

AMENDED SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

STATE OF TEXAS

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COUNTY OF GALVESTON

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This Contract is entered into between the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the "District") and Travis W. Edwards (the "Superintendent").

The Board and the Superintendent, for and in consideration for the terms stated in this Contract, and pursuant to Texas Education Code Sections 11.201 and 21.201, *et seq.*, hereby agree as follows:

1. **Term.** The Board agrees to employ the Superintendent beginning February 26, 2024, and ending June 30, 2026. The Board and the Superintendent (the "Parties") may extend the term of this Contract by agreement.
 - 1.1 **No Right of Tenure.** The Board has not adopted any policy, rule, regulation, law, or practice providing for tenure. No express or implied property interest, right of tenure, contractual obligation, expectancy of continued employment, or claim of entitlement is created beyond the contact term.
2. **Certification.** The Superintendent agrees to maintain the required certification throughout the term of employment with the District. If the Superintendent's certification expires, is canceled, or is revoked, this Contract is void.
3. **Representations.** The Superintendent makes the following representations:
 - 3.1 **Beginning of Contract:** The Superintendent represents that he has disclosed to the Board, in writing, any arrest and any indictment, conviction, no contest or guilty plea, or other adjudication of the Superintendent, other than routine traffic citations. The Superintendent understands that a criminal history record acceptable to the Board, at its sole discretion, is a condition precedent to this Contract.
 - 3.2 **During Contract:** The Superintendent also agrees that, during the term of this Contract, the Superintendent will notify the Board, in writing, of any arrest or of any indictment, conviction, no contest or guilty plea, or other adjudication of the Superintendent, other than routine traffic citations. The Superintendent agrees to provide such notification in writing within seven calendar days of the event or any shorter period specified in Board Policy.
 - 3.3 **False Statements and Misrepresentations:** The Superintendent represents that any records or information provided in connection with his employment application

are true and correct. Any false statements, misrepresentations, omissions of requested information, or fraud by the Superintendent in or concerning any required records or in the employment application may be grounds for termination or nonrenewal, as applicable.

- 3.4 **Residency:** The Superintendent agrees to reside within the boundaries of Galveston County and remain a resident of the County for the duration of his employment as Superintendent.
4. **Duties.** The Superintendent shall be the educational leader and chief executive officer of the District. The Superintendent agrees to perform his duties as follows:
 - 4.1 **Authority:** The Superintendent shall perform such duties and have such powers as may be prescribed by law and the Board. The Board shall have the right to assign additional lawful duties to the Superintendent and to make changes in responsibilities or work at any time during the contract term. All duties assigned by the Board shall be appropriate to and consistent with the professional role and responsibility of the Superintendent.
 - 4.2 **Standard:** Except as otherwise permitted by this Contract, the Superintendent agrees to devote his full time and energy to the performance of his duties. The Superintendent shall perform his duties with reasonable care, skill, and diligence. The Superintendent shall comply with all lawful Board directives, state and federal laws and rules, Board policy, and regulations as they exist or may hereafter be amended.
 - 4.3 **Board Meetings.** The Superintendent shall attend all meetings of the Board, both public and closed, with the exception of those closed meetings devoted to the consideration of any action or lack of action on the Superintendent's Contract, discipline of the Superintendent, disputes between the Superintendent and the Board, or the Superintendent's evaluation, or for purposes of resolving conflicts between individual Board members, or when the Board is acting in its capacity as a tribunal. In the event of illness or Board-approved absence, the Superintendent's designee shall attend such meetings.
 - 4.4 **Indemnification.** To the extent it may be permitted to do by applicable law, including, but not limited to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code Chapter 102, the District does hereby agree to defend, hold harmless, and indemnify Superintendent from any and all demands, claims, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred in any legal proceedings brought against Superintendent in the Superintendent's individual or official capacity as an employee and as Superintendent of the District, providing the incident(s), which is (are) the basis of any such demand, claim, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees, arose or does arise in the future from an act or omission of

Superintendent as an employee of the District, acting within the course and scope of Superintendent's employment with the District; excluding, however, any such demand, claim, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees for those claims or any causes of action where it is determined that Superintendent committed official misconduct, or committed a willful or wrongful act or omission, or an act or omission constituting gross negligence, or acted in bad faith; and excluding any costs, fees, expenses or damages that would be recoverable or payable under an insurance contract, held either by the District or by Superintendent. The selection of Superintendent's legal counsel shall be with the mutual agreement of Superintendent and the District if such legal counsel is not also District's legal counsel. A legal defense may be provided through insurance coverage, in which case Superintendent's right to agree to legal counsel provided for him will depend on the terms of the applicable insurance contract. To the extent this Section 4.4 exceeds the authority provided and limitations imposed by Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, Chapter 102, it shall be construed and modified accordingly. The provisions of this Section 4.4 shall survive the termination of this contract.

