

Dear SUPERINTENDENT:

Great things happen in our Texas public schools! We know you are continuing to work hard to do what is best for students, staff, and families during this extraordinary time. Now more than ever the importance of public schools and the effectiveness of educational leaders is being noticed by each and every educational stakeholder. This is causing a much-needed rethinking of the critical role public education plays in our democracy and how to better support it. But it is also bringing out critics who see our current climate as an opportunity to further demean and diminish what you do. It is our mission to share the truth regarding your efforts, to bolster the support of the vast majority who believe in public education, and to counter the false narratives of public education as a failed institution. We need a small bit of your help to continue our work.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we would like to invite you to enroll your district in our Friends of Texas Public Schools Network. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2004 to combat the widespread message of failure being attributed to our schools. Your participation enables Friends to continue defending your honor by collecting and sharing your many strengths and achievements...and there are plenty!

If your district was a member previously, **it is time to renew**. If you have not joined previously, we would like to invite you to do so today!

Your annual membership of \$350 includes a marketing toolkit to support your communications teams' efforts in promoting the great things happening in your district. The toolkit includes ready-to-use graphics to promote academic and extracurricular programs, social media guidance, and easy-to-use tools for principals to market their campuses.

To share the great stories statewide, Friends:

- Maintains a robust website featuring the many achievements of Texas public schools
- Curates a positive social media presence with more than 30,000 followers
- Distributes a monthly e-newsletter to 60,000 subscribers
- Distributes posters to every public school campus and superintendent
- Is present at statewide conferences and events
- Speaks at schools and in communities across the state.

Please help us continue our efforts by joining today. An invoice and W9 are enclosed, or pay online at www.fotps.org/membership. Please complete your district profile to help us stay up-to-date. Keep in touch and help spread the word about Friends of Texas Public Schools! Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/FriendsTX and follow us on Twitter @FRIENDStxps. Want to share and celebrate great things happening in your district? Please email them to us any time at Friends@fotps.org.

For questions or assistance, contact our Executive Director, Jennifer Storm at <u>Jstorm@fotps.org</u> or 512.334.6555.

Sincerely,

Charlie Davis
Board President

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Jennifer L. Storm Executive Director

Defending the honor of Texas students and educators SINCE 2004.