

MEMORANDUM
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY

TO: Judy Rucker Elementary, Prosper ISD Administration & Prosper ISD Board of Directors

FROM: Prosper ISD Community, PISD parents, PISD school taxpayers & supporters of the cause

SUBJECT: Assembly and Peaceful Protest for a redress of grievances concerning how Prosper ISD handles cases of sex abuse of minors' that affect PISD students and PISD employees directly and indirectly. Protesting how PISD nor Rucker leadership did not notify families of students' exposure to pedophile PISD employee during the school year 2021-2022.

DATE: September 19th, 2022 at 13:00 (1PM) in Prosper, TX

REASON FOR ASSEMBLY & PROTEST

- To this date, 09/19/2022, Rucker Elementary leadership nor PISD leadership have contacted any of the parents whose kids rode on Frank Paniagua's bus to formally notify each of those families about the kids' exposure to Frank Paniagua. Per arrest records, Paniagua was arrested on "sex abuse of child continuous: victim under 14 with a \$200,000 bond". They day Paniagua was arrested, all other bus riders' families must have been contacted.
- The allegations on over 100 counts of sex abuse of minors, is a major allegation and if deemed true, we feel the school was not doing the proper due diligence while kids got on the bus and off the bus. This would in turn fall on the school leadership and administration.
- Parents are upset at how Mrs. Balderas' supported the lack of transparency when she initially contacted parents about an "incident" on the bus. Parents are disappointed, frustrated and feel they can't no longer trust her, or her administration – "I can't trust her".
- We are here because the school failed to notify parents whose kids were on the bus with the pedophile.
- We are protesting because when an incident turns into a "sex abuse incident" it needs to be crystal clear that we catalog the circumstance as a sex abuse and not be grouped as a minor category. An incident is being punctured with a pencil on the head (this happened to a PISD student last year) but sex abuse falls onto its own category. We need to own it, no matter how hard it is.
- We need full/ transparency from the school district with any "incident" our children may be involved directly or indirectly.
- "As a mother of two (2) Rucker Elementary students, I request that Superintendent Ferguson and the Principal Balderas resign immediately. It is unacceptable that they still represent us and lead the education of our kids after what happened last May 2022. The lack of ethics on how they managed 'the incidents' talks vert poorly on how they are planning to lead the future of our kids, the future of our country". We trusted you can help us (the parents) build the foundations of *integrity*, but you failed us.
- We are protesting because potential affected families were not given the proper support to see if their child had been also molested.
- "I personally emailed the principal (Balderas) [about the bus in the morning] and she was confrontational about it, instead of giving the situation the benefit of the doubt, she immediately shut down my concerns instead of taking my comments as a way for her to look into it this issue, she dismissed it saying she backs up every employee of hers"
- The district and the school breached their duty – it's their responsibility to inform, not to be silent when bad things happen.
- We are here because we need full transparency from the school district and that was not the case. "I personally had to pursue answers and that should not be. I also believe Holly Ferguson needs to step down because of the way she handled this. Someone in her position should have protected our children. We need immediate change".
- Every parent in the PISD Community needs an answer. We want immediate policy changes. Our children's safety and security always come first. The email changing bus policies is not enough. This is not a transportation issue, this is a PISD management issue.
- We are here supporting every family that recently found out their child had been sexually abused by Paniagua. We are also here supporting the families that were not told their bus driver had sexually abused minors. We are here supporting all the families enraged knowing this could have been their child at any other elementary, middle or high school.
- We are here supporting anyone who has been affected emotionally by the news of the sex abuse that occurred at Rucker.
- We wouldn't be here shall the school and administration would have notified us about Paniagua's arrest back in May. If the school would have notified every parent indirectly affected by this pedophile, we wouldn't be here. It has been 4 months since his arrest on "Sex Abuse of Child Continuous: Victim under 14" per his arrest record, and families only found out about the fact he had gotten arrested because of an article on the Dallas Morning News.

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(continued, 2/2)

- “I’m here because I cannot trust the superintendent, the school principal nor the Board of Directors”. We are shocked to learn that while the Board approved of two (2) independent investigations, there is *noone* on administrative leave, whether is a paid leave or unpaid, these are major allegations that affect the community, and at the very least the superintendent and the school principal should be on administrative leave until this is resolved and a conclusion is drawn.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Leadership involved in this investigation must go on administrative leave pending the results of the 3rd party investigation
- PISD leadership (in particular Dr. Holly Ferguson and Mrs. Marisol Balderas) who are directly involved in the investigation should refrain from portraying PISD in social events (e.g. Prosper Ladies Association) or PISD community gatherings (e.g. homecoming parade/football games).
- Parents want to know what new measures Prosper ISD will implement so that sex abuse incidents are reported to directly and indirectly affected families. We need immediate policies on what happens if another pedophile is found to be working with PISD. We request a 48hr turnaround time to notify all families of children that may be affected by criminals.
- Randomized background checks at least every 12 months on every single PISD employee
- Drug testing every all PISD employees (on a random basis but not exceeding 18 months)
- We want an immediate intervention by counselors across PISD to discuss sex abuse / child pornography / pedophile, etc. This should be an ongoing conversation every 8 weeks with real life scenarios. Work together with the local Child Advocacy Centers.
- Counselors should work together with a case worker AND parents to identify all other potential victims of rape/molestation/improper touching/sex abuse. Counselors should gather resources from professional Psychologists and implement an action plan for the children and families affected directly and indirectly back in May 2022, and future victims of sex abuse.
- Counselors need additional classroom time to discuss these dangers. They need tools to implement lesson plans that discuss the dangers of pedophiles. Implement more awareness around child abuse and minor sex abuse. Real life scenarios/examples need to be talked to in the classroom.
- “As a mother of two (2) Rucker Elementary students, I request that Superintendent Ferguson and the Principal Balderas resign immediately. It is unacceptable that they still represent us and lead the education of our kids after what happened last May 2022. The lack of ethics on how they managed ‘the incidents’ talks vert poorly on how they are planning to lead the future of our kids, the future of our country”.
- When an arrest is made, and switched an “incident” into a “sex abuse”, “terrorism”, “child pornography”, among other examples, parents must be informed within 48 hrs.
- We need an immediate policy implementation on how the district plans to process abuse or any other significant criminal incidents that can affect a PISD campus and their students
- All buses must have functional recording cameras, and should be serviced on a weekly basis
- Bus routes cannot be deliberately changed by any driver. All new routes must be approved by transportation in writing.
- Bus videos cannot be manipulated
- Parents can request access to videos at any given time as additional due diligence
- High School students can be “bus buddies” and such be part of their community hours. There are many students in high school doing “office aid” work, that can be extra set of eyes during bus routes.
- Parents want a throughout accounting on decisions made by Prosper ISD, starting with every parent that had kids on the Frank Paniagua’s bus.
- If a PISD employee is known to be booked in jail with any type of indecent charges parents must be notified and employee suspended
- Implement additional lesson plans with a counselor and child advocacy directors on how kids these real-life threats exist.
- Have well publicized, strong and effective grievance procedures beyond those mandated by the TEA, Title IX, Department of Education to ensure Prosper ISD thrives
- If unsure, contact Allen ISD (Texas) where they are currently dealing with a similar sex abuse situation and they contacted all the families that had children come in contact with said pedophile.