

The State Church, “*Public Education*”

Chapter Six – *Lipstick on a Pig, Pass the Pork Bellies*

As a young man and shortly after I was married, I wanted to do my part as a citizen and participate in the political process. I believed in the process of democracy and how elected officials were chosen to represent the citizenry of this nation as a whole. It did not take long to see the system of government in the US is flawed. A system of democracy and government needed to rule a nation comprised of millions of people that are citizens of such a nation must be founded on principals of fairness uniformity. These principals are described in the Declaration of Independence penned by Thomas Jefferson over two-hundred years ago. These principals must be adhered to at all costs. The measurement of fairness is derived from standards that become the laws to rule the governed by. These principals, laws and rules should be easy to understand even by the simpleton and are undeniable by the clarity and preciseness in their meaning. The laws that govern the general population should not require a level of knowledge and skill as a lawyer. During my working career I was part of and worked on many distinct types of government projects from local school districts to large federal contracts. I witnessed firsthand fraud and corruption that is beyond what most people can even begin to understand. I could not understand how such things I witnessed firsthand could happen and how these things were considered normal everyday part of how things are done in the US government.

What I began to see and understand is that individuals in the highest levels of leadership and with large areas of responsibility did not have any regard to the rule of law. In many situations I was directly involved in I was told to mind my own business and simply look the other way. Because of my beliefs and convictions as a person of faith and a Christian I made the decision to resign from several companies I had been employed by. These were hard decisions to make because they impacted not only me but my family as well. I stepped away from positions that paid very well if you wanted to be a crook and dishonest person. The government is full of individuals that make exceptionally good money and turn their heads to fraud and corruption or a part of it. Big business and big government equal enormous fraud and corruption that cost taxpayers in this country hundreds of billions of dollars every year. And the sad part of all of this is the local school districts across the nation are as corrupt as any government entity in existence.

In Texas, the state where I live, I have tried for years to collaborate with elected leaders and officials in Austin to get help to expose fraud and corruption going on in school districts all across the state of Texas. What I learned after years of frustration and endless hours was that Austin is the epicenter of corruption, fraud, and racketeering in Texas. I was working as an engineer for a large company that was being rewarded with large energy conservation projects in school districts from one end of the state to the other. Energy

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conservation was a hot topic at that time and seemed like a clever idea and industry to be a part of. It did not take long to figure out the Ponzi scheme that was created by key leaders of the company I was working for at the time and elected leaders in Austin. It was the perfect crime, and no one thought they would ever get caught.

I learned a great lesson during this time, and it was hard to accept at first. Our system of government is broken and run by very smart and educated criminals at every level. The company I worked for and many employees including me were making millions of dollars by stealing from taxpayers. I caught on to the scheme and tried to expose what was going on for several years. These efforts were no match for the power players who pull the strings and run the political swamp in Austin. I soon found myself on the outside and was not making any friends in Austin. I found out if you're smart enough and have connections in Austin you can legalize any crime and become very wealthy, and no one will ever question what you are doing. This has been the case since 2006 when I first began the process of exposing and bringing major problems out to the public's eye.

As a young adult I believed those who ran and held public office were honest at first. I believed at first that someone who was elected a place on the local school board and worked their way up the political ladder until they reached the top of state government or even the federal level had not yet been corrupted. It was when they made it to Washington D.C. and the political arena that they were corrupted by the elites in office. I was completely wrong about my hypothesis. I learned while working on projects in Texas at the local school level, city, county and even state projects that those seeking higher levels of public office are experts in fraud and corruption by the time they make it to the top echelon of political office.

What transpires in the government run public education system in Texas and across the nation behind closed door school board meetings is beyond what the average citizen can even get a grasp on. School board members in Texas have been for decades and continue to spend taxpayers' money on lucrative energy conservation projects that are financed using a technic known as "off-balance sheet" financing. These contracts range in cost from \$250,000.00 to over \$100,000,000.00 dollars and are structured as long-term-lease purchase agreements. These contracts are set up with a piece of legislation passed by Austin bureaucrats hidden in a very suspicious way in the Texas Education Agency code under the heading, "*Miscellaneous Provisions*"! I do not know very many individuals who consider multi-million-dollar contracts miscellaneous expenditures. Taxpayers have no voice in regard to these contracts. As I have worked on these issues with others to bring this out to the public is these problems exist across the nation as a whole.

