





March 24, 2022

[Last Name] Family Street Address City, State, Zip

Dear neighbor,

I recently sent the community a letter introducing myself and my plan to restore the highest level of academic standards at HPISD. The result of this election will change the trajectory of our schools, so I hope you take the time to study the plan, my capabilities and my resolve.

The first and most important pillar of my plan is to replace our Superintendent with a Classical educator, who will implement proven curriculum and prioritize resources on teachers rather than administrators and technology.

The decision to replace a leader of an institution should not be taken lightly, but as the representatives of the students, parents and taxpayers of this community, the Board *must act* when it is clear that the Superintendent maintains a vision and approach that conflicts with HPISD's mission.

Whether it's Lucy Calkins instead of phonics; the "student-centered" instead of teacher-led classroom model; CRT embedded in *BrainPop* and online curricula such as *CharacterStrong* and *PurposeFull People* instead of historical facts; instructional coaches/assistants, technology and administration instead of paying to attract and empower the best teachers; multiple choice software apps instead of developing core writing skills; trendy rather than classical literature; online PE curriculum *QuaverEd* instead of kickball; Common Core "New Math" replacing tried and true mathematical rigor; or the data-mining of our children through QR codes, constant surveys and path-dependent software applications; it is clear we need a change at the top.

Importantly, this is not unique to Dr. Trigg. His predecessors Dr. Dawson Orr and Dr. Cathy Bryce, put this district on a path of a technology-driven, political values-focused approach centered around "Professional Development" rather than a traditional liberal arts primary education. How could they not? It's what they were trained to do. Most Superintendents across the country come to the job with a PhD in "Educational Leadership", a pseudo-science that trains budding educational bureaucrats ("Educrats") on Critical Race

Theory, new and unproven ways of teaching math and reading, EdTech, and other specialties that do nothing to serve the interests of the children of Highland Park. There is another way.

We need a Superintendent who can truly partner with the Board to fulfill the goals of the community. I believe all the parents of this community want their children to graduate high school with a strong foundation in academic knowledge and skills that will be relevant throughout their lifetimes. A Classical educator will return us to a focus on reading, writing, math, science, real history and the classic books, poetry and essays that informed the development of Western Civilization.

We cannot dither. We must act now for nothing short of our children's futures are at stake.

Thank you for listening.

Your Neighbor,

Spencer Simo

