



## **Positions on Key Education Issues**

### **Curriculum and Standards**

Texas standards must prioritize critical thinking, problem-solving, and deep understanding rather than surface-level memorization. Standards should be written by educators and grounded in learning science so students learn how to think, not just what to recall.

### **Testing and Accountability**

High-stakes testing does not reflect what we want students to know or be able to do. Accountability should measure growth, opportunity, engagement, and student support rather than how well students remember facts and terms.

### **Social Studies and Religious Neutrality**

Public schools must teach honest, research-based history while respecting the separation of church and state. Students should learn how religion has shaped historical events, not be encouraged to adopt any single belief system.

### **Teacher Certification**

Teaching is a complex profession that requires strong preparation. Texas should strengthen certification standards and professional learning instead of lowering expectations or shortcutting needed preparation.

### **Vouchers and Privatization**

Public funds should serve the public good. I oppose diverting taxpayer dollars to private schools that lack the same accountability, access, and transparency required of public schools.

### **Charter Schools**

Charter schools should meet the same rigorous accountability, governance, and performance standards as public schools. Texas should pause charter expansion until these standards are fully enforced.

### **Virtual Schools**

Technology should support learning, not replace schools. Fully virtual programs often isolate students, widen inequities, and weaken community schools.

### **School Takeovers**

State takeovers harm communities, silence local voices, and rarely improve student experience. Texas should support districts through partnership and investment — not punishment and privatization.

**Victor Sampson for State Board of Education**  
**Hope. Trust. Expertise. A Better Vision for Texas Public Schools.**