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Dear parents, families, teachers, staff, and community members of South San Antonio ISD:

The Texas Education Agency's (TEA) mission is to improve outcomes for all public school students in the state by providing leadership, guidance, and support to school systems. As such, you may be aware that in September 2023, the TEA entered into an agreement with South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD) after a yearslong investigation found that the Board of Trustees violated multiple laws relating to governance, including neglecting to collaborate with the district superintendent and operating outside of their authority. The agreement provided SSAISD twelve months, with the support of a conservator, to significantly improve the operations of its governance leadership team. Now that the twelve-month period has ended, the Commissioner of Education is evaluating whether SSAISD's Board of Trustees is following the law and governing in a way that reflects the vision and values of your community. Today, we are writing to provide you with an update on what to expect next.

If there is sufficient evidence that the Board of Trustees addressed the concerns raised in the investigation and has made sustainable improvements, there will be no changes to the district's existing governance leadership team. However, if the Commissioner determines that intervention is still needed to best serve SSAISD students, he will appoint a Board of Managers to SSAISD.

- Like elected school boards, a Board of Managers reflects the ethnic, racial, and economic diversity of SSAISD and includes parents, community leaders, and people with backgrounds in public education, social work, counseling, business, finance, or law.
- A Board of Managers would temporarily replace the Board of Trustees, assume power and authority over SSAISD, and implement policies and procedures to address the systemic issues raised in the investigation.
- Once effective board practices and governance structures are restored at SSAISD, the suspended Board of Trustees will be phased back into full authority.

To ensure TEA is prepared to support the South San Antonio community should the Commissioner decide to appoint a Board of Managers, the agency has started the process of recruiting prospective members:

- A job description and an online application to serve on the Board of Managers is available on the TEA [Board of Managers](#) website. The application will close on December 11, 2024.
- Applicants are required to attend a [Lone Star Governance](#) training on December 14 and 15 and participate in at least one interview before final selections are made.
- TEA will hold two community meetings in December to share more details and answer questions about the recruitment process. More details will be available on the TEA [Board of Managers](#) website.

TEA acknowledges that the Commissioner's decisions may require significant change to your district. The agency is committed to a fair and transparent process that benefits all students in SSAISD and looks forward to engaging with you during our community meetings. Thank you for your support and dedication to the students of SSAISD. If you have any questions, feel free to email boardofmanagers@tea.texas.gov.