

Whitehouse Independent School District

Financial Management Performance Report

2020-21 District Status

Public Hearing

October 10, 2022

Whitehouse ISD

Financial Accountability Management Report

The Whitehouse ISD received a rating of “A = Superior Achievement” under Texas’ School FIRST financial accountability rating system. The “Superior Achievement” rating is the state’s highest, demonstrating the quality of Whitehouse ISD’s financial management and reporting system.

This is the twentieth year of School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas), a financial accountability system for Texas school districts developed by the Texas Education Agency in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. Per the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website, this system is meant to ensure accountability for the quality of financial management practices in Texas public schools and to encourage better management of financial resources in Texas school districts and charter schools. Major changes to the School FIRST system were implemented by the Texas Education Agency in August 2015 that combined financial indicators with financial solvency indicators, in accordance with House Bill 5, 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2013. The 2015-16 reporting year indicators were further revamped for the 2016 report to finalize clarifications to the Commissioner’s Rule for School FIRST. No significant changes were noted for the 2017 through 2022 report indicators. The primary goal of School FIRST is to achieve quality performance in the management of school districts’ financial resources, a goal made more significant due to the complexity of accounting associated with Texas’ school finance system and recent economic fluctuations.

The Texas Education Agency converted School FIRST to a four-tier rating system of “A” for “Superior Achievement”, “B” for “Above Standard Achievement”, “C” for “Meets Standard Achievement”, or “F” for “Substandard Achievement” for the 2015-2016 rating year. This followed the two-tier system that was in place for the 2014-15 rating year. Prior to the 2014-2015 rating year, the School FIRST accountability rating system was a four-tier system much like the current system. The rating system consists of seventeen main indicators that are currently being scored. Answers of “no” on certain indicators will automatically result in a substandard achievement rating. Nine of the other scored indicators are assigned point values and there are two indicators that are not being scored this year for which districts are receiving the full points. A total of 100 points can be earned through these indicators. A district’s rating is a function of the

answers to the pass/fail critical indicators and the aggregate number of points on the other indicators. Whitehouse ISD received the Superior Achievement rating with “yes” answers on all critical indicators and a score of 92 on the other indicators.

The 2020-2021 District Status report is attached to this report as Exhibit A. The report contains each indicator and the result for the district. An explanation of the indicators is provided in Exhibit B entitled “How Ratings are Assessed”. The district’s financial management performance under each indicator for the current and previous years’ financial accountability ratings and the state-established standards are provided for comparison purposes in Exhibit C. The district received the highest possible rating for both years. In accordance with Title 19 Texas Administrative Code §109.1005(b)(2), a copy of the Superintendent’s contract is attached as Exhibit D and additional disclosures required by law are contained in Exhibit E.

The “Superior Achievement” rating is due to successful efforts of the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and staff of Whitehouse ISD. These groups have utilized resources available to the district to provide a quality education to the students of Whitehouse ISD. Whitehouse ISD is committed to continuing the efficient and effective use of all its resources to maintain this rating in the future while continuing to serve the students, as well as the taxpayers and other shareholders, of the district.

RATING YEAR 2021-2022

DISTRICT NUMBER district #

Select An Option

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Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas

