



**TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE**  
COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **GEORGE P. BUSH VISITS DISHMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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BEAUMONT — Today, Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush visited Dishman Elementary School in Beaumont, Texas as part of his 'Year of Education' Initiative. During his visit, Commissioner Bush taught an interactive Texas history lesson using reproductions of one of Stephen F. Austin's original maps from the Texas General Land Office archives. Commissioner Bush also brought a special surprise for the 4th grade class. The students were given the exclusive opportunity to hold and examine a cannonball found at the Alamo.

"Developing a passion for learning will serve the students of Texas throughout their entire lives, said Commissioner Bush. "Far too often, those of us in Austin sit back and decide our children's future without understanding the challenges faced by teachers and administrators each and every day. That's what the Year of Education is about - understanding what our future needs. Providing hands-on experiences for students across the state is just one way we can help educators bring history to life."

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Earlier this year, Commissioner Bush dedicated 2019 to having a conversation with the future, engaging with students, teachers, and administrators across the state. As part of the Year of Education, Commissioner Bush is traveling across the state and participating in 50 education events to promote education in all types of learning environments (public, charter, homeschool, private, rural, urban, suburban). The GLO Archives and Records is home to more than 35.5 million documents and 45,000 maps, dating back to the year 1561, and tracing the history of Texas' public lands. Using copies of these restored maps, Commissioner Bush brings primary sources into Texas classrooms and teaches a lesson on Texas history to students. As a special surprise, students are given a chance to hold a cannonball fired at the Battle of the Alamo at the end of the lesson. As a former school teacher, Commissioner Bush understands first-

hand the impact education has on our students. Previously, he has noted that it is not only important to support our Texas school districts but to also connect with them. For more details and photos from the event, check out the GLO's [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) accounts.