



The Problem

SBISD is being sued by Virginia Elizondo and her attorneys, Barry Abrams and Martin Golando, in federal court.

Virginia Elizondo has lost her bid to the SBISD Board of Trustees TWICE. Now she and her activist attorneys want to go around the legal election process. Her lawsuit is nothing more than a highly-coordinated attempt at a political power grab.

Her lawsuit alleges that *“the at-large’ election system used by Spring Branch ISD to elect its Trustees has deprived tens of thousands of minority voters in SBISD of their voting rights guaranteed by law.”*

That is 100% false. She just doesn’t like how you voted. As a matter of fact, the current electoral process provides the governing system for all groups to be represented by all board members all the time.

Now is the time to stand up for YOUR RIGHT as a parent and/or taxpayer in SBISD to elect each man and woman who represents you on the school board.

And once the attorneys settle, there is NO turning back to at-large elections. It’s a done deal.

TAKE ACTION!

Attend the Monday, September 20, 2021 SBISD Board of Trustees Meeting.

Make your voice heard!

Show support for the current at-large system!

Did you know?

The board *alone* can change its election process without parents or taxpayers having any input? In fact, it only takes a majority of vote—4 trustees.

The board alone can decide if they want to represent ALL families or switch to single districts that serve only smaller amounts of constituents. REMEMBER: when you attend school board meetings, you are REMINDING your elected trustees that they are representing YOU, not their personal political agendas.

What Will I Lose if We Don't Keep Our At-Large Districts?

LOSS OF YOUR VOTING RIGHTS

You will no longer be able to cast a vote for each and every candidate on the school board, and some years you will not be allowed to vote at all.

LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN SBISD

You will never be sure if district decisions are being made with your children in mind, or with board members’ personal priorities first. Cronyism and backroom deals will be the rule instead of the exception when it comes to decision making in our district.

LOSS OF PROPERTY VALUE

Under single-member districts, Spring Branch will more closely mirror HISD. In fact, The inherent dysfunction of a divided district will deter homebuyers from moving here.

We can stop this, but we don’t have much time. Make plans to attend the Monday, September 20, 2021 board meeting.

What Exactly are the At-Large and Single-Member Districts?

- **Currently:** at-large districts mean *each* board member represents the *entire* school district, working together to accomplish the same mission.
- **Elizondo Change:** single-member elected positions, where each board member would represent *only one section*, a small group of people.

⇒ **That means:** the single sections (our neighborhoods) can be pitted against each other causing bad policy and terrible outcomes. It will look more like Washington, DC than the SBISD we know who works well together for the best for our children.

The Solution

The solution is allowing a third party, called an **intervenor**, to join the lawsuit. The intervenor will help the Board defend its position by bringing her own resources and experiences as a parent within SBISD and attorney to the table.*

The intervenor is a single mom who has three children, and her intervention is **critical** to ensuring the Board doesn't cave to their own activist lawyers.

What you can do

- ⇒ **Encourage the Board to fight for the successful current AT-LARGE position system**
Before this Monday's September 20, 2021, board meeting, Trustees need **significant** and *consistent* encouragement from the community to allow the Motion of Intervention that was filed on September 3, 2021.
- ⇒ **Let Your Neighbors Know**
 - Put out a yard sign. Request one at: donthismysbisd@gmail.com.
 - Tell your neighbors and friends what they stand to lose.
- ⇒ **Use Social Media - #AllowTheIntervention**
From now until September 20, 2021, email the Board of Trustees each day and tag them on social media. Tweet and tag each Trustee, comment on the district's Facebook posts, or email each of them saying **#AllowTheIntervention**. Trustee emails: <https://www.springbranchisd.com/about/board-of-trustees>
- ⇒ **Come to the September 20, 2021, Board Meeting**
The judge in this case has ordered an expedited answer from the Board of Trustees regarding whether they will allow or oppose the Motion for Intervention. The community must show up en masse with signs: "Allow The Intervention."
- ⇒ **Help Contribute to the Legal Fund**
The Intervenor is a single mom who simply can't do this without our financial help. Attorneys don't work for free unless there is something in it for them. Meanwhile, Virginia Elizondo's attorneys aren't charging her a dime. Legal action is an extremely expensive undertaking for the intervenor.

Contributions can be made via the Intervenor Venmo account: @morachie (last 4 of phone # are 2941, put "LEGAL FUNDS" in the description box) or contributors can write a check to Andy Taylor & Assoc, P.C. Email donthismysbisd@gmail.com for pick up.

*Thompson & Horton – the law firm which is tasked with defending our district – has come under fire for their inability to be impartial. Their attorneys have been grooming SBISD Trustees since 2019 to move to single-member districts and are *known* to settle for single-member districts in such lawsuits.

Add to that, Barry Abrams, one of the Plaintiff's attorneys, and Janet Horton, founding partner of Thompson & Horton law firm, are politically, socially and academically connected and have been for more than a decade. These cozy alliances and Thompson & Horton's history means there is **zero** reason to believe there will be a true defense of our at-large elections.

Email donthismysbid@gmail.com for documents and articles supporting these statements.



This communication is created with the intention of raising awareness of pending litigation in SBISD and is not endorsed by any party or potential party or their counsel in the pending litigation.