



TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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TSTA: No leadership from Perry

TSTA has just issued a press release in response to Gov. Rick Perry's "State of the State" address at 11 a.m.:

TSTA is extremely disappointed that Gov. Rick Perry apparently still hasn't come to grips with the reality of the state's budgetary crisis and the serious damage it poses for the educations and futures of hundreds of thousands of Texas children.

"The governor may live in a political fantasy world, but the people he was elected to represent are facing the hard realities of closed schools, educator pink slips and a future work force that will be less-prepared to fuel Texas' economy," said TSTA President Rita Haecker.

"The governor spent a lot of time reliving his favorite campaign themes in his State of the State Address," Haecker added, "but not once did he propose a realistic solution to one of the worst threats ever to loom over our state's future. Texans expect leadership from their governor, not merely political rhetoric."

TSTA believes the responsible, balanced approach to digging Texas out of its deep budgetary hole is to spend all of the \$9.4 billion projected for the Rainy Day Fund, use every federal dollar available and enact an equitable revenue stream that adequately meets the state's growing public needs. This would enable us to avoid the deep cuts that would shove Texas backwards.