



State Board of Education



Donna Bahorich
Chair
Houston, District 6

Marty Rowley
Vice Chair
Amarillo, District 15

Ruben Cortez, Jr.
Secretary
Brownsville, District 2

September 14, 2018

Commissioner George P. Bush
Member Scott Rohrman
Member Gilbert Burciago
School Land Board
1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Commissioner Bush, Member Rohrman and Member Burciago:

The State Board of Education (SBOE) respectfully requests that members of the State Land Board (SLB) reconsider their August 21, 2018 decision not to distribute funds to the Permanent School Fund (PSF)/SBOE.

The SLB's decision to distribute funding (\$600 million) to the Available School Fund (ASF) and to allocate \$0 to the PSF/SBOE reflects a \$190 million or 24% reduction in total distributions by the SLB from the current biennium. See the attached chart. It is also significant that this will be the first time in 160 + years that the PSF/SBOE fails to receive new funds from Texas lands. We also note that revenues collected by the SLB are at historic high levels given the oil boom in Texas.

We respectfully request the restoration of funding and the transfer of \$500 million to the PSF/SBOE.

When the SBOE appropriately sets a higher distribution rate, there is an increase in funding for instructional materials and technology for each school district in the state. *Please note that your ASF contribution, while benefitting the per capita distribution, does not directly benefit needed instructional materials and technology funding.* This is a particularly important consideration given that the upcoming English and Spanish language arts and reading instructional materials adoptions are the largest call for instructional materials the board approves.

In order to prepare the analysis for a board funding decision on Nov. 13, we require a response by Nov. 1. Failure to allocate the funds will have a direct negative impact on Texas schoolchildren.

Lawrence A. Allen, Jr.
Houston, District 4

Erika Beltran
Fort Worth, District 13

David Bradley
Beaumont, District 7

Barbara Cargill
Conroe, District 8

Keven Ellis
Lufkin, District 9

Patricia Hardy
Fort Worth, District 11

Tom Maynard
Florence, District 10

Sue Melton-Malone
Robinson, District 14

Ken Mercer
San Antonio, District 5

Geraldine "Tincy" Miller
Dallas, District 12

Georgina C. Pérez
El Paso, District 1

Marisa B. Perez-Diaz
Converse, District 3

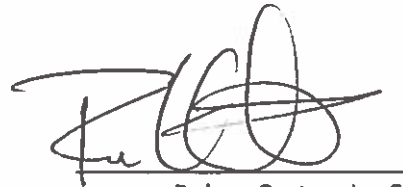
Respectfully,



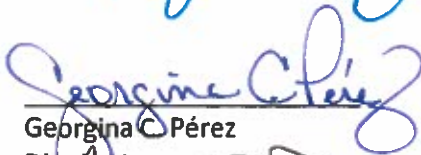
Donna Bahorich
Chair, State Board of Education



