

KINDER FOUNDATION

RICHARD D. KINDER
CHAIRMAN

April 21, 2017

Mr. Robert L. Boblitt, Jr.
Chair
HSPVA Friends
4119 Montrose Boulevard, Suite 210
Houston, TX 77006

Mr. Richard A. Carranza
Superintendent of Schools
Houston Independent School District
4400 West 18th Street
Houston, TX 77092

Dear Bob and Richard,

On October 13, 2016, the Kinder Foundation made a commitment to donate \$7.5 million (of which \$3 million has been paid) to the Friends of HSPVA to help fund added amenities at HSPVA and provide assistance for future activities that would enhance the quality of the educational experience of present and future HSPVA students.

We did this because we are great believers in the unique education provided by the school and wanted to ensure that the new facilities were completed and finished in a manner consistent with the highest standards for this type of institution. We have contributed to HSPVA since 2008 and will always remain supporters.

In return for our gift, the HISD Board agreed to affix our name to the school. We were appreciative of this honor, but it was not the primary reason for our gift. The last thing we would want is to create any controversy which could negatively impact the institution, its faculty and students. Consequently, we release the Friends of HSPVA and HISD from any and all obligations concerning naming rights included in Article 7 of the Grant Agreement. We will of course honor our side of the Agreement and complete our gift as pledged.

The Kinder Foundation is committed to doing the best it can to better the quality of life in Houston and we feel that the HSPVA is a vital part of that quality of life.

Sincerely,



2229 San Felipe Street, Suite 1700, Houston, TX 77019

p 713-529-5537 f 713-529-2106

rkinder@kinderfoundation.org

- Hand Delivered -
RECEIVED 2 p.m.

APR 21 2017

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

(i)

From: [Carranza, Richard](#)
To: [Mabasa, Veronica](#)
Cc: [Lujan, Imelda A](#)
Subject: Kinder Letter
Date: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:32:43 PM
Attachments: [20170421140336.pdf](#)

Veronica,

Please send the following to the entire Board and copy Cynthia Wilson, Sam Sarabia, Rene Barajas, Matilda Orozco, Elneita Hutchins-Taylor and myself. Thank you so much.

Dear Trustees,

I wanted to share with you the letter that was hand delivered to my office last Friday, April 21, 2017. In subsequent conversations that I have had with Mr. and Mrs. Kinder and the Friends of HSPVA leadership, the genesis of the letter is as follows. There has been an online petition started calling on the Kinder Foundation to relinquish their naming rights associated with the gift. Mr. and Mrs. Kinder do not want to have the HISD or their foundation associated with this type of negative publicity, so they crafted and sent the attached letter to us. We wanted the Board to have the letter.

Staff and I met with representatives of Friends of HSPVA today and learned that the petition organizers know about the attached letter and may have already started circulating information about it. We are planning on bringing this item to closed session for an update and discussion about next steps at the next opportunity. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Richard A. Carranza

Superintendent of Schools

Houston Independent School District

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