2021-2022 RATINGS BASED ON SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 DATA - DISTRICT STATUS DETAIL

Name: WHITEHOUSE ISD(212906)		Publication Level 1: 8/2/2022 2:05:39 PM	
Status: Passed		Publication Level 2: 8/4/2022 12:15:48 PM	
Rating: A = Superior Achievement		Last Updated: 8/4/2022 12:15:48 PM	
District Score: 92		Passing Score: 70	
#	Indicator Description	Updated	Score
1	<u>Was the complete annual financial report (AFR) and data submitted to the TEA within 30 days of the November 27 or January 28 deadline depending on the school district's fiscal year end date of June 30 or August 31, respectively?</u>	7/12/2022 8:47:51 AM	Yes
2	<u>Was there an unmodified opinion in the AFR on the financial statements as a whole? (The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) defines unmodified opinion. The external independent auditor determines if there was an unmodified opinion.)</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:34 PM	Yes
3	<u>Was the school district in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at fiscal year end? (If the school district was in default in a prior fiscal year, an exemption applies in following years if the school district is current on its forbearance or payment plan with the lender and the payments are made on schedule for the fiscal year being rated. Also exempted are technical defaults that are not related to monetary defaults. A technical default is a failure to uphold the terms of a debt covenant, contract, or master promissory note even though payments to the lender, trust, or sinking fund are current. A debt agreement is a legal agreement between a debtor (= person, company, etc. that owes money) and their creditors, which includes a plan for paying back the debt.)</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:34 PM	Yes
4	<u>Did the school district make timely payments to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and other government agencies? (If the school district received a warrant hold and the warrant hold was not cleared within 30 days from the date the warrant hold was issued, the school district is considered to not have made timely payments and will fail critical indicator 4. If the school district was issued a warrant hold, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 95 points, A = Superior Achievement, even if the issue surrounding the initial warrant hold was resolved and cleared within 30 days.)</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:35 PM	Yes Ceiling Passed
5	This indicator is not being scored.		
			1 Multiplier Sum
6	<u>Was the average change in (assigned and unassigned) fund balances over 3 years less than a 25 percent decrease or did the current year's assigned and unassigned fund balances exceed 75 days of operational expenditures? (If the school district fails indicator 6, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)</u>	5/17/2022 9:58:18 AM	Ceiling Passed
7	<u>Was the number of days of cash on hand and current investments in the general fund for the school district sufficient to cover operating expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:36 PM	10
8	<u>Was the measure of current assets to current liabilities ratio for the school district sufficient to cover short-term debt? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:36 PM	10
9	<u>Did the school district's general fund revenues equal or exceed expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? If not, was the school district's number of days of cash on hand greater than or equal to 60 days? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:37 PM	10
10	This indicator is not being scored.		10
11	<u>Was the ratio of long-term liabilities to total assets for the school district sufficient to support long-term solvency? If the school district's increase of students in membership over 5 years was 7 percent or more, then the school district automatically passes this indicator. See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:38 PM	4
12	<u>Was the debt per \$100 of assessed property value ratio sufficient to support future debt repayments? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:39 PM	8
13	<u>Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.</u>	6/9/2022 11:23:02 AM	10
14	<u>Did the school district not have a 15 percent decline in the students to staff ratio over 3 years (total enrollment to total staff)? If the student enrollment did not decrease, the school district will automatically pass this indicator.</u>	5/16/2022 12:58:40 PM	10
15	This indicator is not being scored.		5

16	Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to like information in the school district's AFR result in a total variance of less than 3 percent of all expenditures by function? (If the school district fails indicator 16, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)	5/16/2022 12:58:41 PM	Ceiling Passed
17	Did the external independent auditor report that the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material weakness.) (If the school district fails indicator 17, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 79 points, C = Meets Standard Achievement.)	5/16/2022 12:58:41 PM	Ceiling Passed
18	Did the external independent auditor indicate the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material noncompliance.)	5/16/2022 12:58:42 PM	10
19	Did the school district post the required financial information on its website in accordance with Government Code, Local Government Code, Texas Education Code, Texas Administrative Code and other statutes, laws and rules that were in effect at the school district's fiscal year end?	5/16/2022 12:58:42 PM	5
20	Did the school board members discuss the district's property values at a board meeting within 120 days before the district adopted its budget? (If the school district fails indicator 20 the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)	5/16/2022 12:58:43 PM	Ceiling Passed
			92 Weighted Sum
			1 Multiplier Sum
			(100 Ceiling)
			92 Score

DETERMINATION OF RATING

A.	Did the school district fail any of the critical indicators 1, 2, 3, or 4? If so, the school district's rating is F for Substandard Achievement regardless of points earned.	
B.	Determine the rating by the applicable number of points.	
	A = Superior Achievement	90-100
	B = Above Standard Achievement	80-89
	C = Meets Standard Achievement	70-79
	F = Substandard Achievement	<70
No Rating = A school district receiving territory that annexes with a school district ordered by the commissioner under TEC 13.054, or consolidation under Subchapter H, Chapter 41. No rating will be issued for the school district receiving territory until the third year after the annexation/consolidation.		
The school district receives an F if it scores below the minimum passing score, if it failed any critical indicator 1, 2, 3, or 4, if the AFR or the data were not both complete, or if either the AFR or the data were not submitted on time for FIRST analysis.		

