



WALNUT BEND ISD
47 County Rd 198, Gainesville, TX 76240
940-665-5990 (phone) 940-665-9660 (fax)
www.walnutbendisd.net
Ken Kemp Superintendent



Board Resolution
Appeal To the Texas Education Agency
August 15th 2023

WHEREAS, Walnut Bend ISD is an esteemed institution dedicated to providing quality education to its students; and

WHEREAS, the school community experienced an immeasurable loss with the passing of our beloved and respected teacher, Mrs. Teri Taylor, who was deeply cherished by students, staff, and parents alike; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Teri Taylor dedicated her life to education and has left an indelible mark on countless lives throughout her career; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Taylor had the privilege of teaching a vast number of our students, all of whom are included in the state-mandated testing population; and

WHEREAS, the unexpected nature of Mrs. Taylor's passing early in the second semester created significant challenges for Walnut Bend ISD in securing a replacement teacher of comparable skill and dedication; and

WHEREAS, the loss of a beloved and long-serving educator naturally affected the emotional well-being and focus of the students during the testing period; and

WHEREAS, the grieving process further impacted the overall learning environment and resulted in lower-than-expected test scores for Walnut Bend ISD; and

WHEREAS, Walnut Bend ISD firmly believes that the exceptional circumstances surrounding Mrs. Taylor's passing and the inability to find a suitable replacement teacher should not penalize the school for purposes of state-mandated assessments; and

WHEREAS, the student body, teachers, and administration of Walnut Bend ISD have demonstrated resilience in the face of adversity, continuing to honor Mrs. Taylor's legacy by fostering a nurturing and supportive learning environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Walnut Bend ISD Board of Trustees urges the Texas Education Agency to hold Walnut Bend ISD harmless for any adverse effects on state-mandated test scores and subsequent accountability rating resulting from



WALNUT BEND ISD
47 County Rd 198, Gainesville, TX 76240
940-665-5990 (phone) 940-665-9660 (fax)
www.walnutbendisd.net
Ken Kemp Superintendent



the untimely death of Mrs. Teri Taylor and the consequent challenges faced in finding a replacement teacher.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Walnut Bend ISD Board acknowledged and appreciated the outpouring of support from the entire school community during that difficult time. The love and respect shown for Mrs. Teri Taylor reflected the significant impact she had on the lives of students and the broader community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to relevant state officials to advocate for understanding and consideration of the unique circumstances faced by Walnut Bend before a final accountability rating is assigned for the 2022-2023 academic year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Walnut Bend ISD Board has adopted this resolution on the date first above written.

Randy Clark
Board President

Virginia McNair
Board Secretary

Ken Kemp
Superintendent