

TUESDAYS WITH TCTA

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE VOTING



A BRIEF RECENT HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE LEGISLATURE

- 2011 – THE LEGISLATURE CUTS APPROXIMATELY \$5B FROM PUBLIC EDUCATION
- 2018 – SEVERAL INCUMBENTS EKE OUT A WIN AGAINST OPPONENTS WHO RUN ON THE ISSUE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION. TEACHERS PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE ELECTIONS AND EVEN LT. GOV. PATRICK RECOGNIZED THIS POWER, PROPOSING AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD PAY RAISE IN THE FOLLOWING SESSION.
- 2019 – HB 3 PASSES WHICH ADDS AROUND \$4B TO PUBLIC EDUCATION
 - NOTE THAT THIS “TRANSFORMATIVE” SCHOOL FINANCE BILL IS JUST SHORT OF RETURNING THE SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM BACK TO PRE-2011 AMOUNTS.
 - INTRODUCED THE TEACHER INCENTIVE ALLOTMENT
 - INCLUDED PROVISION THAT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF THE INCREASE DISTRICTS GOT HAD TO GO TOWARDS TEACHER COMPENSATION
- 2020 – INCUMBENTS RUN CAMPAIGNS ON THEIR VOTES FOR HB 3 AS A SIGNAL OF COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC EDUCATION.

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- BECAUSE OF HB 3, LEGISLATORS FELT LIKE THEY HAD DONE ENOUGH FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THERE WAS NO NEED TO FOCUS ON IT
- SALARY AMENDMENT – TCTA WORKED TO PASS AN AMENDMENT THAT WOULD GUARANTEE THAT SALARY INCREASES REQUIRED BY HB 3 WOULD BE MAINTAINED. EVEN GETTING THIS AMENDMENT PASSED WAS DIFFICULT, THOUGH WE WERE ULTIMATELY SUCCESSFUL.
- HB 3 CLEAN UP BILL – INSTEAD OF PASSING ANOTHER SALARY INCREASE, THE LEGISLATURE INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DEDICATED TO THE TIA AND CALLED THAT A PAY RAISE. APPROXIMATELY 3% OF TEACHERS HAVE EARNED DESIGNATIONS UNDER THE TIA.

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONT.

- FEDERAL FUNDS – BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN FEDERAL FUNDS WERE DIRECTED TO DISTRICTS. ORIGINALLY THE LEGISLATURE WORKED TO HAVE THAT MONEY SENT TO THE STATE BUT EDUCATION ADVOCATES WORKED TO HAVE THAT MONEY SENT DIRECTLY TO DISTRICTS INSTEAD OF TO STATE COFFERS. EDUCATION ADVOCATES WERE CONCERNED THAT THE MONEY WOULD GO DIRECTLY TO THE COMMISSIONER'S FAVORED PROGRAMS INSTEAD OF MAKING ITS WAY TO THE CLASSROOM.

**EVERY SESSION SHOULD BE A PUBLIC
EDUCATION SESSION!**

EDUCATION ISSUES NOW

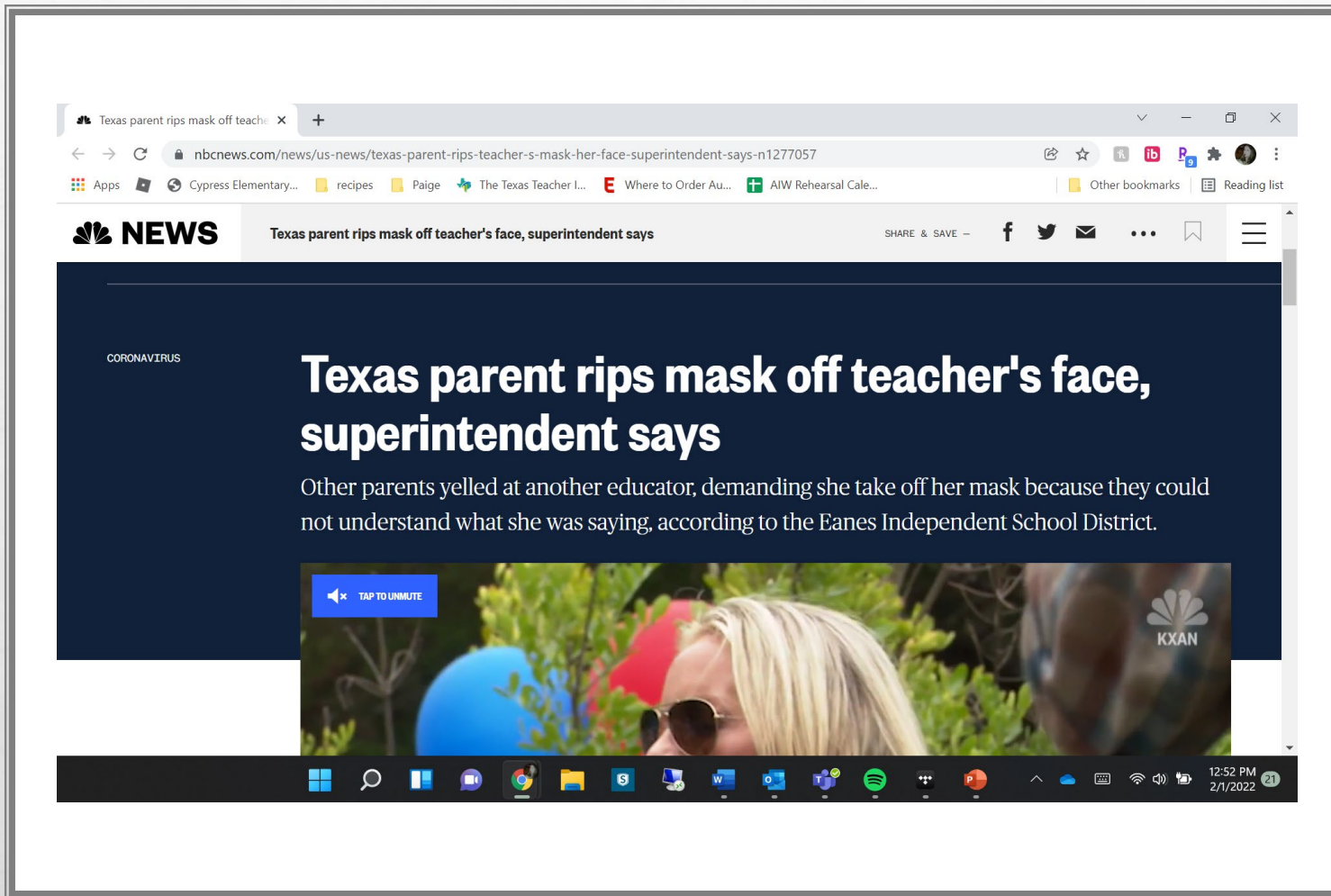
Killeen ISD teachers: "We're drowning" ... "The house is on fire"