In recent years in the north central Texas area where I live taxpayers have been sold out by their local school districts to the owners of large solar farm companies. Tens of millions of dollars have been handed over by local school boards by a means known as Chapter 313 Agreements. Just the contracts that have been reviewed at the time this book has been written in the north central Texas area of Bosque, Ellis, Hill, and McLennan counties are worth more than \$4.5 billion dollars. The total dollar amount of all contracts

could reach \$20.0 plus billion dollars. Once again taxpayers do not have a voice in these matters or contract negotiations. Contracts are negotiated and executed in closed door school board meetings. Large sums of money change hands between school districts, lawyers, consultants, and solar farm owners. Taxpayers do not have legal representation to negotiate on their behalf.

Many of these contracts in the north Texas area are being challenged at this time. The lawyers and consultants make out with big money by selling out taxpayers and by forfeiting millions of dollars of tax revenues into school districts. The available tax revenues could lower property taxes for homeowners in these districts. The tax abatement agreements made by the Itasca Independent School District in north central Texas alone are worth more than \$1.0 billion dollars. The district board members and legal counsel forfeited tens of millions of dollars from available tax revenues from the solar farms being constructed in Hill County by awarding large tax abatements to the solar farm owner/operators.

The school district pays for the lawyers and consultants to represent them or at least that is what they want you to believe. Lawyers and consultants negotiate large tax abatements for the solar farm owners/operators to reduce their taxable liabilities. After the contracts have been signed by both parties the solar farm owners/operator reimburse the school district(s) for the fees they received. This sounds like a very charitable gesture by solar farm companies that benefit by not paying millions of dollars of school taxes for many years. In the normal business world this is known as money laundering and racketeering. It is hard to believe this is the level of understanding and experience a school board has in regard to contracts worth over a \$1.0 billion dollars in a small rural 2A school district that is insolvent and has been in debt for years.

The authority given to local school districts regarding taxpayer money is second to none to the federal government. Taxpayers are starting to figure this out and pushing back hard. School districts operate the same as the federal government when it comes to developing the annual school budget. Each year more money is piled on and the operating cost to taxpayers continues to increase year after year. School districts do not start from a clean slate each year and work through the budget items line by line and try to use taxpayer funds more efficiently. I have attended many school board meetings and witnessed school boards on multiple occasions vote and pass increases in bonuses and stipends for teachers and staff. School officials and teachers continue to receive financial benefits and increases while homeowners lose their homes each year.

What taxpayers, homeowners and those parents who want their rights restored need to understand is this, there is no help coming from elected leaders at any level anywhere across the nation. The idea there are actual politicians and leaders that are guided and directed by a moral and ethical compass to do right and be fair will always lead you to the place and time where you realize there are not any of those types of individuals left. This is also true with the government run public education system in this nation. Texas politics is at the top of the list when it comes to the insanity of the government system and establishment

today in this nation. Everyone has their favorite elected leader(s) they believe will help bring answers to the problems facing this state and the nation as a whole. But I have learned over the past twenty years our system of government has long exceeded its usefulness.

Taxpayers are going to have to take drastic measures to protect their homes and wealth in the future. The political landscape in Texas and across this nation is going to change in many ways and many corrupt leaders are going to reap what they have sowed for many years.

“Politicians and elected leaders cannot provide an answer to a problem they do not understand”

Politicians and elected leaders cannot provide an answer to a problem they do not understand. It never ceases to amaze me to see leaders on television after a major event takes place start pointing the finger at everyone, they can pass the blame instead of owning up to their responsibility as an elected official leader. Whether it be a mass shooting at a school, natural disaster such as tornado, hurricane, wildfires, or issues with power grid.

