

SAN ANTONIO PREPARATORY SCHOOLS

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<u>Date</u>: January 4, 2024

To: Parents and Local Community Members

From: Xavier Toson

Board Chair & Interim Superintendent

Subject: Upholding Our Values: An Update on Recent Investigations at San Antonio

Preparatory Schools

Dear SA Prep Parents,

As a Founding Board Member, Board Chair, and Interim Superintendent of San Antonio Preparatory Schools, I am committed to fostering a culture of transparency and trust. In keeping with this commitment, I wish to provide you with an important update. This notice relates to the conclusion of the school's recent investigation of conduct by the founding Superintendent, Ms. Stephanie Hall-Furman.

In August 2023, the School received reports of possible noncompliance with laws and regulations related to charter school operations. In response, the Board of Directors initiated a comprehensive investigation, led by the law firm of Schulman, Lopez, Hoffer & Adelstein, LLP, to ensure our continued adherence to the highest standards of ethical conduct and educational excellence. The Superintendent was placed on administrative leave pending conclusion of the investigation.

On Wednesday, January 3, 2024, during a special called meeting, the Board of Directors received an oral report containing key findings related to conduct occurring under Ms. Hall-Furman's leadership, including failure to ensure that all school employees were eligible for their positions; incomplete employee onboarding documentation; agreements with third parties for use of our school building without necessary approval by the Board of Directors; failure to properly manage key card access to the school building; and other matters related to appropriate school operations.

In response to this misconduct, the Board of Directors has determined to terminate its employment contract with Ms. Stephanie Hall-Furman for good cause. The Board of Directors applauds Ms. Hall-Furman for her many positive attributes leading to the flourishing of so many students, but these instances of misconduct have compromised the Board's confidence in her ability to continue to lead. In addition to this personnel change, the Board of Directors has begun implementing comprehensive



corrective measures, including the imposition of stringent security protocols, reinforced hiring practices, and enhanced oversight of contracts and financial dealings. These steps are essential to the Board's commitment to upholding the highest standards of educational excellence and ethical conduct for SA Prep.

I would also like to personally address my role as your Interim Superintendent. When the need arose, I stepped into this position on an unpaid basis. This decision was driven by my deep commitment, passion, and dedication to SA Prep and our community. It reflects my belief in our collective mission to provide an outstanding educational environment for our students.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our dedication to creating a nurturing, safe, and high-quality educational setting. We are here to support our students, staff, and families, ensuring that SA Prep not only meets but exceeds the standards of excellence in education.

We welcome your thoughts and encourage your participation as we move forward. Your partnership in this journey is invaluable, and together, we will ensure that SA Prep stands as a beacon of integrity, passion, and educational excellence.

Sincerely,

Xavier Téson

Volunteer Interim Superintendent San Antonio Preparatory School