CEILING INDICATORS

Did the school district meet the criteria for any of the following ceiling indicators 4, 6, 16, 17, or 20? If so, the school district's applicable maximum points and rating are disclosed below. Please note, an F = Substandard Achievement Rating supersedes any rating earned as the result of the school district meeting the criteria of a ceiling indicator.		
Determination of rating based on meeting ceiling criteria.	Maximum Points	Maximum Rating
Indicator 4 (Timely Payments) - School district was issued a warrant hold.	95	A = Superior Achievement
Indicator 6 (Average Change in Fund Balance) - Response to indicator is <i>No</i> .	89	B = Above Standard Achievement
Indicator 16 (PEIMS to AFR) - Response to indicator is <i>No</i> .	89	B = Above Standard Achievement
Indicator 17 (Material Weaknesses) - Response to indicator is <i>No</i> .	79	C = Meets Standard Achievement
Indicator 20 (Property Values and Tax Discussion) - Response to indicator is <i>No</i> .	89	B = Above Standard Achievement

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THE **TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY**
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FIRST 5.14.2.0



How Ratings are Assessed

Rating Worksheet

Preliminary ratings are released by Texas Education Agency every calendar year during the summer. The Commissioner's Rules for School FIRST are contained in Title 19, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 109, Subchapter AA, Commissioner's Rules Concerning Financial Accountability Rating System.

The questions a school district must address in completing the worksheet used to assess its financial management system can be confusing to non-accountants. The following is a layman's explanation of what the questions mean—and what your district's answers can mean to its rating.

1. Was the complete annual financial report (AFR) and data submitted to the TEA within 30 days of the November 27 or January 28 deadline depending on the school district's fiscal year end date of June 30 or August 31, respectively?

A simple indicator. Was your Annual Financial Report filed by the deadline?

2. Review the AFR for an unmodified opinion and material weaknesses.

Was there an unmodified opinion in the AFR on the financial statements as a whole? (The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) defines unmodified opinion. The external independent auditor determines if there was an unmodified opinion.)?

3. Was the school district in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at fiscal year end? (If the school district was in default in a prior fiscal year, an exemption applies in following years if the school district is current on its forbearance or payment plan with the lender and the payments are made on schedule for the fiscal year being rated. Also exempted are technical defaults that are not related to monetary defaults. A technical default is a failure to uphold the terms of a debt covenant, contract, or master promissory note even though payments to the lender, trust, or sinking fund are current. A debt agreement is a legal agreement between a debtor (= person, company, etc. that owes money) and their creditors, which includes a plan for paying back the debt.)

This indicator seeks to make certain that your district has timely paid all bills/obligations, including financing arrangements to pay for school construction, school buses, photocopiers, etc.

4. Did the school district make timely payments to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and other government agencies?

This indicator seeks to make sure the district fulfilled its obligation to the TRS, TWC and IRS to transfer payroll



How Ratings are Assessed

withholdings and to fulfill any additional payroll-related obligations required to be paid by the district.

5. Was the total unrestricted Net Position balance (Net of the accretion of interest for capital appreciation bonds) in the governmental activities column in the Statement of Net Positions greater than zero? (If the school district's change of students in membership over 5 years was 7 percent or more, then the school district passes this indicator.)

This indicator is not being scored this year due to the impact of accounting changes implemented by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

6. Was the average change in (assigned and unassigned) fund balance over 3 years less than a 25% decrease or did the current year assigned and unassigned fund balance exceed 75 days of operational expenditures? (If the school district fails indicator 6, the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)?

This indicator measures the percentage change in fund balance to see whether the fund balance is declining too quickly, and if it is declining, whether sufficient fund balance remains to operate for at least 75 days.?

7. Was the number of days of cash on hand and current investments in the general fund for the school

district sufficient to cover operating expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)?

This indicator measures how long in days after the end of the fiscal year the school district could have disbursed funds for its operating expenditures without receiving any new revenues. Did you meet or exceed the target amount in School FIRST?

8. Was the measure of current assets to current liabilities ratio for the school district sufficient to cover short-term debt?

This indicator measures whether the school district had sufficient short-term assets at the end of the fiscal year to pay off its short-term liabilities. Did you meet or exceed the target amount in School FIRST?

9. Did the school district's general fund revenues equal or exceed expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? If not, was the school district's number of days of cash on hand greater than or equal to 60 days?

This indicator simply asks, "Did you spend more than you earned?" (the school district will automatically pass this indicator, if the school district had at least 60 days cash on hand.)

10. Did the school district average less than a 10 percent variance (90% to 110%) when comparing budgeted revenues to actual revenues for the last 3 fiscal years?

This indicator is currently not being scored due to the impact of COVID-19



How Ratings are Assessed

and federal ESSER funding on school district revenue.

11. Was the ratio of long-term liabilities to total assets for the school district sufficient to support long-term solvency? (If the school district's change of students in membership over 5 years was 7 percent or more, then the school district passes this indicator.)