Those who hold office and sit in the big chairs in Austin are always the ones taking the first shots at anyone or anything they can just to make a show in the media and try to cover up their failures as leaders. After they have passed the blame around the next words, they will speak will have something to do with money and they need more. Every problem that government bureaucrats face will no doubt lead to discussions of money or raising taxes in every instance without fail.

Weak leaders and those who hold political office will tell you that in order to get anything accomplished in government you have to go along to get along. This is simply one of the most absurd statements I have ever heard regarding politics. It is just one of the main problems we have in Texas and in this nation in regard to government. This mindset is often used to pass large bills during the legislative session whether it be at the state or federal levels of government. The term “pork belly” is an excuse used by weak leaders who do not know how to lead with authority and the power given to them by the public.

The government run education system in Texas is full of examples of poor leadership and complete loss of focus and purpose regarding the education of children in this state. For decade billions of dollars have been thrown into the quagmire of the government-controlled education system while at the same time the level of achievement and responsibility of those graduating from the has degraded drastically. The knowledge level of the majority of those who graduate today from public school pales in comparison to that of graduates in the 1940’s and fifties. A good work ethic and the desire to be a real contribution to society is not even on the minds of millions of students graduating today. Many young people today cannot

communicate clearly with adults in a normal conversation. Slang and vulgar language are commonplace with so many young people and it is no wonder why many employers do not want to hire those graduating from public schools today in this state.

Continued increases of money into the government run education system in Texas will not solve the problems facing taxpayers and citizens in this or any other state. Over the past eighteen years since I began my effort to expose fraud and corruption in the government run education system, I have asked an amazingly simple question. To this date no one at any level of government in this state or part of the public education establishment can or has dared to answer this question in the past eighteen years.

“How much money does it take to educate a fifth grader in the state of Texas”?

Why have bureaucrats and educators refused to answer this question? Well, there are at least two answers that explain why this question has never been answered.

- 1) No one really knows. That is simple enough.
- 2) If the answer were known, it would put the state of Texas and public educators in quite a predicament.

As long as no one provides an answer to this quite simple question public educators will always revert to the tactic used for decades; we are out of money, and we need more taxpayer money. It is surprising to me that over the past eighteen years not a single person I know or have spoken to has asked the same question or has even been willing to try and produce a good dollar amount or number to use for an answer.

No matter what state a child lives in the cost to educate a fifth grader should be within a fairly narrow or margin and cost. Texans have been told to believe that educators have a system and process in place to ensure that every child is taught the same way. This is the cookie cutter approach to education using the fishbowl method of teaching. If education in Texas is equitable and fair for all children, then the cost of that education should be the same no matter where that child lives in the state. There is no poor or rich district in regard to the education taught and hopefully achieved by the child. But we all know this is *NOT* the case in the government run education system across the nation. The cost of educating a fifth grader in the small town of Bronte versus the city of Frisco is different as night and day. The cost of educating a child by teaching the basic core curriculum a child really needs would be much lower than what it has cost taxpayers for decades in Texas. Because some parents, educators and public-school employees may want a \$60,000,000.00 football stadium that is not part of the required curriculum the cost of education has sky-rocketed out of control. This key problem has cost thousands of homeowners dearly and many citizens in Texas and

other states have lost their homes. State leaders and educators have lost their focus on what academic education is all about.

Public educators working in unison with elected leaders using strongarm tactics to push bond programs through the local school district have corrupted the system beyond repair. The largest bond program to ever become before taxpayers in Texas is for the Houston Independent School District. The proposed bond amount for the principal amount is \$4.4 billion dollars. If you were to break this down by line item and carefully study, you would find hundreds of millions of dollars of fraudulent numbers and estimates used for estimating the cost of the bond. School districts and board members have no idea what the real cost of a bond is because the engineering and bid documents have not been developed prior to the bond package being voted on. When this type of fraud and corruption is left unchecked for decades the cost to taxpayers is more than one can imagine.