

January 17, 2024

NO RESPONSE REQUIRED

Brian Bassett, Board President
Itasca ISD
123 N College
Itasca, TX 76055-2307

Tonya Harris, Superintendent
Itasca ISD
123 N College
Itasca, TX 76055-2307

SENT VIA EMAIL
bbassett@itascaisd.net
jbbmustang@sbcglobal.net
tharris@itascaisd.net

SUBJECT: TEA Reference # INV2023-04-246
Itasca ISD

Dear Board President Bassett and Superintendent Harris:

On April 17, 2023, The Texas Education Agency (TEA) received a complaint regarding Itasca ISD. The complaint alleges procurement violations, noncompliance with public information requests and inaccurate/incomplete communication regarding the 2022 Bond.

After a review of the allegations, evidence and information received from Itasca ISD, the TEA Special Investigations Unit (SIU) has determined that Itasca ISD has addressed the reported concern(s) that are within the jurisdiction of the TEA SIU. The TEA executed an **Attestation**, dated January 16, 2024, for Itasca ISD.

Please consider this correspondence a Notice of Closure. As indicated in the subject line, this closure letter only addresses complaint #INV2023-04-246 and does NOT apply to any other TEA SIU complaints that may be currently pending.

This concludes the SIU's review of **INV#2023-04-246** and no further action will be taken by SIU at this time.¹ Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact Lead Investigator Theresa Shutey at Theresa.Shutey@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



Adam Benthall, Ed.D.
Division of Governance and Investigations

¹ If there are any allegations of educator misconduct, the TEA Educator Investigations Department will be handling these allegations separately and you may contact them directly for further information.

Director, Special Investigations Unit
Texas Education Agency
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701
Tel: (512) 936-5962

Jeff Mashburn
3336 FM 934
Itasca, Texas 76055

*Rec 7-15-24
2:45pm*

July 15, 2024

Itasca Independent School District
Superintendent of Schools – Tonya Harris
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Regarding: Request for Information

Mrs. Harris,

This letter is in response to the email I received from you dated June 30th, 2024. This is also to serve as an official request for information and in good faith in pursuant of the Texas Public Information Act (the "Act"), Tex. Gov't Code § 552.001. Since July of 2021 efforts have been made by taxpayers to obtain copies of documentation in the possession of the Itasca Independent School District (the district) pertaining to financial matters relating to energy contracts. **These efforts and requests have been documented in detail. To date the district has failed to provide any of the information requested pertaining to these requests and the efforts of taxpayers within the district. The district has failed to be transparent in regard to decisions by the district and board members regarding multiple contracts that have impacted the taxpayers within the district in a negative way for many years in the future.**

As has been requested multiple times before the following information has not been made available by the district to date.

1. A signed copy of the original contract with I-Deal Impact
2. Answers to the questions dated April 13th, 2023, relating to the Itasca ISD and its board members and their experience and knowledge regarding **Chapter 313 Agreements** and the value of these contracts. *McDowell / Walsh*
3. The total cost and expenses to date for fees paid to Walsh and Gallegos for their services and work for the **(3) solar contracts** executed by the district.
 - a. BPL Files Solar LLC
 - b. Hill Solar I LLC
 - c. Hill Solar II LLC*Solar Company Paid*
4. The total cost and expenses to date for fees paid to McDowell School Finance Consulting for their services and work for the **(3) solar contracts** executed by the district.
5. A copy or screenshot of the check register from the district indicating the district received **\$424,883.71** dollars collected by the Hill County Appraisal District from the BPL Files Solar LLC project for school taxes. This amount is what the HAD has on record when I met with them in person.

Please provide hard copies of the information as requested above no later than the close of business on July 24th by 5:00 PM.

This letter is sent as a courtesy regarding due process and professional integrity.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Mashburn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeff Mashburn

cc: State of Texas Attorney General- Ken Paxton
Texas Education Agency – Commissioner Mike Morath