This question is like asking someone if their mortgage exceeds the market value of their home. Were you below the cap for this ratio in School FIRST? Fortunately, this indicator recognizes that high-growth districts incur additional operating costs to open new instructional campuses.

12. Was the debt per \$100 of assessed property value ratio sufficient to support future debt repayments?

This indicator asks about the school district's ability to make debt principal and interest payments. Did you meet or exceed the target amount in School FIRST?

13. Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio?

This indicator measures the percentage of their budget that Texas school districts spent on administration. Did you exceed the cap in School FIRST for districts of your size?

14. Did the school district not have a 15 percent decline in the students to staff ratio over 3 years (total enrollment to total staff)? (If the student enrollment did not decrease,

the school district will automatically pass this indicator.)

If the school district had a decline in students over 3 school years, this indicator asks if the school district decreased the number of the staff on the payroll in proportion to the decline in students. (The school district automatically passes this indicator if there was no decline in students.)

15. Was the school district's ADA within the allotted range of the district's biennial pupil projection(s) submitted to TEA? If the district did not submit pupil projections to TEA, did it certify TEA's projections? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.

This indicator is currently not being scored due to the impact of COVID-19 on school district attendance.

16. Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to like information in the school district's AFR result in a total variance of less than 3 percent of all expenditures by function?

This indicator measures the quality of data reported to PEIMS and in your Annual Financial Report to make certain that the data reported in each case "matches up." If the difference in numbers reported in any fund type is 3 percent or more, your district "fails" this measure. If the district fails this indicator, the maximum points and highest rating the district may receive is 89 points and a B, which is equal to above standard achievement.



How Ratings are Assessed

17. Did the external independent auditor report that the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, federal funds? (The AICPA defines material weakness).

A clean audit of your Annual Financial Report would state that your district has no material weaknesses in internal controls. Any internal weaknesses create a risk of your District not being able to properly account for its use of public funds and should be immediately addressed. If the district fails this indicator, the maximum points and highest rating the district may receive is 79 points and a C, which is equal to above standard achievement.

18. Did the external independent auditor indicate the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material noncompliance.)

This indicator measures whether the district is complying with laws, rules and regulations related to the expenditure of grant funds, contracts, and other state and federal funds.

19. Did the school district post the required financial information on its website in accordance with Government Code, Local Government Code, Texas Education Code, Texas Administrative Code and other statutes, laws and rules that were in effect at the school district's fiscal year end?

This indicator measures whether the district is complying with legal

requirements related to financial transparency by posting all required information.

20. Did the school board members discuss the district's property values at a board meeting within 120 days before the district adopted its budget? (If the school district fails indicator 20 the maximum points and highest rating that the school district may receive is 89 points, B = Above Standard Achievement.)

This indicator measures whether the school board had the opportunity to consider the impact of changes in property value on the finances of the district. If the district fails this indicator, the maximum points and highest rating the district may receive is 89 points and a B, which is equal to above standard achievement.

Exhibit C
Whitehouse ISD
Financial Accountability Management Report
Comparison of Indicators

		State Established Standard	2019-20	2020-21
	Current Year Standards with Comparison to Comparable Prior Year Standards			
	Was the complete annual financial report (AFR) and data submitted to the TEA within 30 days of the November 27 or January 28 deadline depending on the school district's fiscal year end date of June 30 or August 31 respectively?	02/27/XX	1/19/2021	1/24/2022
	Was there an unmodified opinion in the AFR on the financial statements as a whole?	Unmodified Opinion	Unmodified Opinion	Unmodified Opinion
	Was the school district in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at fiscal year end?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the school district make timely payments to the Teacher Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and other government agencies?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Was the average change in fund balance over 3 years less than a 25 percent decrease or did the current year's assigned and unassigned fund balances exceed 75 days of operational expenditures?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Was the number of days of cash on hand and current investments in the general fund for the school district sufficient to cover operating expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Was the measure of current assets to current liabilities ratio for the school district sufficient to cover short-term debt?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the school district's general fund revenues equal or exceed expenditures (excluding facilities acquisition and construction)? If not, was the school district's number of days of cash on hand greater than or equal to 60 days?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the school district average less than a 10 percent variance (90% to 110%) when comparing budgeted revenues to actual revenues for the last 3 fiscal years?	Yes	Yes	NA
	Was the ratio of long-term liabilities to total assets for the school district sufficient to support long-term solvency?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Was the debt per \$100 of assessed property value ratio sufficient to support future debt repayments?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio?	.0855	.084	.0817
	Did the school district not have a 15 percent decline in the student to staff ratio over 3 years (total enrollment to total staff)?	Yes	Yes	Yes

