

From: Kim Dobecka <kdobecka@grapevinetexas.gov>
Subject: FW: Recap of Sept. 18th meeting
To: Suzanne Le <sle@grapevinetexas.gov>
Sent: October 9, 2025 1:10 PM (UTC-04:00)

Thank you,
Kim

Kim Dobecka

Executive Assistant

City Manager's Office, City of Grapevine



From: WD Tate **Section 552.137 Email Addresses**
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 4:10 PM
To: Kim Dobecka <kdobecka@grapevinetexas.gov>
Subject: FW: Recap of Sept. 18th meeting

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Give this to Bruno
Tate

From: WD Tate **Section 552.137 Email**
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 3:58 PM
To: 'Shannon Braun' <shannon.braun@gcisd.net>
Subject: RE: Recap of Sept. 18th meeting

At the beginning of the meeting I was concerned, as well as most of my council about the make up of the citizens committee. As you know I don't think citizen committees are the best source of making the kind of planning decisions this committee has been asked to accomplish. Then in the meeting when I pointed out the committee consisted of 9 Colleyville citizens and only 2 from Grapevine, your response was, "we tried to pick the smartest people from the district. I doubt you even realize saying it. It set me off, because you verified what we have always known, and that is Colleyville thinks they are smarter than Grapevine, and we are tired of hearing that. I have determined that legally it is not possible to ever divide the district because under state law, each new district has to have at least 8,000 average daily attendance. I have not looked at single member districts yet.

I had received a lot of information from citizens and some was accurate and some not. I was hoping to educate myself on what the alternatives were and what the financial position of the district actually is. I think it was a mistake to give four tax decreases in a row when teacher salaries were increasing. I plan to stay out of the public debate on the merits if I can. It won't be easy without personally getting hurt. I want the district to be the one that has to convenience the public that you have no choice but to close Dove. It is an emotional issue and the storm clouds are gathering.

My two main concerns that I will argue to continue to argue in public is that the citizen committee is unfair and unpalatable to Grapevine residents. This will undermine you throughout. Second, if you close a school, you can not solve your problem and create a new one for the city. Silverlake and Cannon do not have the capacity to absorb 200 new students each, unless they can be bused. The traffic already in the morning and afternoon effects the residential neighborhoods. So you must plan with the city because the sidewalks and thoroughfares are in the wrong place. I am know for sure how much water and sewer capacity we have in both areas.

In our meeting I tried all approaches, I listen, I tried to reason, I tried to offend you and I tried to intimidate you to get your attention. All failed. I am not going to try and give any more advise. You will have to sell the school closing on your own.

William D. Tate

From: Shannon Braun <shannon.braun@gcisd.net>

Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 2:

To: WD Tate Section 552.137 Email Brad Schnautz <bradley.schnautz@gcisd.net>; pslechta@grapevinetexas.gov

Subject: Recap of Sept. 18th meeting

September 26, 2025
Mayor William D. Tate
City of Grapevine
200 S. Main Street
Grapevine, TX 76051

Dear Mayor Tate,

I am writing to follow up on the meeting we had at your office on September 18, 2025, along with MayorPro Tem Paul Slechta and GCISD Superintendent Dr. Brad Schnautz. The meeting was to discuss future school consolidations. I've thought for several days about that meeting, and I believe that time has given me some insight into why that meeting developed as poorly as it did.

I know the subject matter of our meeting was difficult. I asked to meet with you, not just because you are the mayor, and not just because of your experience, but also because people in this community look up to you with respect and they listen to you.

As you know, the conversation did not turn out well. Minutes after the meeting started, you began yellinand saying things an elected official with your experience, skill, and concern for the community doesn't say. You threatened me and my family. You threatened my vote. You threatened anyone who voted to consolidate schools that you would personally go after them. I wrote down your comments, which included statements like, "[y]ou have created an enemy, and I am going to destroy you. You can never live in this town again, and I will see to it that I run you out of town. You have created a civil war." You repeated the phrase "civil war" more than a dozen additional times, and then similarly told Superintendent Schnautz, "[y]ou will be run out of town in the next two years and will never work around here again." You made additional threats about splitting our districts and putting that on the ballot.

But, Mayor Tate, the fact remains we are elected officials, tasked by our friends, neighbors,

and communities with making difficult decisions. No one wants to close a school, but declining enrollment and shrinking budgets are upon us, and we cannot ignore the reality of numbers. We must respond to those hard facts in some way. An important lesson from our meeting is that you had the reaction you did, despite having decades of experience making the same type of difficult decisions for your city. You made those decisions, tough as they were at the time, and your city grew and prospered as a result. But here, your reaction was different. We must recognize that, understand it, and use that understanding as we formulate a plan to move forward.

Mayor, in your more than half a century of community leadership, you have unquestionably refined the skills necessary to understand Colleyville, Grapevine and GCISD. You know the challenges we face, our strengths and weaknesses, and you have a vision of this area for the future. I welcome the chance to understand your thoughts better and take advantage of the lessons you have learned. Although our last meeting wasn't productive, it was important and helpful because it illustrated the importance of this matter, the importance and basis for differing opinions on potential solutions, and the importance of working collaboratively and creatively to design a solution that works for as many of our constituencies as possible. The communities in GCISD deserve no less, and I hope we can work together to reach that goal.

Sincerely,

Shannon Braun
GCISD Board President

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