

To Honorary Senators

Statements follow that were given by Allan Bubeck, Jr., a board member for Charter School, Jean Massieu Academy of Garland, Texas.

Please support Jean Massieu Academy , a charter school for the Deaf in Arlington, Texas founded in 1999

It is a known fact that the Deaf are visual people and American Sign Language (ASL) is an important part of their lives

At Jean Massieu Academy (JMA), the students are instructed in ASL with reading and writing in English so JMA is essentially a bilingual school

Only 25 percent of human speech are visible on lips As one who had oral education, it was rough on me and misunderstandings were common ASL is like a beacon in Deaf communication

It is common knowledge some Deaf students can pass TAKS; some others would need the alternative SDAA and those who take life-skills training would need to be exempt JMA has all those students and all are to be educated to the best of their ability

Also we need to coordinate the whole Deaf Education program under the leadership of Texas School for the Deaf in Austin --some states have this arrangement