

January 11, 2010

Mr. Michael D. Hernandez
Education Reporter
El Paso Times
300 N. Campbell Street
El Paso, Texas 79901

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Re: ***El Paso Times - Texas Public Information Act Request***
January 7, 2010
Equipo Bowie

Dear Mr. Hernandez:

On January 7, 2010, you filed a Texas Public Information Act (TPIA) request with our office. Specifically, you requested "copies of all correspondence about Bowie High School between the office of State Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and the El Paso Independent School District during the past two years."

As you may know, our office organized *Equipo Bowie* along with many community stakeholders to analyze, identify best practices, and then reform systemic challenges in the Bowie feeder pattern. Our concern was that Bowie High School, which in 2008 was in phase four of the *No Child Left Behind* federal act, might be closed. For us and all of El Paso, closing Bowie is not an option.

Recently, several Bowie teachers, administrators, and alumni shared with us some very disturbing news. When 55 percent of an entering freshmen cohort—a jump of more than twice any of the previous five freshmen cohorts—are not enrolled as sophomores at Bowie the following year, it raises very serious concerns. For all of us who care about Bowie, the bottom line is what's best for the students. Toward that end, the *Equipo Bowie* team committed again to push hard in 2010 for the systemic reforms at the entire feeder pattern that will improve dramatically the quality of education for all Bowie students.

Regarding your TPIA request, we are pleased to deliver public information on what is the most important state issue, the education of our children, and thus waive any fees associated with the diligent work that our staff performed over the weekend.

We provide the following enumerated materials.

1. October 8, 2009 article titled "Shameful Ambition" by Sen. Eliot Shapleigh;
2. January 7, 2010 memo titled "Equipo Bowie," with accompanying chart titled "Percentage of student decline between Fall of freshman year and Fall of sophomore year, Riverside High School, Ysleta ISD;"
3. December 17, 2009 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
4. January 31, 2008 study titled "Avoidable Losses: High-Stakes Accountability and the Dropout Crisis" by L.M. McNeil, E. Coppola, J. Radigan, J. Vasquez Heilig;
5. All versions, both draft and final, of the Equipo Bowie memorandum of understanding;
6. September 28, 2009 letter from Sen. Eliot Shapleigh to Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
7. October 9, 2009 letter from Dr. Terri Jordan, EPISD, to David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosures;
8. May 22, 2009 letter from Sen. Eliot Shapleigh to Dr. Jesus Chavez;
9. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Dr. Jesus Chavez, EPISD, with enclosure;
10. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, with enclosure;
11. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, with enclosure;
12. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Dr. Terri Jordan, EPISD, with enclosure;
13. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Ms. Lisa Colquitt Munoz, EPISD, with enclosure;
14. November 25, 2008 letter from Equipo Bowie to Dr. Damon Murphy, EPISD, with enclosure;
15. December 16, 2009 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
16. December 11, 2009 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
17. December 11, 2009 e-mail exchange between Terri Jordan, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;

18. November 20, 2009 e-mail exchange between Terri Jordan, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
19. August 27, 2009 e-mail exchange between James Steinhauser, EPISD, and David Edmonson and Juana Padilla, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
20. August 17, 2009 e-mail exchange between David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
21. August 13, 2009 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
22. May 4, 2009 e-mail from David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
23. February 16, 2009 e-mail from David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
24. November 3, 2008 e-mail from Marilyn Hartman, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, to Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
25. October 28, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
26. October 23, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Carlos Flores, EPISD;
27. September 25, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
28. September 24, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
29. September 19, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
30. September 18, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
31. September 17, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
32. September 17, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
33. September 17, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
34. September 5, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
35. August 22, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
36. August 22, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;

37. August 20, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
38. July 1, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Terri Jordan and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
39. June 7, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
40. May 31, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
41. May 28, 2008 e-mail exchange between Dr. Edward Gabaldon, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh, with enclosure;
42. May 21, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
43. May 7, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
44. May 6, 2008 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
45. December 19, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Terri Jordan, EPISD;
46. December 19, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Terri Jordan, EPISD, with enclosure;
47. October 30, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, with enclosure;
48. October 29, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
49. October 24, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
50. October 9, 2007 e-mail exchange between Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
51. October 1, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
52. September 18, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD;
53. August 6, 2007 e-mail exchange between Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and Dr. Damon Murphy, EPISD;
54. August 6, 2007 e-mail exchange between Maria Jackson, EPISD, and David Edmonson, Office of Sen. Shapleigh;
55. August 1, 2007 e-mail exchange between Maria Flores, EPISD, and Sen. Eliot Shapleigh;

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56. July 23, 2007 e-mail exchange between Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, and Sen. Eliot Shapleigh; and

57. July 23, 2007 e-mail exchange between Dr. Lorenzo Garcia, EPISD, and Sen. Eliot Shapleigh.

Please acknowledge receipt of same by signing the attached page. Thank you for your work on improving education in our great community.

Very truly yours,

Eliot Shapleigh

ES/de

CC: Equipo Bowie

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Receipt of Documents from Sen. Eliot Shapleigh's Office
Responsive to January 7, 2010 Texas Public Information Act Request

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DATE _____