



Commissioner Mike Morath

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**Certified Mail
& Regular Mail**

082-903

November 18, 2016

Dr. Nobert Rodriguez, Superintendent
Mr. Marco Reyes, President, Board of Trustees
Pearsall Independent School District
318 Berry Ranch Road
Pearsall, TX 78061-3315

Dear Dr. Rodriguez and Mr. Reyes:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the assignment of an accreditation status to the Pearsall Independent School District (ISD or district) for the 2015-2016 school year of *Accredited-Probation*. As you are aware, Pearsall ISD was initially assigned a 2015-2016 accreditation status of *Not Accredited-Revoked* due to an academic accountability rating of *Academically Unacceptable* in 2011 and an academic accountability rating of *Improvement Required* for 2013, 2014, and 2015. Pearsall ISD requested an informal review of the 2015-2016 accreditation assignment, which was conducted by the former Commissioner of Education on December 2, 2015. Subsequent to the informal review, in response to which no final decision was issued, Pearsall ISD entered into an abatement agreement on December 30, 2015, which included provisions for subsequent potential actions if the district failed to receive acceptable 2016 preliminary academic and financial accountability ratings.


In August 2016, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) released preliminary accountability ratings indicating that Pearsall ISD received a 2015-2016 financial accountability rating of *Superior* and a 2016 academic accountability rating of *Improvement Required*. Per the terms of the abatement agreement, on September 23, 2016, the TEA notified Pearsall ISD of the appointment of a board of managers,¹ and the escalation of the previously appointed monitor to a conservator.

¹ The correspondence indicated that the individual appointments to the board of managers would be announced in future correspondence. To date, no appointments have been made, and the board has not been installed.

Pearsall ISD appealed the 2016 preliminary academic accountability rating and, on November 17, 2016, the TEA released final academic accountability ratings indicating that Pearsall ISD was assigned a 2016 rating of *Met Standard*. As a result of the most recent favorable final accountability ratings assigned to Pearsall ISD, the district is hereby released from the abatement agreement, the appointed conservator is removed, the board of managers appointed pursuant to the abatement agreement will not be installed, and an accreditation status of *Accredited-Probation* will be assigned for 2015-2016.

The district administration and staff, the students, and the Pearsall community are to be commended for their efforts that resulted in the reversal of the issues that led to the former academic accountability ratings. Any questions you may have regarding this correspondence may be addressed to the Division of Enforcement Coordination at (512) 463-3847 or EnforcementCoordination@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



A.J. Crabbill
Deputy Commissioner of Governance

AJC/cc

cc: Dr. Jeff Goldhorn, Executive Director, Region 20 ESC
Kara Belew, Deputy Commissioner of Finance, TEA
Penny Schwinn, Deputy Commissioner of Academics, TEA
Leo Lopez, Associate Commissioner/Chief School Finance Officer, TEA
Nora Hancock, Associate Commissioner, Grants and Federal Fiscal Compliance, TEA
Von Byer, General Counsel, TEA
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Doug Arnold, Conservator