



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

August 28, 2025

Theresa Williams, Superintendent of Schools  
Plano Independent School District  
2700 W. 15th Street  
Plano, Texas 75075

Dear Superintendent Williams:

Reports have come to my attention that Plano Independent School District ("PISD") may be permitting and facilitating antisemitic behavior by students, teachers, and even school administrators. Specifically, accounts have circulated that teachers are presenting biased materials and insisting that students take a pro-Palestinian view. Reports indicate there have been school-sponsored pro-Palestinian walkouts, for which the school provided "excused absences" to participating students. And parents have reported widespread anti-Israel and antisemitic rhetoric in curriculum and classroom discussions to school administrators, board members, and City of Plano councilmembers. Those complaints have either been ignored or met with vague responses that do nothing to meaningfully address the problem.

As with all forms of bigotry, antisemitism is never acceptable in Texas schools and there is zero tolerance for acts of antisemitism in our school districts. The Code of Ethics and Standard Practices is clear. It prohibits educators from using their institutional and professional privileges for "partisan advantage," as well as intentionally treating a student or minor in such a way that it "adversely affects or endangers the learning,...mental health, or safety of [a] student or minor." *See* 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 247.2(1)(D) and 247.2(3)(B). And an educator must not exclude or deny benefits to a student "on the basis of...nation origin" or "religion." *Id.* § 247.2(3)(D). Simply put, educators that are in violation of the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices are putting their licenses at risk. As you are no doubt aware, the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislature passed S.B. 326, codified as Section 37.0095 of the Texas Education Code, which became effective on May 20, 2025. S.B. 326 mandates that a school district consider the following definition of antisemitism in determining whether a student's behavior was motivated by antisemitism:

A certain perception of Jews that may be expressed as hatred of toward Jews. The term includes rhetorical and physical acts of antisemitism directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals or their property or toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Examples of antisemitism are included with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's "Working Definition of Antisemitism" adopted on May 26, 2016.

As we approach the two-year anniversary of the October 7 terrorist attack in Israel, it is crucial that PISD take all necessary steps to combat antisemitism and appropriately discipline teachers, staff, and students that act in contravention to state law and PISD policy.

I remain concerned that PISD is allowing antisemitic behavior to take place in the school district. Therefore, I request the following documents pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code:

1. All school policies on student walkouts, including but not limited to policies on student absences during a walkout.
2. All disciplinary actions and investigations into students who participated in any pro-Palestinian or anti-Israel walkouts. Personal identifying information of the students may be redacted in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act.
3. All reports, complaints, and communication from the public or internally that PISD has received related to anti-Israel rhetoric and antisemitism, including, but not limited to curriculum, teaching materials, and teacher, staff, and student behavior.
4. All investigation reports, documentation, outcomes and responses in response to #3 above.
5. All disciplinary actions and investigations into teachers or staff for anti-Israel rhetoric and antisemitic curriculum, presentation materials, or other instruction.

Please provide me with the requested documents within 10 business days of receipt of this letter.

For Texas,



Ken Paxton  
Attorney General of Texas

cc: [openrecords@pisd.edu](mailto:openrecords@pisd.edu)

Dr. Theres Williams, Superintendent of Schools, via email to [theresa.williams@pisd.edu](mailto:theresa.williams@pisd.edu)

Dr. Laura Tyra, Board President via email to [lauren.tyra@pisd.edu](mailto:lauren.tyra@pisd.edu)

Nancy Humphrey, Board Vice President via email to [nancy.humphrey@pisd.edu](mailto:nancy.humphrey@pisd.edu)

Tarrah Lantz, Board Secretary via email to [tarrah.lantz@pisd.edu](mailto:tarrah.lantz@pisd.edu)

Sam Johnson, Board Member, via email to [sam.johnson@pisd.edu](mailto:sam.johnson@pisd.edu)

Michael Cook, Board Member, via email to [michael.cook@pisd.edu](mailto:michael.cook@pisd.edu)

Elisa Klein, Board Member, via email to [elisa.klein@pisd.edu](mailto:elisa.klein@pisd.edu)

Katherine Chan Goodwin, Board Member, via email to [katherine.goodwin@pisd.edu](mailto:katherine.goodwin@pisd.edu)