By Lauren Dodd | Herald staff writer Jan 23, 2022 24



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- **TEACHER AND STAFF SHORTAGES**
- **PHYSICAL ATTACKS ON TEACHERS**

VOUCHERS

"SCHOOL CHOICE"

Abbott Flirts With Endorsing School Vouchers

Primary challengers pressure the governor from the right

BY KIMBERLY REEVES, FRI., JAN. 28, 2022

[Tweet](#) [print](#) [write a letter](#)



TODAY'S EVENTS

Suerte x Two Hands: Taco Takeover
Suerte

UT VISUAL ARTS CENTER: CYCLES & LOOPS at Visual Arts Center

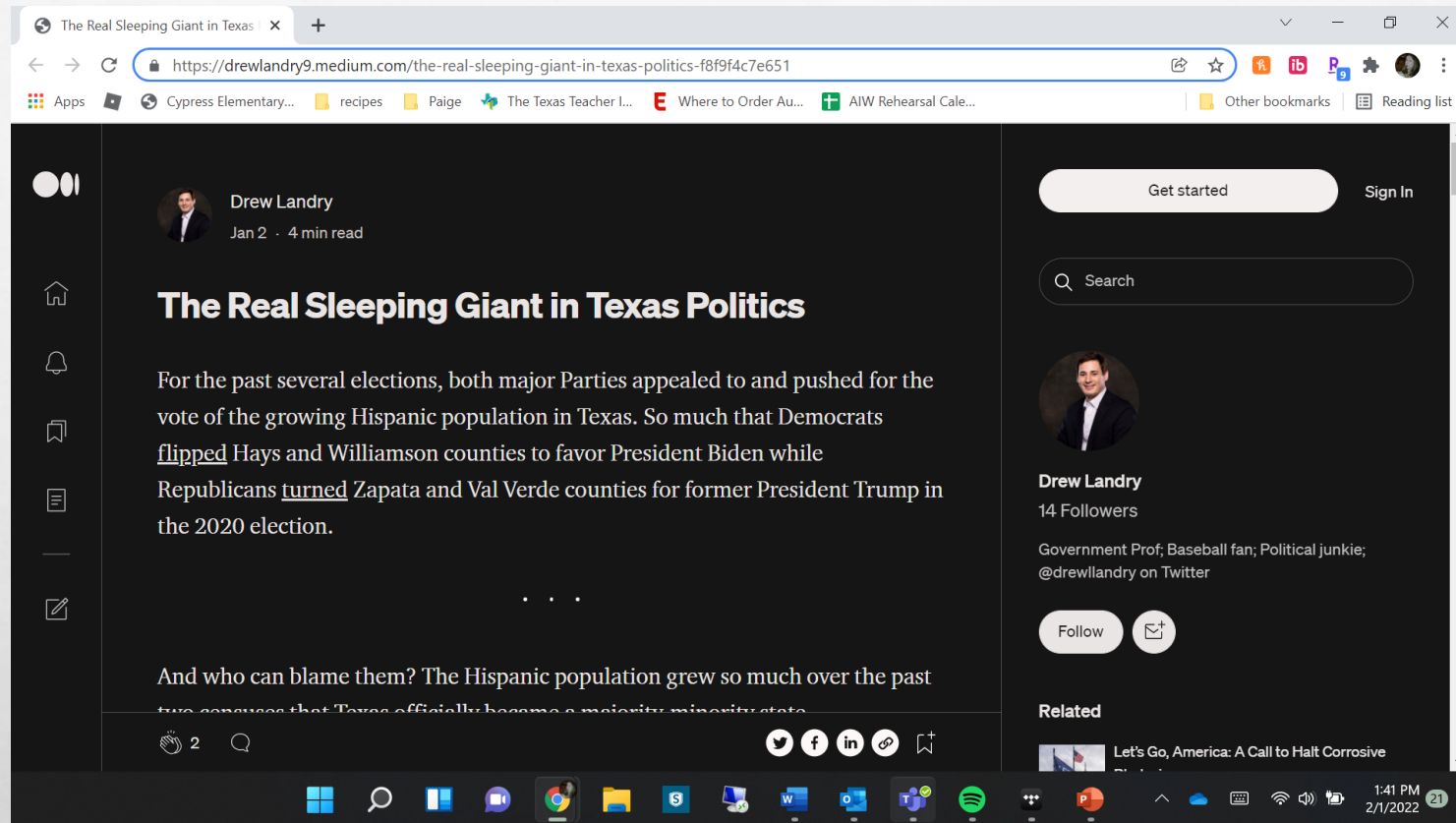
RUSSIAN HOUSE: DUMPLINGS DAY at Russian House

