Lake Worth ISD Joins Accountability Ratings Lawsuit Against Texas Education Agency

On Monday, September 18, the Lake Worth ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved the administration's recommendation to join several Texas school districts in a lawsuit against the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

The lawsuit, initially filed by Kingsville ISD, refers to TEA Commissioner Mike Morath's failure to provide school districts with "a document in a simple, accessible format that explains the accountability performance measures, methods, and procedures that will be applied" for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, in violation of state law. Educational organizations continue to wait on the finalized rules for the new standards that will impact every district and campus in the state. The suit seeks an injunction to stop the commissioner from issuing new ratings using retroactive, incomplete measures.

"I have often used the phrase, 'Our students are more than a number,'" Lake Worth ISD Superintendent Dr. Rose Mary Neshyba said. "This has never been truer than now. The anticipated changes to the A-F system will not tell our community an accurate story about the growth of our students and the academic improvements we have made this past year. What would be gains, will appear as setbacks, and this is simply unjust. Although I believe in accountability, the performance expectations must be realistic, accurately measured, and authentically communicated."

Lake Worth ISD is proud to join districts across Texas, advocating for fairness, transparency, and due process in the educational system. The Board wholeheartedly reaffirmed their commitment to standing up for the rights of our students, staff, and the community.