		State Established Standard	2019-20	2020-21
	Was the school district's ADA within the allotted range of the district's biennial pupil projection(s) submitted to TEA? If the district did not submit pupil projections to TEA, did it certify TEA's projections?	Yes	Yes	NA
	Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to like information in the school district's AFR result in a total variance of less than 3 percent of all expenditures by function?	<3%	0%	0%
	Did the external independent auditor indicate the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the external independent auditor indicate the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, or federal funds?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the school district post the required financial information on its website in accordance with Government Code, Local Government Code, Texas Education Code, Texas Administrative Code and other statutes, laws and rules that were in effect at the school district's fiscal year end?	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Did the school board members discuss the district's property values at a board meeting within 120 days before the district adopted its budget?	Yes	Yes	Yes

SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 § KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:
COUNTY OF SMITH §

THIS SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT ("Contract") is effective the 1st day of July, 2022, and is made by and between the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Whitehouse Independent School District (the "District") and Christopher Moran, Ed.D. (the "Superintendent").

WITNESSETH:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and the Superintendent, for and in consideration of the terms hereinafter established and pursuant to Section 11.201(b) and Chapter 21, Subchapter E of the Texas Education Code, have agreed, and do hereby agree, as follows:

I. Term

1.1 **Term.** The Board, by and on behalf of the District, does hereby employ the Superintendent, and the Superintendent does hereby accept employment as Superintendent of Schools for the District for a term commencing July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2025. The District may, by action of the Board, and with the consent and approval of the Superintendent, extend the term of this Contract as permitted by state law.

1.2 **No Tenure.** The Board has not adopted any policy, rule, regulation, law, or practice providing for tenure. No right of tenure is created by this Contract. No property interest, express or implied, is created in continued employment beyond the Contract term.

II. Employment

2.1 **Duties.** The Superintendent is the chief executive of the District and shall faithfully perform the duties of the Superintendent of Schools for the District as prescribed in the job description and as may be lawfully assigned by the Board, and shall comply with all lawful Board directives, state and federal law, District policy, rules, and regulations as they exist or may hereafter be amended. Specifically, it shall be the duty of the Superintendent to recommend for employment all professional employees of the District subject to the Board's approval. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to employ all other personnel consistent with the Board's policies. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to direct, assign, reassign, and evaluate all of the employees of the District consistent with Board policies and federal and state law. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to organize, reorganize, and arrange the staff of the

District, and to develop and establish administrative regulations, rules, and procedures which the Superintendent deems necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the District consistent with the Board's lawful directives, the Board's policies, and state and federal law. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to accept all resignations of employees of the District consistent with the Board's policies, except the Superintendent's resignation, which must be accepted by the Board. The Superintendent shall perform the duties of the Superintendent of Schools for the District with reasonable care, diligence, skill, and expertise. All duties assigned to the Superintendent by the Board shall be appropriate to and consistent with the professional role and responsibility of the Superintendent.

2.2 Professional Certification. The Superintendent shall at all times during the term of this Contract, and any renewal or extension thereof, hold and maintain a valid certificate required of a superintendent by the State of Texas and issued by the State Board for Educator Certification or the Texas Education Agency and any other certificates required by law.

2.3 Reassignment. The Superintendent cannot be reassigned from the position of Superintendent to another position without the Superintendent's express written consent.

2.4 Board Meetings. The Superintendent shall attend all meetings of the Board, both public and closed, with the exception of those closed meetings devoted to the consideration of any action or lack of action on the Superintendent's Contract, or the Superintendent's evaluation, or for purposes of resolving conflicts between individual Board members, or when the Board is acting in its capacity as a tribunal. In the event of illness or Board-approved absence, the Superintendent's designee shall attend such meetings.

2.5 Criticisms, Complaints, and Suggestions. The Board, individually and collectively, shall refer in a timely manner all substantive criticisms, complaints, and suggestions called to the Board's attention either: (a) to the Superintendent for study and/or appropriate action, and the Superintendent shall refer such matter(s) to the appropriate District employee or shall investigate such matter(s) and shall within a reasonable time inform the Board of the results of such efforts; or, (b) to the appropriate complaint resolution procedure as established by District Board policies.

