

RESOLUTION OF THE ROUND ROCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO CENSURE TRUSTEE DANIELLE WESTON

WHEREAS, the Round Rock ISD and Texas Education Code entrusts the Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees with effective, lawful, and ethical governance of the District to further the District's mission and goals; and

WHEREAS, Round Rock ISD Board Policy BBE (LOCAL) states that although there may be dissenting votes or opinions, which are a matter of public record and are protected by law, each Board decision shall be an action by the whole Board binding upon the District; and

WHEREAS, state laws, including Texas Penal Code Sections 38.13, 42.01, 42.02, and 42.05 and Texas Education Code Section 37.105, establish that disruptions of meetings or on public property are criminal offenses that permit law enforcement to remove individuals who continue to disrupt a public meeting after being warned to cease their disruption; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Open Meetings Act only permits a board to deliberate on items posted on an agenda; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Weston's repeated failure to follow the Board President's ruling and the decision of the Board of Trustees regarding social distancing led or contributed to the disruption of the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Weston repeatedly insisted on calling for a vote on spacing rules for the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting even though this matter was not on the agenda; and

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code Section 11.151 establishes that the Trustees of the District constitute a body corporate, and as a body corporate, the Trustees (1) have the exclusive power and duty to govern and oversee the management of the public schools of the District and (2) may adopt rules and bylaws necessary to carry out the powers and duties of the body corporate; and

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code Section 11.1512, establishes that there is to be collaboration between the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent, and that it is the Board of Trustees of the District that has the powers and duties specified in the Texas Education Code; and

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code Section 11.1512 provides that while an individual Trustee may request information from the District in the Trustee's official capacity, the District has up to 20 business days, and in some cases up to 30 business days, to provide such requested information; and

WHEREAS, Section 2(b) of the Superintendent's contract states the Board of Trustees will "direct the Superintendent consistent with requirements of applicable law and policy"; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Weston's repeated demands, including but not limited to those of September 13 and 16, 2021, that the District provide information on an accelerated or shortened timeframe are failures and/or intentional refusals to comply Texas Education Code Section 11.1512; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Weston intentional and continual refusal to comply with Section 2(b) of the Superintendent's contract by insisting that the District provide information on an accelerated or shortened timeframe, including but not limited to demands made on September 13 and 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, these actions by Trustee Weston undermined the orderly governance of the District; and

WHEREAS, given her position as a District Trustee, Trustee Weston's disruptive actions at the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting brought unwanted and negative media and public attention to the District.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that due to the urgency caused by Trustee Weston's (1) disruptive conduct of repeatedly arguing after rulings by the Board President and a vote by the Board of Trustees regarding the conduct at the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting and (2) repeated attempts to demand information from the District in violation of the Texas Education Code and the Superintendent's contract, the Board of Trustees waives Board Operating Procedures steps K(1) & K(2) related to the process to censure a Trustee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as a public censure is the only option available to the Board to reprimand a Trustee and to make clear for the record that the Board in no way condones her actions as described above, the Board of Trustees does hereby publicly censure Trustee Danielle Weston for leading or contributing to the disruption of the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting in violation of Texas Penal Code Sections 38.13, 42.01, 42.02, and 42.05, Texas Education Code Section 37.105 and potentially causing the Board to violate the Texas Open Meetings Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees does hereby publicly state that Trustee Weston's disruptive conduct as described above is in no way representative of the standards of conduct that the Board expects of its members and is a disappointment to the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees does hereby publicly censure Trustee Danielle Weston for insisting that the District provide information on an accelerated or shortened timeframe, including but not limited to demands made on September 13 and 16, 2021 in violation of Texas Education Code Sections 11.151 and 11.1512; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees does hereby publicly admonish Trustee Weston that she will be referred to as "Censured Trustee Weston" on all District communication, and on the Round Rock ISD website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Trustee Weston shall be prohibited from holding a Board officer position, having her name appear on high school diplomas, using District funds for the performance of her official duties without Board approval, and visiting all Round Rock ISD properties in her official capacity as a Trustee without Board approval with the exception of Board meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any reference to "Censured Trustee Weston" shall only be removed by a majority vote by the Board of Trustees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board determines that each action and matter described above is sufficient basis for this censure.

Dated this __ day of September, 2021

Round Rock Independent School District

By: _____