5. **Compensation.**

- 5.1 **Salary:** The Board agrees to pay Superintendent an annual salary in the amount of TWO HUNDRED TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$202,500.00). This annual salary shall be paid to the Superintendent in equal installments consistent with the Board's policies.
- (a) **Widespread Salary Reduction.** If the Board implements a widespread salary reduction under Texas Education Code section 21.4023, the Superintendent's annual salary shall be reduced by the percent or fraction of a percent that is equal to the average percent or fraction of a percent by which teacher salaries have been reduced.
- (b) **Furlough.** If the Board implements a furlough under Texas Education Code section 21.4021, the Superintendent shall be furloughed for the same number of days as other contract personnel and the Superintendent's salary shall be reduced in proportion to the number of furlough days.
- 5.2 **Salary Adjustments.** At any time during the term of this Contract, the Board may, in its discretion, review and adjust the salary of the Superintendent, but, with the exception of the provisions of Sections 5.1 subsections (a) and (b) above, in no event shall the Superintendent be paid less than the salary set forth in Section 5.1 of this Contract except by mutual agreement of the two parties. Such adjustments, if any, shall be made pursuant to a lawful Board resolution. In such event, the parties agree to provide their best efforts and reasonable cooperation to execute a new contract incorporating the adjusted salary.

- 5.3 **Benefits:** In addition to the specific benefits outlined below, the District shall provide benefits to the Superintendent as provided by state law and Board policies. The Board reserves the right to amend its policies at any time during the term of this Contract to increase these benefits, at the Board's sole discretion.
- A. **Vacation and Leave:** The Superintendent may take, at the Superintendent's choice, ten (10) days of vacation annually, or the same number of vacation days as authorized by Board policy for administrative employees on 12-month contracts. The Superintendent shall observe the same holidays and breaks as provided for other 12-month administrators in the Board's adopted annual calendar and shall be eligible for any leave available to other employees under Board policy. The Superintendent shall schedule vacation and leave days at times that will least interfere with the performance of the Superintendent's duties.
 - B. **Membership Dues:** The Board encourages the Superintendent to become a member of and participate in professional associations and community and civic affairs up to four memberships annually. The Board concludes that such participation will serve a legitimate purpose related to the educational mission of the District. The District will reimburse the Superintendent for the reasonable expense of membership in these organizations, to a maximum amount as specified in the Superintendent's budget approved by the Board annually.
 - C. **Health and Medical Insurance:** The Superintendent shall be entitled to the same group health and hospitalization insurance the District pays for all other District employees. Other health and family benefits that are available to other employees, such as vision, dental, cancer, and disability shall be at the Superintendent's expense.
 - D. **Travel Expenses:** The District will not be responsible for travel expenses incurred by the Superintendent in the performance of the Superintendent's duties that do not require an overnight stay. This clause will control over any conflicting provisions of Board policy. In addition, the District agrees to reimburse the Superintendent, according to Board policy, for travel expenses incurred by the Superintendent in the performance of the Superintendent's duties for traveling that involves an overnight stay.
 - E. **Outside Consultant Activities.** The Superintendent may serve as a consultant or undertake speaking engagements, writing, teaching or other professional duties and obligations outside the District (referred to collectively herein as "Consulting Services") that do not conflict or interfere with the Superintendent's professional responsibilities to the District. The

Superintendent may accept a reimbursement of expenses for such Consulting Services at no expense to the District. Consulting Services provided by the Superintendent under the terms and conditions of this paragraph must be consistent with state and federal law.

5.4 **Additional Work Days.** The Board recognizes that the Superintendent will work additional days each month that are not otherwise published workdays in accordance with the District's calendar. To compensate the Superintendent for working these additional non-scheduled workdays, the Board agrees to pay Superintendent an additional salary of \$400.00 per month. This additional salary shall be paid to the Superintendent in equal installments consistent with the Board's policies.

5.5 **Supplemental Compensation.** The Board agrees to compensate the Superintendent an additional sum of \$1,537.48 per month.

6. **Performance Goals/Evaluation.**

6.1 **Development of Goals.** The Superintendent shall submit to the Board a preliminary list of goals for the District each year for the Board's consideration and adoption. The Superintendent and the Board shall then meet, and the Board shall approve or revise the list of goals. The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval a plan to implement the goals. The Superintendent and the Board shall meet annually to assess the goals and may adjust or revise the goals either by action of the Board or upon recommendation of the Superintendent and approval of the Board. The goals approved by the Board shall at all times be reduced to writing ("District Goals") and shall be among the criteria on which the Superintendent's performance is reviewed and evaluated. The Board agrees to work with and support the Superintendent in achieving the District Goals.