2.6 Indemnification. To the extent it may be permitted to do by applicable law, including, but not limited to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code Chapter 102, the District does hereby agree to defend, hold harmless, and indemnify Superintendent from any and all demands, claims, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred in any legal proceedings brought against Superintendent in the Superintendent's individual or official capacity as an employee and as Superintendent of the District, providing the incident(s), which is (are) the basis of any such demand, claim, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees, arose or does arise in the future from an act or omission of Superintendent as an employee of the District, acting within the course and scope of Superintendent's employment with the District; excluding, however, any

such demand, claim, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees for those claims or any causes of action where it is determined that Superintendent committed official misconduct, or committed a willful or wrongful act or omission, or an act or omission constituting gross negligence, or acted in bad faith; and excluding any costs, fees, expenses or damages that would be recoverable or payable under an insurance contract, held either by the District or by Superintendent. The selection of Superintendent's legal counsel shall be with the mutual agreement of Superintendent and the District if such legal counsel is not also District's legal counsel. A legal defense may be provided through insurance coverage, in which case Superintendent's right to agree to legal counsel provided for him will depend on the terms of the applicable insurance contract. To the extent this Section 2.6 exceeds the authority provided and limitations imposed by Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, Chapter 102, it shall be construed and modified accordingly. The provisions of this Section 2.6 shall survive the termination of this contract.

III. Compensation

3.1 Salary. The District shall provide the Superintendent with an annual salary in the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$228,000.00). This annual salary rate shall be paid to the Superintendent in equal installments consistent with the Board's policies.

3.2 Salary Adjustments. At any time during the term of this Contract, the Board may, in its discretion, review and adjust the salary of the Superintendent, but in no event shall the Superintendent be paid less than the salary set forth in Section 3.1 of this Contract except by mutual agreement of the two parties. Such adjustments, if any, shall be made pursuant to a lawful Board resolution. In such event, the parties agree to provide their best efforts and reasonable cooperation to execute a new contract incorporating the adjusted salary.

3.3 Vacation, Holiday and Personal Leave. The Superintendent may take, at the Superintendent's choice, the greater of ten (10) days or the same number of days of vacation authorized by policies adopted by the Board for administrators on twelve-month contracts, the days to be in a single period or at different times. The vacation days taken by the Superintendent will be taken at such time or times as will least interfere with the performance of the Superintendent's duties as set forth in this Contract. Accrued but unused vacation days, up to a maximum of ten days annually and a cumulative maximum of twenty days, shall accumulate and carry forward from year to year during the term of this Contract. At the sole option of the Superintendent, either at the end of each year of the term of this Contract, at retirement, or when the Contract is terminated, either voluntarily or involuntarily, the District shall pay in a lump sum to the Superintendent any accrued but unused vacation days at the Superintendent's daily rate of pay as of the date the days were accrued. The Superintendent shall observe the same legal holidays as provided by Board policies for administrative employees on twelve-month contracts. The Superintendent is hereby granted the same personal leave benefits as authorized by Board policies for administrative employees on twelve-month contracts.

3.4 **Insurance.** The District shall pay the same premiums for hospitalization and major medical insurance coverage for the Superintendent pursuant to the group health care plan provided by the District for its administrative employees.

3.5 **Professional Growth.** The Superintendent shall devote the Superintendent's time, attention, and energy to the direction, administration, and supervision of the District. The Board, however, encourages the continued professional growth of the Superintendent through the Superintendent's active attendance at and participation in appropriate professional meetings at the local, regional, state and national levels. The Board shall encourage the use of data and information sources, and shall encourage the participation of the Superintendent in pertinent education seminars and courses offered by public or private institutions or by educational associations, as well as the participation in informational meetings with those individuals whose particular skills, expertise, or backgrounds would serve to improve the capacity of the Superintendent to perform the Superintendent's professional responsibilities for the District. In its encouragement of the Superintendent to grow professionally, the Board shall permit a reasonable amount of release time for the Superintendent as the Superintendent and the Board deem appropriate, to attend such seminars, courses or meetings. The District shall pay the Superintendent's membership dues to the American Association of School Administrators and the Texas Association of School Administrators. The District shall bear the reasonable cost and expense, based on State of Texas per diem rates, for registration, travel, meals, lodging, and other related expenses for such attendance and membership.

3.6 **Civic Activities.** The Board encourages the Superintendent to become a member of and participate in community and civic affairs, including the chamber of commerce, civic clubs, governmental committees, and educational organizations. The Board concludes that such participation will serve a legitimate purpose related to the educational mission of the District. Before the Superintendent accepts significant responsibilities in these professional organizations, the Superintendent will notify the Board in writing of the activity and obtain Board consent to same. The District shall reimburse the Superintendent for the cost of membership in no more than three local civic organizations in which the Superintendent participates and related travel outside of the District, subject to advance Board approval.

