Dear Board of Trustees,

We hope this email finds you well. We are writing to strongly encourage the Prosper ISD Board of Trustees to transition from an at-large election system to a single-member trustee district model. This change will enhance representation and ensure that all areas within our diverse district are adequately represented.

## Legal Foundation and Petition Requirements:

# Authority to Transition:

 Section 11.052(a) of the Texas Education Code grants the board the authority to change to single-member districts directly by specifying the number of trustees to be elected from these districts.

### Petition for a Vote:

• Section 11.052(e) stipulates that a petition signed by at least 15% or 15,000 of the district's registered voters can mandate a proposition vote. The board must act within 120 days to include this proposition in the next regular trustee election.

### **Examples of Single-Member Districts:**

- Lewisville ISD: Transitioned to a 5-2 plan (five single-member districts and two at-large seats) to ensure minority representation and align district boundaries with high school feeder patterns (LISD) (CrossTimbers Gazette).
- North East ISD: Adopted single-member districts for the 2022-2024 elections to reduce population imbalances and meet Texas Education Code requirements (NEISD).
- **Round Rock ISD:** Community activists are currently petitioning for a single-member district model to address representation issues inherent in the at-large voting system (Texas Scorecard).
- **Midland ISD:** Operates with single-member districts and conducts regular elections based on these boundaries (Midland ISD).
- Conroe ISD: Utilizes single-member districts for electing school board trustees (Conroe ISD)
- **Richardson ISD:** Implemented a plan with five single-member districts and two at-large seats to improve geographic representation and accountability (Texas Education Agency).
- Austin ISD: Transitioned to a single-member district structure for Trustees 2, 3, and 5, as part of their recent elections (Austin ISD).
- **DeKalb ISD:** Operates with single-member trustee districts and regularly updates their district maps (DeKalb ISD Home of the Bears).
- **Irving ISD:** Engaged in a redistricting process for single-member districts from December 2021 to January 2022 (Irving ISD).

- Waco ISD: Adjusted the boundaries of their single-member trustee districts to balance population based on the 2020 Census data, with elections scheduled for May 4, 2024 (Waco ISD).
- **Rocksprings ISD:** Implemented single-member districts as part of their 2023 redistricting process to ensure equitable voter representation (Rocksprings ISD).
- Northside ISD: Completed their redistricting process in 2022, adopting new single-member district boundaries to reflect population changes and meet legal requirements (Northside ISD).
- Lamar CISD: Uses single-member districts for electing their Board of Trustees and periodically updates their district maps to ensure equitable representation (LCISD).

#### Rationale for Prosper ISD:

Given that Prosper ISD encompasses diverse areas like Prosper, McKinney, Frisco, Celina, and Aubrey, a single-member trustee district model will ensure that each community receives fair representation. Trustees living in and representing their assigned areas will offer localized voices to their constituents, ensuring more accurate and responsive governance.

### Conclusion:

Switching to single-member districts will help the Prosper ISD Board provide equitable, localized representation to its diverse communities. If the board does not proceed with this change independently, we will gather the required signatures to petition for a vote.

Please consider this vital matter in the best interest of the Prosper ISD community.

Sincerely,

Current and Former Parents of Prosper ISD &

Current Taxpayers of Prosper ISD

#### **Initial Signatories:**

Doug Charles Kurt Kuehn Lila Shah Peggy Jurgensmeyer Greg & Jamie Spence Jeff Sterling Jack Rahner Aileen Blachowski Bryan Cole Kathleen McCarthy Kim Loe Jim Herblin Kyle Sims Lisa Neumann Shelly Creel Leah Ferguson Kathryn Blackmon Mike & Cheri Bennett

Plus numerous others who support the call for Single-Member Trustee districts but are hesitant to sign this initial letter due to concerns of retribution. However, they are committed to gathering the necessary petition signatures to ensure this matter is brought to a vote if the Trustees do not act independently.