

PERRYTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: August 9, 2024

FROM: Greg Brown, Perryton ISD Superintendent

As the designated spokesperson and Superintendent for the Perryton Independent School District, I am providing the following statement:

On Sunday April 21, 2024, the Perryton ISD administration received a report that an employee may have engaged in improper conduct involving a female Perryton High School student. At that time, the District immediately initiated an internal investigation which revealed corroborating evidence of misconduct. The District placed the employee suspected of misconduct on leave on Monday, April 22, and this matter was reported to the Ochiltree County Sheriff's Office. The District made a similar report to other authorities as required by law and District policy. The suspected employee resigned from the District on April 24, 2024. He was arrested on state charges on April 25, 2024, and was arrested on Federal charges June 6, 2024. The school administration will continue to cooperate with law enforcement and any other investigating agency to the fullest extent permitted by law.

On July 26, 2024, the District received a letter from a law firm stating that it represented the family of a student who was sexually assaulted by the former employee and notifying the District of an impending lawsuit arising from the former employee's alleged improper conduct with the victim. Today, August 9, 2024, a lawsuit was filed against the District and its former employee in Federal District Court, Northern District of Texas, Amarillo Division. As it pertains to the District, the lawsuit claims that Perryton ISD violated Title IX and certain provisions of the United States Constitution arising from the former employee's alleged sexual assault of the female high school student that occurred on District property. The lawsuit further alleges, among other things, that the District hired the former employee knowing that he had engaged in improper conduct directed toward female students at his prior employer, and that Perryton ISD failed to prevent the former employee's sexual assault of the female PHS student. The District strongly disagrees with the categorization of the conduct and a number of "facts" that are alleged against it. Perryton ISD maintains that it acted in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and that the Administration responded appropriately to all reports it received concerning suspected misconduct by the former employee.

We remain concerned for the well-being of the victim, and District personnel continue to work with her and the family. However, in accordance with state and federal law, and out of respect for the privacy of the parties involved, the District will not discuss or disclose confidential student information or personnel information, nor will it discuss any details concerning the litigation.

The administration encourages anyone with concerns about possible educator



misconduct to immediately contact school administration or local law enforcement.

The District is grateful for the prompt response and cooperation of local and federal law enforcement agencies and we appreciate our community's continued support of Perryton ISD and its students.