3.7 **Outside Consultant Activities.** The Superintendent will obtain prior approval of the Board before serving as a consultant or undertaking speaking engagements, writing, teaching or other professional duties and obligations outside the District (referred to collectively herein as "Consulting Services"). Such Consulting Services shall not conflict or interfere with the Superintendent's professional responsibilities to the District. The Superintendent may accept a reimbursement of expenses for such Consulting Services at no expense to the District. Consulting Services provided by the Superintendent under the terms and conditions of this paragraph must be consistent with state and federal law. If such Consulting Services results in the Superintendent's absence from duty with the District, the Superintendent shall use his available personal leave for same.

3.8 **Expenses.** The District shall pay or reimburse the Superintendent for reasonable expenses incurred by the Superintendent in the continuing performance of the Superintendent's duties under this Contract. The District agrees to pay the actual and incidental costs incurred by the Superintendent for travel. Such actual or incidental costs may include, but are not limited to, gasoline, hotels and accommodations, meals, rental car, and other expenses incurred in the performance of the business of the District. The Superintendent shall comply with all procedures and documentation requirements in accordance with Board policies.

IV. Annual Performance Goals

4.1 **Development of Goals.** The Superintendent shall submit to the Board a preliminary list of goals for the District each year for the Board's consideration and adoption. The Superintendent and the Board shall then meet, and the Board shall approve or revise the list of goals. The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval a plan to implement the goals. The Superintendent and the Board shall meet biannually to assess the goals and may adjust or revise the goals either by action of the Board or upon recommendation of the Superintendent and approval of the Board. The goals approved by the Board shall at all times be reduced to writing ("District Goals") and shall be among the criteria on which the Superintendent's performance is reviewed and evaluated. The Board agrees to work with and support the Superintendent in achieving the District Goals.

V. Review of Performance

5.1 **Time and Basis of Evaluation.** The Board shall evaluate and assess in writing the performance of the Superintendent at least once each year during the term of this Contract. The Board's evaluation and assessment of the Superintendent shall be reasonably related to the duties of the Superintendent as outlined in the Superintendent's job description and shall be based on the District's progress towards accomplishing the District Goals.

5.2 **Confidentiality.** Unless the Superintendent expressly requests otherwise in writing, the evaluation of the Superintendent shall at all times be conducted in executive session and shall be considered confidential to the extent permitted by law. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Board or the Superintendent from sharing the content of the Superintendent's evaluation with their respective legal counsel.

5.3 **Evaluation Format and Procedures.** The evaluation format and procedure shall be in accordance with the Board's policies and state and federal law. In the event that the Board determines that the performance of the Superintendent is unsatisfactory in any respect, it shall describe in writing, in reasonable detail, specific instances of unsatisfactory performance. The evaluation shall include recommendations as to areas of improvement in all instances where the Board deems performance to be unsatisfactory. A copy of the written evaluation shall be delivered to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have the right to make a written response to the evaluation within

thirty (30) days of receipt of the written evaluation from the board. That response shall become a permanent attachment to the evaluation in the Superintendent's personnel file. In the event the Board deems that the evaluation instrument, format, and/or procedure is to be modified by the Board and such modifications would require new or different performance expectations, the Superintendent shall be provided a reasonable period of time to demonstrate such expected performance before being evaluated.

VI. Extension or Nonrenewal of Employment Contract

6.1 Extension/Nonrenewal. Extension and/or nonrenewal shall be in accordance with Board policy, Texas Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter E, and applicable law. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 21.212(a) of the Texas Education Code, the Superintendent shall be entitled to written notice, containing reasonable notice of the reason for the proposed nonrenewal, not later than 45 days before the last day of the contract term, containing reasonable notice of the reason(s) for the proposed nonrenewal of the Superintendent's Contract with the District.

VII. Termination of Employment Contract

7.1 Mutual Agreement. This Contract may be terminated by the mutual agreement of the Superintendent and the Board in writing upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.