MUSIC | MOVIES | ARTS | COMMUNITY

Battery status: 95% available (plugged in)

4:55 PM 2/1/2022

WHAT CAN TEACHERS DO?



**EVERY ELECTION SHOULD BE A
PUBLIC EDUCATION ELECTION!
GO VOTE!**



VOTE

<https://texasteachersvote.org/>

In 2020

- 52% of voting age population (VAP) voted in general election. 19% of VAP voted in primary election.

In 2018

- 42% of VAP voted in general election. Less than 10% of VAP voted in primary election.



- March 1, 2022: Primary Election
- Feb. 14-25, 2022: **Early voting for primary election**
- November 4: General election.
- Find early and regular voting places through your county voter registrar or local newspaper.

TexasTeachersVote.

[Home](#)[Find your Candidates](#)[What You Can Do](#)[Planning a Candidate Forum](#)

The Texas Classroom Teachers Association created TexasTeachersVote.org in 2006 to help educators become more informed and more active in the political process at the state level at a time when education policy decisions in the Texas Legislature were at a turning point.

Since then, state-level elections have demonstrated the power that educators can wield when united, and the problems that can arise when too many lawmakers are not teacher-friendly.

This site will be updated when campaign season for the 2022 elections is underway. In the meantime, check out our information on [what you can do](#) to get involved, and consider [planning a candidate forum](#) in your area prior to the elections.

2022 PRIMARY ELE

Early voting for March primaries: Feb. 14-2

March primaries: March 2022

Last day to register in March primaries: March 2022

NOTE: These dates are to change dependent on the Legislature passing redistricting legislation. New district boundaries site will be updated to any revised dates.

[Click here](#) to find out if you are registered.

BECOME INFORMED

<https://texasteachersvote.org/>

- Party affiliation and district
- Contact Information
- Links to campaign websites and social media
- ACT for TCTA contribution
- Public education groups' support
- Pro-Public education voting record



GET INVOLVED

- Offer to help campaigns (as an individual, not as a TCTA representative).
 - Block walking
 - Phone Banking
 - Other “Hands on” work — make signs, stuff envelopes, enter data
- Attend/Participate in Candidate forums.
 - Feb. 3rd-24th, 42 forums for state representative races focused on public ed issues held across state by *Raise Your Hand Texas*.
<https://advocacy.raiseyourhandtexas.org/forums?page=1>

Sample Questions for Candidates

The last two years have left teachers frustrated, exhausted, and burned out. As a result, we expect a lot of resignations and retirements of experienced teachers at the end of the school year. What would you do to retain good teachers and advocate on their behalf?

What role do you think standardized testing should play in our accountability system, if any? Do you think teacher pay should be tied to student test scores?

Gov. Abbott has stated that the push for school vouchers will be stronger than ever during the 2023 legislative session. Do you support diverting public dollars to private schools? If so, do you think there should be academic accountability for the private schools that serve students with public dollars?

SPREAD THE WORD

- Tell friends/family, church acquaintances, neighbors... about teacher friendly candidates. Urge them to vote.
- Send emails about candidates' pro-public ed positions (**use personal email account**). Direct others to candidates' campaign websites.



- Use social media. Link to pro-public ed candidates' social media accounts. Comment positively on their social media and share their posts.
- Get local teachers excited & involved.
- Carpool to voting location.

MULTIPLY YOUR IMPACT

- TCTA does not endorse candidates.
- Campaign contributions through **ACT For TCTA** provides support for pro-public ed candidates.
- ACT is non-partisan.
- A small contribution can go a long way.



You can support ACT for TCTA by:

Donate when you join or renew membership, or

Mail check payable to:
ACT For TCTA
PO Box 1489
Austin, TX 78767



QUESTIONS

Contact us:

Phone: 888-879-8282

Email: legislation@tcta.org