

Superintendent's Employment Contract

STATE OF TEXAS §

§ KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

COUNTY OF ARCHER §

THIS SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT ("Contract") is made and entered into effective the **1st day of July, 2023**, by and between the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Windthorst Independent School District (the "District") and **Dr. William Paul** (the "Superintendent").

WITNESSETH:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and the Superintendent, for and in consideration of the terms hereinafter established and pursuant to Section 11.201 of the Texas Education Code, have agreed, and do hereby agree, as follows;

I. Term

- 1.1 Term.** The Board, by and on behalf of the District, does hereby employ the Superintendent, and the Superintendent does hereby accept employment as Superintendent of Schools for the District for a term of three (3) years, commencing on **July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2026**. The District may, by action of the Board, and with consent and approval of the Superintendent, extend the term of this Contract as permitted by state law.
- 1.2 No Tenure.** The Board has not adopted any policy, rule, regulation, law or practice providing for tenure. No right of tenure is created by this Contract. No property interest, express or implied, is created in continued employment beyond the Contract term.

II. Employment

- 2.1 Duties.** The Superintendent is the chief executive of the District and shall faithfully perform the duties of the Superintendent of Schools for the District as prescribed in the job description and as may be lawfully assigned by the Board, and shall comply with all lawful Board directives, state and federal laws, district policies, rules, and regulations as they exist or may hereafter be amended. Specifically, it shall be the duty of the Superintendent to recommend for employment all professional employees of the District subject to the Board's approval. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to employ all other personnel consistent with the Board's policies. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to direct, assign, reassign, and evaluate all of the employees of the District consistent with Board policies and federal and state law. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to organize, reorganize, and arrange the staff of the District, and to develop and establish administrative regulations, rules, and procedure's which the Superintendent deems

necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the District consistent with the Board's lawful directives, the Board's policies, and state and federal law. It shall be the further duty of the Superintendent to accept all resignations of employees of the District consistent with the Board's policies, except the Superintendent's resignation, which must be accepted by the Board. The superintendent shall perform the duties of the Superintendent of Schools for the District with reasonable care, diligence, skill and expertise. All duties assigned to the Superintendent by the Board shall be appropriate to and consistent with the professional role and responsibility of the Superintendent.

- 2.2 Professional Certification.** The Superintendent shall at all times during the term of this Contract, and any renewal or extension thereof, hold and maintain a valid certificate required of a superintendent by the State of Texas and issued by the State Board for Educator Certification and any other certificates required by law.
- 2.3 Reassignment.** The Superintendent cannot be reassigned from the position of Superintendent to another position without the Superintendent's express written consent.
- 2.4 Indemnification.** To the extent it may be permitted to do by applicable law, including, but not limited to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code Chapter 102, the District does hereby agree to defend, hold harmless, and indemnify Superintendent from any and all demands, claims, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred in any legal proceeding brought against Superintendent in the Superintendent's individual or official capacity as an employee and as Superintendent of the District, providing the incidents(s), which is (are) the basis of any such demand, claim, suits, actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees arose or does arise in the future from an act or omission of Superintendent as an employee of the District, acting within the course and scope of Superintendent's employment with the District; excluding, however, any such demand, claim, suits actions, judgments, expenses and attorneys' fees for those claims or any causes of action where it is determined that Superintendent committed official misconduct, or committed a willful or wrongful act or omission, or an act or omission constituting gross negligence, or acted in bad faith; and excluding any costs, fees, expenses or damages that would be recoverable or payable under an insurance contract, held either by the District or by the Superintendent. The selection of Superintendent's legal counsel shall be with the mutual agreement of Superintendent and the District if such legal counsel is not also District's legal counsel. A legal defense may be provided through insurance coverage, in which case Superintendent's right to agree to legal counsel provided for him will depend on the terms of the applicable insurance contract. To the extent this Section 2.4 exceeds the authority provided and limitations imposed by Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, Chapter 102, it shall be construed and modified accordingly. The provisions of this Section 2.4 shall survive the termination of the Contract. The District shall provide insurance coverage to protect the Superintendent as set forth herein.