6.2 **Time and Basis of Evaluation.** The Board shall evaluate and assess in writing the performance of the Superintendent at least once every 15 months during the term of this Contract. The Board's evaluation and assessment of the Superintendent shall be reasonably related to the duties of the Superintendent as outlined in the Superintendent's job description and shall be based on the District's progress towards accomplishing the District Goals.

6.3 **Confidentiality.** Unless the Superintendent expressly requests otherwise in writing, the evaluation of the Superintendent shall at all times be conducted in executive session and shall be considered confidential to the extent permitted by law. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Board or the Superintendent from sharing the content of the Superintendent's evaluation with their respective legal counsel.

6.4 **Evaluation Format and Procedures.** The evaluation format and procedure shall

be in accordance with the Board's policies and state and federal law. In the event that the Board determines that the performance of the Superintendent is unsatisfactory in any respect, it shall describe in writing, in reasonable detail, specific instances of unsatisfactory performance. A copy of the written evaluation shall be delivered to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have the right to make a written response to the evaluation within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written evaluation from the board. That response shall become a permanent attachment to the evaluation in the Superintendent's personnel file. In the event the Board deems that the evaluation instrument, format, and/or procedure is to be modified by the Board and such modifications would require new or different performance expectations, the Superintendent shall be provided a reasonable period of time to demonstrate such expected performance before being evaluated.

7. **Suspension.** In accordance with Texas Education Code Chapter 21, the Board may suspend the Superintendent without pay during the term of this Contract for good cause as determined by the Board under and pursuant to applicable Texas law.
8. **Termination and Nonrenewal of Contract.** Termination or nonrenewal of this contract, or resignation under this contract, will be pursuant to Texas Education Code Chapter 21.
9. **General provisions.**
 - 9.1 **Amendment:** This Contract may not be amended except by written agreement of the Parties.
 - 9.2 **Severability:** If any provision in this Contract is, for any reason, held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of the Contract. This Contract shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been a part of the Contract.
 - 9.3 **Entire Agreement:** All existing agreements and contracts, both verbal and written, between the Parties regarding the employment of the Superintendent are superseded by this Contract. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties.
 - 9.4 **Applicable Law and Venue:** Texas law shall govern construction of this Contract. The Parties agree that venue for any litigation relating to the Superintendent's employment with the District, including this Contract, shall be the county in which the District's administration building is located. If litigation is brought in federal court, the Parties agree that venue shall be the federal district and division in which the District's administration building is located.
 - 9.5 **Paragraph Headings:** The headings used at the beginning of each numbered

paragraph in this Contract are not intended to have any legal effect; the headings do not limit or expand the meaning of the paragraphs that follow them.


- 9.6 **Legal Representation:** Both Parties have been represented by legal counsel of their choice, or have had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel, in the negotiation and execution of this contract.
- 9.7 **Reassignment.** The Superintendent cannot be reassigned from the position of Superintendent to another position without the Superintendent's written consent.
- 9.8 **Criticisms, Complaints, and Suggestions.** The Board, individually and collectively, shall refer all substantive criticisms, complaints, and suggestions called to the Board's attention to the Superintendent for study and appropriate action, and the Superintendent shall investigate such matters and inform the Board of the results of such efforts

10. Notices.

- 10.1 **To Superintendent:** The Superintendent agrees to keep a current address on file with the District's human resources office and the Board President. The Superintendent agrees that the Board may meet any legal obligation it has to give the Superintendent written notice regarding this contract or the Superintendent's employment by hand-delivery, or by certified mail, regular mail, and/or express delivery service to the Superintendent's address of record.
- 10.2 **To Board:** The Board agrees that the Superintendent may meet any legal obligation to give the Board written notice regarding this Contract or the Superintendent's employment by providing one copy of the notice to the President of the Board and one copy to the Vice President of the Board. The Superintendent may provide such notices by hand delivery, or by certified mail, regular mail, and/or express delivery service, to the Board President and Vice President's addresses of record, as provided to the District.

I have read this Contract and agree to abide by its terms and conditions:

SUPERINTENDENT:

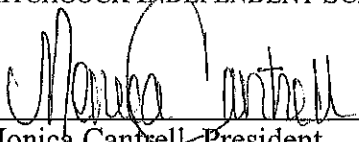


Travis W. Edwards

3/4/24

Date

HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:



Monica Cantrell, President
Hitchcock ISD Board of Trustees

03-05-2024

Date