

CLOSING REMARKS



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As part of our research we have been communicating with TEA, Region IV, Congressional Leaders, local community leaders, educators and community members.

Brent Pitt at TEA told us that *“the management board is to be making decisions based on what is best for the students and not on what is best for the administration.”*

Theresa Johnson at Region IV stated that *“the parents’ voice is what should be guiding the decisions of the management board. This should be a relationship and not a decision making body that only informs parents of changes. The parent is an equal partner in this relationship.”*

The aides in Congressman Ron Paul’s office are still researching this issue.

Educators and community members have made comments such as:

“I had no idea that this is what they did with the deaf students.”

“No other student population is treated like this because their parents would be very vocal in their opposition.”

“This may increase my school taxes and add to the crowding issues, but having all the students in CCISD is the right thing to do.”

“Who thought this is the best way to educate students?”

“How would they like their kids to attend 3 different school districts?”

Our proposal represents the least disruptive plan. When looking at the demographics, the 9 students currently at Alvin High School would graduate from Alvin High School; the 30 students already in CCISD would remain where they are; and the remaining 10 students in Santa Fe would be the only ones moving, which is a move that would be happening in their near future anyway with the current system.

We challenge each of you to read the details in this presentation and the student’s stories that this meeting does not allow the time to go into. After your careful consideration, and discussion among yourselves, we would welcome the opportunity to meet again in person to hear your thoughts and concerns. This needs to be a dialog between partners working toward a better program for our students.



I'll leave you with one last thought. Think back to the story about Benjamin's transition to Creekside Intermediate. The positive outcome of his transition was due to the hard work of Hall and GBCHI staff and remaining with peers from campus to campus. This was the first time Benjamin went to a new school with such self confidence and was truly excited about this new experience. This is what we want for every student.