7.2 Retirement or Death. This Contract shall be terminated upon the retirement or death of the Superintendent.

7.3 Dismissal for Good Cause. The Board may dismiss the Superintendent during the term of the Contract for good cause. The term "good cause" is defined as follows:

- (a) Failure to fulfill duties or responsibilities as set forth under the terms and conditions of this Contract;
- (b) Incompetence or inefficiency in the performance of required or assigned duties as documented by evaluations, supplemental memoranda, or other written communication from the Board; provided, however, the terms and conditions of this paragraph shall not justify good cause unless the Board has provided the Superintendent a reasonable opportunity to remediate any incompetency or inefficiency;
- (c) Insubordination or failure to comply with lawful written Board directives;
- (d) Failure to comply with the Board's policies or the District's administrative regulations;
- (e) Neglect of duties;
- (f) Drunkenness or excessive use of alcoholic beverages;
- (g) Illegal use of drugs, hallucinogens, or other substances regulated by the Texas Controlled Substances Act;
- (h) Conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude;
- (i) Failure to meet the District's standards of professional conduct;

- (j) Failure to comply with reasonable District professional development requirements regarding advanced course work or professional development;
- (k) Disability, not otherwise protected by law, that impairs performance of the required duties of the Superintendent;
- (l) Immorality, which is conduct the Board determines is not in conformity with the accepted moral standards of the community encompassed by the District. Immorality is not confined to sexual matters, but includes conduct inconsistent with rectitude or indicative of corruption, indecency, or depravity;
- (m) Assault on an employee or student;
- (n) Knowingly falsifying records or documents related to the District's activities;
- (o) Conscious misrepresentation of facts to the Board or other District officials in the conduct of the District's business;
- (p) Failure to fulfill requirements for superintendent certification; or,
- (q) Any other reason constituting "good cause" under Texas law.

7.4 Termination Procedure. In the event that the Board terminates this Contract for "good cause," the Superintendent shall be afforded all the rights as set forth in the Board's policies and state and federal law.

7.5 Resignation of Superintendent. The Superintendent may leave the employment of the District at the end of a school year without penalty by filing a written resignation with the Board. The resignation must be addressed to the Board and filed not later than the 45th day before the first day of instruction of the following year. The Superintendent may resign with the consent of the Board at any other time.

VIII. Miscellaneous

8.1 Controlling Law. This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas and shall be performable in Smith County, Texas, unless otherwise provided by law.

8.2 Complete Agreement. This Contract embodies the entire agreement between the parties hereto and cannot be varied except by written agreement of the undersigned parties, except as expressly provided herein.

8.3 Conflicts. In the event of any conflict between the terms, conditions, and provisions of this Contract and the provisions of the Board's policies, or any permissive state or federal law, then, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the terms of this Contract shall take precedence over the contrary provisions of the Board's policies or any such permissive law during the term of the Contract.


8.4 Savings Clause. In the event any one or more of the provisions contained in this Contract shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such

invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof, and this Contract shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein. All existing agreements and contracts, both verbal and written, between the parties hereto regarding the employment of the Superintendent have been superseded by this Contract, and this Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties unless amended pursuant to the terms of this Contract.

WHITEHOUSE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: 
Dr. Todd Raabe, President Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

By: 
~~Holly Conaway~~, Secretary, Board of Trustees
Al Flanagan

Executed this 11th day of January, 2022.

SUPERINTENDENT

By: 
Christopher Moran, Ed.D.

Executed this 11th day of January, 2022.
cm

EXHIBIT E
ADDITIONAL REQUIRED DISCLOSURES
2020-21

1. Total Reimbursable Expenses Incurred By The District On Behalf Of The Superintendent And Each Board Member:

Description of Reimbursements	Chris Moran	Kevin Cashion	Holly Conaway	Joe Conflitti	Greg Hood	Al Flanagan	Nick Moss	Keidric Trimble	Maegan Schneider	Todd Raabe	Wade Weathers
Meals	\$ 72.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Lodging	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transportation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor Fuel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	215.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Total	<u>\$ 287.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 75.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Meals – Meals consumed off of the school district’s premises, and in-district meals at area restaurants (excludes catered meals for Board meetings).

Lodging - Hotel charges.

Transportation - Airfare, car rental (can include fuel on rental), taxis, mileage reimbursements, leased cars, parking and tolls.

Motor fuel – Gasoline.

Other - Registration fees, telephone/cell phone, internet service, fax machine, and other reimbursements to (or on-behalf of) the superintendent and board member not defined above.

2. Outside Compensation and/or Fees Received by the Superintendent for Professional Consulting and/or Other Personal Services:

Chris Moran - None

3. Gifts Received by Executive Officers and Board Members (and First Degree Relatives, if any)

Description of Gifts	Chris Moran	Kevin Cashion	Holly Conaway	Joe Conflitti	Greg Hood	Al Flanagan	Nick Moss	Keidric Trimble	Maegan Schneider	Todd Raabe	Wade Weathers
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

4. Business Transactions Between School District and Board Members:

None