

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
KLEIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution  
Concerning the A-F Accountability Rating System  
for Texas Public Schools

STATE OF TEXAS           §  
  §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS       §

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Legislature has enacted legislation that requires the Commissioner of Education to implement a public school rating system that would assign A through F grades to schools and districts beginning with the 2017-18 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, at least 16 states have implemented a similar rating system utilizing A through F grades for schools and districts and, to date, there is no definitive research that suggests these ratings have improved student or school performance; and

**WHEREAS**, in a recent statewide survey conducted by the State Board of Education, an overwhelming majority of Texans do not want high-stakes, standardized test scores to serve as the primary basis for a public school rating system; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority (55%) of the A through F grades are based on the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR), a high-stakes, standardized test that does not accurately measure student learning; and

**WHEREAS**, the STAAR is a summative measure that provides limited formative feedback to guide student learning, inform teachers or report academic progress to parents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner's proposed rating system utilizing A through F grades for schools and districts includes five domains and numerous unrelated indicators to determine a single grade, leaving the public with an invalid, disconnected reflection of school quality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner's proposed rating system utilizing A through F grades for schools and districts creates a false impression about students, ignores the unique strengths of each school, and unfairly reduces each student's worth to the school's assigned grade; and

**WHEREAS**, we embrace meaningful accountability that informs students, parents, and teachers about the learning needs of each student and each school; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe our state's future prosperity relies on a high-quality education system that prepares students for college and careers, and without such a system Texas' economic competitiveness and ability to attract new business will falter; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe in a shared district vision that every student enters with a promise and exits with a purpose and, in accordance with this vision, we commit to make every pathway available to every student.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Klein ISD Board of Trustees calls on the Texas Legislature to repeal the rating system utilizing A through F grades for schools and districts and develop a community-based accountability system that empowers school districts to design their own internal systems of assessment and accountability that, while meeting general state standards, allows districts to innovate and customize curriculum and instruction to meet the needs and interests of each student and their communities; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this new system should reduce the use of high-stakes, standardized tests, encompass multiple assessments, reflect greater validity, and, more accurately reflect what students know and can do in terms of the rigorous standards.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016

**KLEIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

By: Ronnie K. Anderson  
Ronnie K. Anderson  
Board Member

By: Georgan Reitmeier  
Georgan Reitmeier  
Board Member

By: Cathy M. Arellano  
Cathy M. Arellano  
Board Member

By: Steven E. Smith  
Steven E. Smith  
Board Member

By: Rick Mann  
Rick Mann  
Board Member

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen J. Szymczak  
Board Member

By: William F. Pilkington  
William F. Pilkington  
Board Member

By: Bret A. Champion  
Bret A. Champion, Ed.D.  
Superintendent