III. Compensation

- 3.1 Salary.** The District shall provide the Superintendent with an annual salary in the sum of **One Hundred Fifteen Thousand, and 00/100**. This annual salary rate shall be paid to the Superintendent in equal installments consistent with the Board's policies.

- 3.2 Salary Adjustments.** At any time during the term of this Contract, the Board may, in its discretion, review and adjust the salary of the Superintendent, but in no event shall the superintendent be paid less than the salary set forth pursuant to Section 3.1 of this Contract except by mutual agreement of the two parties. Such adjustments, if any, shall be made pursuant to a lawful Board resolution. In such event, the parties agree to provide their best efforts and reasonable cooperation to execute a new contract incorporating the adjusted salary.
- 3.3 Reimbursed Expenses.** The District shall pay or reimburse the Superintendent for reasonable expenses incurred by the Superintendent in the continuing performance of the Superintendent's duties under this Contract. The District agrees to pay the actual and incidental costs incurred by the Superintendent for travel. Such actual or incidental costs may include, but are not limited to, gasoline, hotels and accommodation, meals, rental car, and other expenses incurred in the performance of the business of the District. The Superintendent shall comply with all procedures and documentation requirements in accordance with Board policies.
- 3.4 Professional Legal Liability Insurance.** The Superintendent shall be named as an insured under the District's Errors and Omissions General Liability Insurance Policy.
- 3.5 Vacation, Holiday and Personal Leave.** The Superintendent may take, at the Superintendent's choice, the same number of days of leave authorized by policies adopted by the Board for administrative employees on twelve-month contracts, the days to be in a single period or at different times. The leave days taken by the Superintendent will be taken at such time or times as will least interfere with the performance of the Superintendent's duties as set forth in this Contract. The Superintendent shall observe the same legal holidays as provided by Board policies for administrative employees on twelve-month contracts. The Superintendent is hereby granted the same personal leave benefits as authorized by Board policies for administrative employees on twelve-month contracts.
- 3.6 Professional Growth.** The Superintendent shall devote the Superintendent's time, attention, and energy to the direction, administration, and supervision of the District. The Board, however, encourages the continued professional growth of the Superintendent through the Superintendent's active attendance and participation in appropriate professional meetings at the local, regional, state, and national levels. The Board shall encourage the use of data and information sources, and shall encourage the participation of the Superintendent in pertinent education seminars and courses offered by public or private institutions or by educational associations, as well as the participation in informational meetings with those individuals whose particular skills, expertise, or backgrounds would serve to improve the capacity of the Superintendent to perform the Superintendent's professional responsibilities for the District. In its encouragement of the Superintendent to grow professionally, the Board shall permit a reasonable amount of release time for the Superintendent as the Superintendent and Board deem appropriate, to attend such seminars, courses, or meetings. The Superintendent shall pay membership dues to the Texas Association of School Administrators, as well as other memberships necessary to maintain and improve the Superintendent's professional skills. The District shall bear the reasonable costs and expenses for such attendance.

- 3.7 **Civic Activities.** The Superintendent is encouraged to participate in community and civic affairs. The expense of such activities shall be borne by the Superintendent.
- 3.8 **Health Insurance.** The Superintendent shall pay the entire premium amount necessary for insurance coverage under the District's plan for health and medical insurance for the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall be responsible for any premiums and other payments associated with health and medical insurance for the Superintendent's dependents and/or spouse.

IV. Annual Performance Goals

- 4.1 **Development of Goals.** The Superintendent shall submit to the Board each year, for the board's consideration and adoption, a preliminary list of goals for the District. The goals approved by the Board shall at all times be reduced to writing ("District Goals") and shall be among the criteria on which the Superintendent's performance is reviewed and evaluated. The Board and Superintendent agree to work together in achieving the District Goals.

