STATE OF TEXAS §
§
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON §

RESOLUTION CONCERNING SECURITY PERSONNEL

WHEREAS the Orenda Education Board of Directors ("Board") is a charter holder operating an open-enrollment charter school d/b/a Orenda Charter School pursuant to a charter contract with the Texas State Board of Education, holds the physical safety of its students and staff as its highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the Board, in consultation with the Superintendent and the School's legal counsel, have considered options under federal and state law for the placement of competent and qualified armed security personnel at its campuses; and

WHEREAS, the Board endeavors to prevent any physical injury or loss of life resulting from an active shooter incident or similar tragedy such as recently experienced in public schools, hospitals, and churches within the State of Texas and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code requires the Board to determine the appropriate number of armed security officers for each campus;

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code requires at least one armed security officer during regular school hours at each Orenda Charter School campus, specifically an armed security officer who is a school district peace officer, a school resource officer, or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel at each campus; and

WHEREAS, Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code authorizes the Board to claim a good cause exception to the requirement to place an armed security officer who is a peace officer at each campus if Orenda Charter School is unable to comply due to lack of available funding and/or qualified personnel; and

WHEREAS the Board is authorized by Sections 12.107 and 45.105 of the Texas Education Code to expend funds for purposes necessary in the conduct of the public schools as determined by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that there is a lack of available qualified personnel in the areas surrounding Orenda Charter School campuses for the School to employ or contract for at least one peace officer commissioned by the school, a school resource officer, or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel to serve as an armed security officer at each campus; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires that the School continue to pursue and make effort to employ armed security personnel to provide adequate coverage for its campuses, but given the difficulties

in staffing such positions, the Board must necessarily claim a good cause exception to the requirement that each campus have an armed security officer during regular school hours as provided under the new Texas Education Code section 37.0814(c) due to the unavailability of funding and/or unavailability of personnel who qualify as a school district peace officer, school resource officer, or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel; and

WHEREAS, Section 37.814(d) of the Texas Education Code requires Orenda Charter School to develop an alternative standard with which it is able to comply; and

WHEREAS, the Board may authorize an individual to carry firearms and handguns on school premises in accordance with written regulations or written authorization under Texas Penal Code section 46.03(a)(1)(A); and

WHEREAS, the Board has, pursuant to its authority under Texas Penal Code section 46.03(a)(1)(A) authorized the Superintendent to establish a program for armed security officers through a contract with a licensed security guard company; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that the expense for security including armed security personnel is necessary in the conduct of the public schools for the hardening of the public schools within its jurisdiction for the protection of human life; and

WHEREAS, Orenda Charter School has implemented various safety measures designed to prevent physical injury or loss of life resulting from an active shooter incident or similar tragedy including a Multi-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan ("MEOP") addressing prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery as defined by the Texas School Safety Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Orenda Charter School, at a lawfully called meeting of the Board, held in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, do hereby adopt the following Resolutions:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

- The Board hereby determines that Orenda Charter School is unable to ensure that at least one armed school district peace officer, school resource officer, or a commissioned peace officer is present during regular school hours at each campus due to lack of available qualified personnel.
- The Board determines it is necessary to claim and hereby does claim a good cause exception under Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code.
- The Board has developed and approved an alternative standard with which it is able to comply that includes contracting with a licensed security guard company to provide Orenda Charter School armed security officers with appropriate training and qualifications.
- The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent or designee to take all necessary actions to implement and comply with the alternative standard outlined above, including engagement of a licensed security guard company to provide at least one qualified armed security officers for each Orenda Charter School campus.

- Armed security officers present on campus in accordance with this alternative standard are authorized to possess firearms and handguns on Orenda Charter School campuses in a manner consistent with their professional license and certifications as issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, or other licensing agency or authority and as set forth in any applicable Orenda Charter School policies and procedures.
- Orenda Charter School is authorized to enter into interlocal agreements with local law enforcement agencies under Govt. Code Chapter 791 to provide school resource officers and other law enforcement support for campuses.
- The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent to engage a security guard company to provide unarmed security officer support for campuses.
- The Superintendent shall continue efforts to secure additional funding and to source, hire, employ, or contract with security personnel for the campuses.
- The Superintendent shall oversee the staffing and planning/scheduling for security personnel covering the School's campuses.
- The Superintendent shall work with the Regional Education Service Center and Texas School Safety Center to continue pursuit of additional resources, training, and safety and security policies, procedures, and practices.
- The Superintendent or designee is authorized to prepare and maintain documentation of the School's good cause exception and implementation of policies, procedures, alternative arrangements for security and safety.

Adopted at the Board of Directors meeting this January 19, 2026.

Signed by those voting in favor:

ORENDA EDUCATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[redacted]

Andrew Cottrill

[redacted]

Travis Graves

[redacted]

Mick Swope

[redacted]

Tory Gant