

HISD Denies Claims Of Unauthorized Use Of Copyright Materials In Grant Application

On agendas of the Hart School Board, dating back to last year, there is often an ERI update discussion item. ERI is Educational Research Institute.

Hart ISD has received a third TTIPS grant (three-year grant) in the amount of \$1,183,495. TTIPS is Texas Title I Priority Schools. The grant-writer (ERI) for the second grant asserts unauthorized reproduction of some of their terminology. The Pulse requested the following statement from the school's attorney(s) at Underwood Law Firm in Amarillo regarding this ERI.

By letter from its attorney, Oscar Alaniz, dated August 19, 2014, Educational Research Institute (ERI) asserts claims of "unauthorized reproduction or use of copyright materials" in connection with the District's Texas Title I Priority Schools (TTIPS), Cycle 3 grant. ERI

had previously contracted with the District to prepare and submit its TTIPS Cycle 2 grant to the Texas Education Agency, which contract term was from June 3, 2011 through August 15, 2014. This contract provided that the District will not utilize any of ERI's data, research, work-product, or intellectual property with future grant submissions. ERI claims that the District breached the agreement by using ERI's copyright protected materials in preparing its Cycle 3 grant. ERI seeks a contingency fee of 10% of all monies collected through the Cycle 3 grant.

The District denies all claims of unauthorized use of copyright protected materials, and denies any improper use of ERI's data, research, work-product, or intellectual property, either directly or acting with its new consultant relating to the TTIPS

Cycle 3 grant. Underwood has requested and received more detailed information from Mr. Alaniz regarding ERI's claims, and is in the process of evaluating this information and these allegations with the District. Underwood will vigorously defend the District if ERI files a lawsuit.

As this is a pending matter, the District has no further comment at this time.

Wins First Place

Don Williams entered his 2012 Boss 302 Laguna Seca Ford Mustang in the Blue Ribbon Rally & Car Show held in Lubbock at the Depot District on Saturday. He won first place in the Contemporary Muscle Car Division. His son, Ace, a Lubbock resident, won second with his 2009 GT 500 Mustang.

The Rally supports child abuse awareness.

SECRETARIES' MONTH

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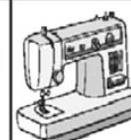
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