

**Email Express  
Special Edition  
October 14, 2008**

Dear Lovejoy Community:

**News from the Texas Education Agency**

As I told you in my communication of July 16, 2008, someone filed a complaint against me with the Texas Education Agency. The TEA has completed their official inquiry. I received a letter dated October 6, 2008, with the following finding: "The circumstances surrounding the investigation were deemed not to warrant further action by this agency and the case is being administratively closed with no additional action required at this time." If you are new to the district or would like to refresh your memory regarding the July 16<sup>th</sup> Email Express, you can find it at: [July 16, 2008](#) . Our Lovejoy ISD Board of Trustees reached the same conclusions after they thoroughly reviewed the facts.

**What Positives Can Be Drawn from this Situation?**

The overwhelming support that I have received from so many in this community has been very gratifying and sincerely appreciated. The support from the board, my administrative team, faculty, and the community has proven once again why Lovejoy is an amazing district with unlimited potential.

**What Next?**

Now that I have been cleared by both the Lovejoy ISD Board of Trustees and the Texas Education Agency, I plan to return 100% of my focus to the business of the District. As you will recall, I have always been open with the community, having held a meeting of the leaders of all parent groups in the district. I had 75 people in attendance at this meeting where I laid out the information honestly with supporting documentation. Now that my professional record and reputation have been formally affirmed, I do not intend to take further time addressing the false accusations and rumors; impartial third parties have done that for me

**Community Briefing Next Week**

Our October board meeting is next Tuesday, 10/21/08, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Room at Lovejoy High School. Although I do not intend to rehash the ugly false accusations, I do intend to open with a board report regarding the chronology of the events of the past year and the costs to this district in both real dollars for legal expenses as well as the distraction of administrative time spent responding to these malicious talebearers. Consistent with my practice of being open with respect to this investigation, the taxpayers are entitled to know what these false accusers and their cohorts cost the children. This report will come at the beginning of the meeting, and as always you are welcome to remain for the remainder of the meeting if you wish.

**What Are My Professional Plans?**

Serving as the leader of the Lovejoy ISD is both my personal and professional mission. I am going to continue in my current role as we build sufficient capacity in this district to continue our ascent of delivering the best possible educational experience for each and every child.

### **What Actions Will be Taken Regarding the Defamation Issues?**

As a public official, I accept the public's right to be critical of me and my work. In our society, you have the right and responsibility to question and complain about any issue in your public school. You have the right to criticize me for using my weight loss as a model for community wellness just as you have the right to question high academic standards for each child. You have the right to complain about what I choose to order for dinner when I am traveling at district expense or to object to my choice to stay in the conference hotel when attending training. However, it crosses the line of acceptable behavior when I or anyone else is wrongly accused of committing a felony or of committing an act of moral turpitude. I am evaluating my options regarding filing a lawsuit. I have attended several sessions of late regarding this whole issue of cyber bullying. The attached was a recent article involving a school related issue regarding defamation: [USATODAY.com - Jury awards \\$11.3M over defamatory Internet posts\\*](#)

I guarantee you that should I pursue litigation it will in no way deter or alter my focus on providing the best education to every child in our district.

### **Of What Am I Most Proud?**

The business of leading a public school district requires focus and consistency. It would have been easy to allow myself to be distracted from the chief purpose of leading our schools when under this type of attack, but I committed early in the process to do everything within my power to “keep my eye on the ball” and ensure that we continued the quality work consistent with the Lovejoy ISD. I am very proud of the fact that:

- Lovejoy remains 1 of the 43 Exemplary Districts in the State of Texas
- We completed \$52 million of capital projects during the past school year. All campuses opened on time and within budget
- We have navigated through the 3 budget years of secondary transition within the financial projections with which we began the process
- We have recruited and retained strong principals at all 5 campuses
- We continue to receive Superior ratings on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas
- Soon to be released report prepared by the Dana Center at U.T.—Austin will demonstrate the positive effect that has occurred on student achievement as a result of Pre-AP for All
- I was honored to be recognized and selected as one of five statewide finalists for the TASB Superintendent of the Year
- In November, I will have the additional distinguishment of being bestowed the John Hoyle Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership presented by Texas A&M University

- The Lovejoy Way continues to thrive to benefit all children

In the three years that I have been in the district, I have learned that when I stand up for the district or for myself, a small group of district critics accuse me of being covert or retaliatory. I am a public official and they are within their rights to voice that objection. However, it is appropriate for me to share the facts as I see them or as the LISD Board of Trustees sees them. I believe passionately in transparency of all government business as well as participative decision making when appropriate. I believe in the Lovejoy Way and especially the Lovejoy Graduate Profile. I will continue to do everything within my power to 'Be Fair and Respectful of Others', and I expect to receive the same professional courtesy.

I hope to see you next Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Room at Lovejoy High School.

Respectfully,

Ted Moore  
Superintendent  
Lovejoy ISD