

Testimony on SB 6
June 2, 2011

Introduction:

- Dr. Reece Blincoe, Superintendent Brownwood ISD
- Invited to testify on electronic materials previously

Brownwood ISD technology use:

- 1 to1 computer use grades 7-12
- multiple electronic devices grades 4-6 (including I-pads, and I-pods)
- computer labs and i-pods used grades PK-3

Positives about bill:

- Bill is very technology progressive in moving toward electronic materials
- Saves the state money, like a good technology initiative should
- Opens up the use of the instructional materials fund to training, buying electronic devices, and paying for specialized staff.
- name change

Concerns:

- page 12 (line 14-16) and page 24 (line 13-17) give oversight of electronic materials & open source materials to the State Board of Education. Please revert this authority back to the Commissioner of Education. The commissioner and his staff are well capable of making these important decisions in a “professional and non-political” manner.