

May 24, 2017

Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees
Superintendent Richard Carranza
4400 WW. 18th St.
Houston, TX 77092-8501

Dear Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Carranza:

As required by state law, school districts whose wealth level per weighted average student exceeds certain statutorily defined amounts are required to take a wealth equalization action. The most commonly used action is to hold an election asking voters to agree to remit certain property tax revenues to the state. If the vote to remit fails, state law then requires that the commissioner of education detach property from that school district in amounts that will reduce wealth down to statutorily-determined levels.

I received your letter dated May 19, 2017, regarding the certified results of the May 6, 2017, election under Texas Education Code (TEC) §41.096. I have also received the district's *Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credits*, and the fully executed agreement is enclosed. In addition, I received your district's payment totaling \$44,284,704, which represents the four payments for the months of February through May 2017 for purchasing attendance credits. Because the election passed, your district is now complying with wealth equalization via the purchase of attendance credits for the 2016–2017 school year. Therefore, in accordance with my statutorily-required duties and obligations under Chapter 41 of the TEC and 19 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 62, I am rescinding the previous order and notice of detachment of property from Houston Independent School District (HISD) and annexation to Aldine Independent School District (AISD) dated February 23, 2017. (See the attached February 23, 2017 order). Please see TEC §§13.005, 41.004 and 41.208.

TEA is committed to providing all taxpayers, property owners, and school and appraisal districts with accurate and transparent information regarding these matters as quickly as possible and to complying with statutory obligations under Texas law. Please contact Leo Lopez at (512) 463-9179 or leo.lopez@tea.texas.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,



Mike Morath
Commissioner of Education

Attachments: February 23, 2017 Second Supplemental Order
Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credits

MM/II

cc: Mr. Roland Altinger, Chief Appraiser for Harris County
Aldine Independent School District Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Wanda Bamberg