Marty Rowley, Vice Chair
District 15



Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary
District 2



Georgina Pérez
District 1



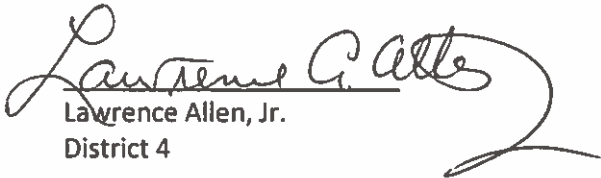
Keven Ellis
District 9



Marisa B. Perez-Diaz
District 3



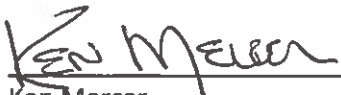
Tom Maynard
District 10



Lawrence Allen, Jr.
District 4



Pat Hardy
District 11



Ken Mercer
District 5



Geraldine Miller
District 12




David Bradley
District 7



Erika Beltran
District 13

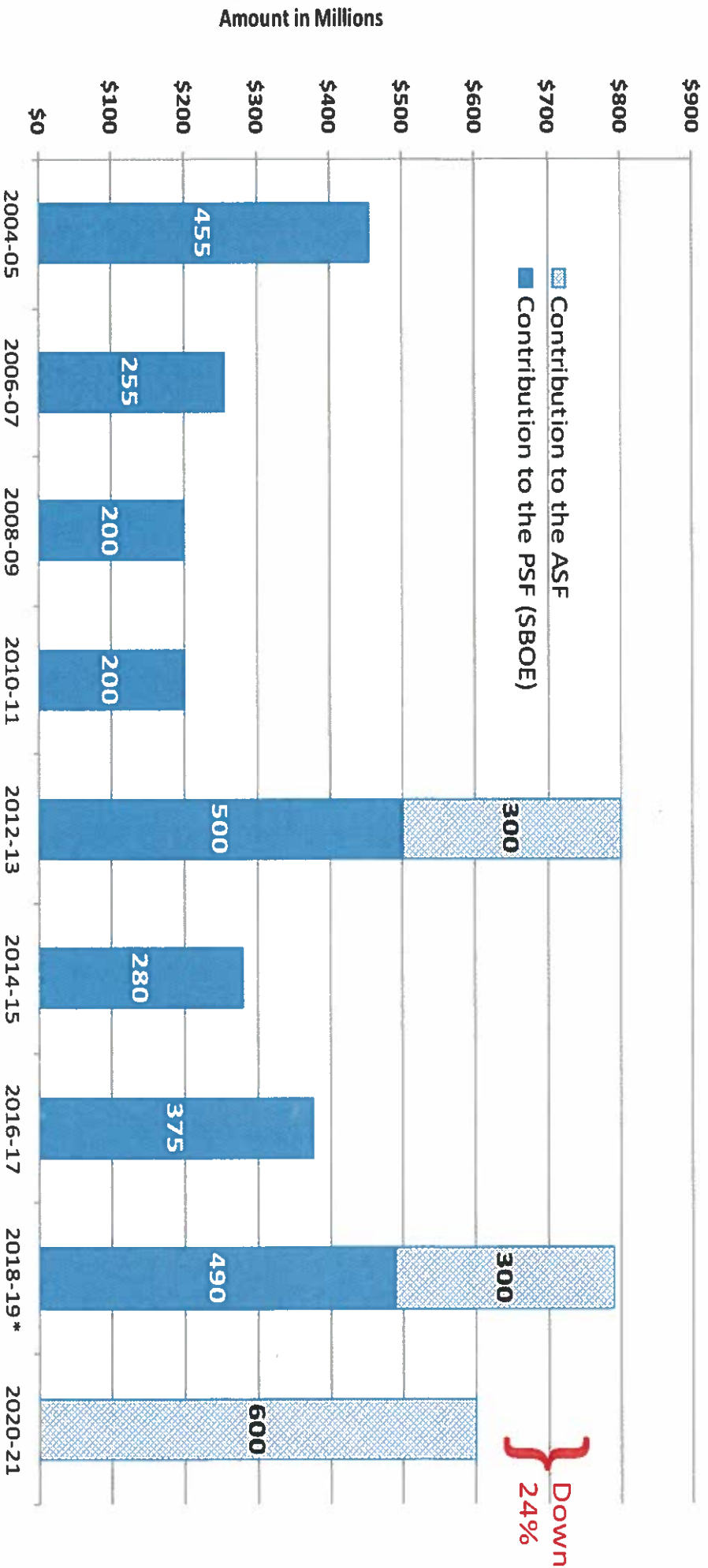


Barbara Cargill
District 8



Sue Melton-Malone
District 14

SLB Contributions to the SBOE and the ASF



*Projected payments for Fiscal Years 2019, 2020, and 2021 per School Land Board resolutions.
 *Since FY 2009 the School Land Board may retain all revenues from managed real estate assets for reinvestment; and, since FY 2012 the School Land Board may make direct contributions to the Available School Fund of up to \$300 million annually.