

**Candidate Stephanie Klick for Texas House of Representatives District 91
Responses to Keller ISD Council of PTAs 2018 Candidate Questionnaire**

1. Recent events have put a focus on school safety and security. If elected, what criteria would you use to prioritize safety recommendations? What will be the funding source for these measures?

State and local communities and School Districts need to partner to develop evidence based strategies. Each campus has unique needs. A security analysis of each campus should be conducted. Local law enforcement should be involved in assisting with developing strategies, protocols and recommendations at the campus level. Some campuses will need physical and technology renovations. Others will need additional personnel including School Resource Officers and mental health professionals. These items should be included as new allotments in the funding formulas.

2. The A-F Campus and school district ratings systems are complex as well as controversial. How do you respond to the critics of this system? Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle Schools rating are based solely on the STAAR exam. What changes would you make to the rating system and the STAAR exam? What other indicators do you think are relevant to evaluate a campus or a school district?

Every rating system has its weaknesses. During the last few Legislative Sessions I have voted to reduce the number of tests students take, and would support a further reduction. After graduation, students are required to take tests to demonstrate their knowledge to be accepted into college and to obtain certifications or other professional credentials. I believe the elimination of all testing would put students at a disadvantage.

3. Texas public school revenue per student was \$8,755 for 2017-2018 per the TEA PEIMS Budgeted Financial Data. Do you think this is sufficient for Texas's 5.3 million students? What changes do you think should be made to the current tax structure to fund public schools?

I believe my support for additional school funding was demonstrated by my vote during the last Special Session for HB 21. This legislation as filed, would have added nearly \$2 billion dollars into school funding. All funding formulas need to be reviewed and modernized to reflect the needs of today's students. Education funding is the state's largest expenditure. We need to maximize the resources going directly into the classroom. I look forward to reviewing the recommendation of the School Finance Commissions, when they are available.

4. What is your position on vouchers and other methods to use tax revenue to fund private education?

I would support this as an option for some high needs special education students.