral	FUNDING: should be restored to at least 50%. Public education is a state responsibility. PRIORITIES: funding public education, funding vocational/technical training programs. VOUCHERS/CHOICE: does not support vouchers/public money going to private school or charters. STANDARDIZED TESTING: would keep in place, but revise the testing system so data is driving instruction and the data is useful for educators. ACCOUNTABILITY: do not use for student graduation, use as part of merit based accountability system for teachers, allow them to earn performance bonuses. SALARIES: raise salaries, pay for by closing corporate tax loopholes, also by looking at ways to cut costs at administrative level in school districts, maybe even revamping school districts altogether, combining some, etc. We have too many small districts in the state, too top heavy. HEALTH CARE: would support teachers being considered state employees and being part of ERS. TRS: originally said he'd like to see a 401k, after talking he said he would support what the teachers support and not oppose a defined benefit. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: supports current payroll deductions. We spoke about what professional organizations can do for teachers in the state and why they aren't considered unions. Plans to join T4PE to converse with educators about some of the things he doesn't understand.

DISTRICT	NAME	PARTY	RATING	NOTES
<b>House District 148</b>	Jessica Cristina Farrar incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Friendly	Endorsed by Houston Chronicle. Voting: for reduced testing, absent for 149, for suicide prevention training, for increased PK funding, for PK caps, against home rule districts, for restoring PubEd funding, against vouchers, for TRS funding, for ASDs following PubEd rules, absent for ASD caps, for delaying expansion of charter schools.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Ryan T McConnico	R	Neutral	No information - 2nd check. Checked Facebook, twitter, looked for a website, checked TTV.
<b>House District 149</b>	Hubert Vo incumbent <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>		Friendly	Recipient of ATPE Freedom to Teach award in 2006. Filed legislation to extend 22:1 to 5th grade. Endorsed in 2014 by Texas Parent PAC, a pro PubEd group. Voting: absent for reduced testing, for 149, for suicide prevention training, absent PK funding, for PK caps, absent home rule districts, for restoring PubEd funding, against vouchers, for TRS funding, for requiring ASDs to follow PubEd rules, for ASD caps, absent on charter school expansion. Friendly, but needs to be present more.2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	Aaron Close	L	Neutral	I want to limit state and national heavy administrative burden on schools, and focus more on student/teacher ratio which has been shown to consistently improve student outcomes. (on a personal note I wish student groups would just ask for a \$10 donation for their club instead of asking me to buy \$10 worth of candy bars, popcorn or whatever else.. of which only a dollar or so goes to the organization at the end if the day.) Property tax is a big issue, and it's related to school districts, they put bond issues in special elections that have low turnout. The push to have common election dates is a good start to this. School board members getting elected on the same ballot would be good too.
<b>House District 150</b>	Valoree Swanson Incumbent	R	Unfriendly	2018 Endorsed by Empower Texans, and endorsed by Texas Home School Coalition, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans). Website: pro-voucher. Teach traditional values. More classroom emphasis, less paperwork for teachers. Ban common core. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools); voted against HB 1776 (eliminate US history and promotion requirements for STAAR); Voted against HB 21 (Huberty's school finance bill); Voted for HB 515 (eliminate US History and promotion requirements for STAAR); Sponsored HJR 34 (Tax credits for for-profit charters and privates); Sponsored HJR 34 (tax-exemptions for for-profit charter schools that never came to a vote.)Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-arounds public education committee)Sponsored HB 253 (tax credit scholarships)Voted against HB 21 (Huberty School finance)
	Michael Shawn Kelly <b>BLOCK VOTE</b>	D	Neutral	From Website: Our public school system is the foundation for everything we hope for in our country. Great neighborhoods and property values depend on the quality of our schools. Flourishing businesses require schools that produce an employable workforce. And an educated public results in less crime and thriving communities. We hear all the time that government should be run like a business. As a business owner for over 35 years, I would like to offer this observation. If any business is going to be successful, the people actually doing the work must be given the tools, time, and conditions to achieve their goals. The teachers are the ones doing the actual work and we must make sure they have the materials, reasonable time, and the right environment to achieve the goals we give them. Some say this is conservative. Some say liberal. My mom would have called it "Common Sense"