



PRESS RELEASE

Parents Maligned; Ridiculed at Texas School Law Conference

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Contact: Aileen Blachowski

TexasEd911@gmail.com

(North Texas) -- Presenters at a Texas school law conference in Grapevine, TX over the weekend maligned and ridiculed "big mad" public school parents who have raised concern for their children in the face of mask-mandates, as well as destructive racial and sexual content which has become prevalent in schools since 2020.

Jeff Crownover, Deputy Superintendent, Academics and School Leadership for Prosper ISD and co-presenter Juan Cruz of J. Cruz & Associates called parents "CAVERS" which they said was an acronym for "Citizens Against Virtually Everything." A burst of laughter could be heard throughout the room. Crownover posited that parents' advocacy was the cause of teacher shortages. Links to four recorded comments can be accessed [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

The proposed remedy to such parental misbehavior, according to Crownover and Cruz, was a two-year criminal trespass threat against them.

The shocking and divisive comments were made by school lawyers who earn their livelihood from defending schools, school boards and educators from legal liabilities of all sorts. The conference was sponsored by the Texas State Bar Association and was intended for school lawyers for continuing legal education credits.

"I attended the State Bar of Texas School Law Conference and I was appalled at the way in which parents and community members were ridiculed throughout multiple presentations," said Janelle Davis, an attorney and public school parent.

"They were referred to as 'crazy,' 'unruly' and as individuals who simply want to be mad about everything. In a separate presentation, special education parents were referred to as the most difficult to work with, to which many in the room also laughed," continued Davis.

"As an attorney who works for these parents, I found that to be deplorable. These children are often the most vulnerable ones in the public school setting. Their parents live with constant worry and to be maligned as challenging or somehow difficult to work with simply because they are advocating for their child is callous and lacks empathy for the significant vulnerabilities of these children and their needs."

Ironically, Crownover, a lawyer, works for Prosper ISD which also engages at least four law firms and has been embroiled in multiple federal lawsuits over the molestation of two young girls by a district employee and the wrongful criminal trespass of district parents.

"Parents of children in public school entrust school officials with their most precious gift – their children. They deserve to be recognized as the primary decision-maker, treated with respect and welcomed as collaborative partners in their children's schools," said Davis.

"Unfortunately, it seems as though those who presented and attended the Conference only want to work with parents who do not ask questions or raise concerns," she concluded.

Parental Rights advocates from Texas Education 911 say the state of public education will not improve as long as special interests prevail and parents are shut out of the conversations about how to fix it. Taxpayer-funded lobby groups like the Texas Association of School Boards, union surrogates, some legislators and special interest groups such as the law firms who represent schools, "are stakeholders with a profit motive," says Texas Education 911 parent Aileen Blachowski, "but parents are primary stakeholders and they make the education decisions for their children. It's essential that we have an open dialogue and a seat at the table when policies are being considered."

Blachowski believes good teachers and conscientious parents want the same things for Texas schools and students but have been divided by damaging rhetoric for too long.

PARENT-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

Education accounts for the largest percentage of budgetary spending by the state. Texas Education 911 advocates for a Parent Ombudsman or Inspector General for Education to improve transparency, accountability, authentic school safety and a level playing field on which to resolve school-related issues. In the 88th Legislative Session, Rep. Jared Patterson filed [HB 1924](#), an Ombudsman Bill and Sen. Angela Paxton filed a similar bill, [SB 2114](#). Neither bill got serious traction.

"Leaving parents out of conversations about what will solve school issues is not productive. Making fun of parents and blaming them for the teacher shortage is dishonest and downright destructive," said Blachowski, about the school lawyers' comments. She urges lawmakers and school board trustees to exercise independence from the entrenched special interest lobbyists and advisors and to listen to parents who are working on solutions.

She added, "One glaring example of unintended consequences in the rush to fill teacher vacancies is already becoming evident. Just last week, two North Texas teachers were [arrested](#) for sexual assault and trafficking of minors; both were credentialed within the past two years. We can't move to credential candidates so quickly that we put our kids at risk of harm. There must be stronger safeguards built into the 'educator pipeline.' We're seeing far too many Texas school children suffer at the hands of predators in taxpayer-funded schools. Good teachers and parents agree this has to stop. Authentic student safety should be our first priority."

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Texas Education 911 is a statewide grassroots network of parents who are constructively addressing the educational emergency in Texas public schools. As parents, we identify problematic patterns in our schools and school system and propose positive policy solutions for their remedy. Learn more at www.TexasEducation911.com.