V. Review of Performance.

- 5.1 **Time and Basis of Evaluation.** The Board shall evaluate and assess in writing the performance of the Superintendent at least once each year during the term of this Contract. The Board's evaluation and assessment of the Superintendent shall be reasonably related to the duties of the Superintendent as outlined in the Superintendent's job description and shall be based on the District's progress towards accomplishing the District Goals.
- 5.2 **Confidentiality.** Unless the Superintendent expressly requests otherwise in writing, the evaluation of the Superintendent shall at all times be conducted in closed session and shall be considered confidential to the extent permitted by law. Nothing herein shall prohibit the Board or the Superintendent from sharing the content of the Superintendent's evaluation with their respective legal counsel.
- 5.3 **Evaluation Format and Procedures.** The evaluation format and procedure shall be in accordance with the evaluation instrument selected by the Board in accordance with Article V of this Contract, the Board's policies, and state and federal law. In the event the Board deems that the evaluation instrument, format and/or procedure is to be modified by the Board and such modifications would require new or different performance expectations, the Superintendent shall be provided a reasonable period of time to demonstrate such expected performance before being evaluated.

VI. Renewal or Nonrenewal of Employment Contract

- 6.1 **Renewal/Nonrenewal.** Extension or nonrenewal shall be in accordance with Board policy, Texas Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter E, and applicable law.

VII. Termination of Employment Contract

- 7.1 Mutual Agreement.** This Contract shall be terminated by the mutual agreement of the Superintendent and the Board in writing, upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon.
- 7.2 Retirement or Death.** This contract shall be terminated upon the retirement or death of the Superintendent.
- 7.3 Dismissal for Good Cause.** The Board may dismiss the Superintendent during the term of the contract for good cause. The term “good cause” is defined as follows:
- (a) Failure to fulfill duties or responsibilities as set forth under the terms and conditions of the Contract;
 - (b) Incomplete or inefficiency in the performance of required or assigned duties as documented by evaluations, supplemental memoranda, or other written communication from the Board; provided, however, the terms and conditions of this paragraph shall not justify good cause unless the Board has provided the Superintendent a reasonable opportunity to remediate any incomplete or inefficiency;
 - (c) Insubordination or failure to comply with lawful written Board directives;
 - (d) Failure to comply with the Board’s policies or the District’s administrative regulations;
 - (e) Neglect of duties;
 - (f) Drunkenness or excessive use of alcoholic beverages;
 - (g) Illegal use of drugs, hallucinogens, or other substances regulated by the Texas Controlled Substances Act;
 - (h) Conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude;
 - (i) Failure to meet the District’s standards of professional conduct;
 - (j) Failure to comply with reasonable District professional development requirements regarding advanced course work or professional development;
 - (k) Disability, not otherwise protected by law, that impairs performance of the required duties of the Superintendent;
 - (l) Immorality, which is conduct the Board determines is not in conformity with the accepted moral standards of the community encompassed by the District. Immorality is not confined to sexual matters, but includes conduct inconsistent with rectitude or indicative of corruption, indecency, or depravity;
 - (m) Assault on an employee or student;
 - (n) Knowingly falsifying records or documents related to the District’s activities;
 - (o) Conscious misrepresentation of facts to the Board or other District officials in the conduct of the District’s business
 - (p) Failure to fulfill requirements for superintendent certificate; or
 - (q) Any other reason constituting “good cause” under Texas law.

7.4 **Termination Procedure.** In the event that the Board terminates this Contract for "good cause," the Superintendent shall be afforded all the rights as set forth in the Board's policies, and state and federal law.

VIII. Miscellaneous

8.1 **Controlling Law.** This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas and shall be performable in Archer County, Texas, unless otherwise provided by law.

8.2 **Complete agreement.** This Contract embodies the entire agreement between the parties hereto and cannot be varied except by written agreement of the undersigned parties, except as expressly provided herein.

8.3 **Conflicts.** In the event of any conflict between the terms, conditions, and provisions of this Employment Contract and the provisions of the Board's policies, or any permissive state or federal law, then, unless otherwise prohibited by law, the terms of this Contract shall take precedence over the contrary provisions of the board's policies or any such permissive law during the term of the Contract.

8.4 **Savings Clause.** In the event anyone or more of the provisions contained in this Contract shall, for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof, and this Contract shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein. All existing agreements and contracts, both verbal and written, between the parties hereto regarding the employment of the Superintendent have been superseded by this Contract, and this Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties unless amended pursuant to the terms of this Contract.

8.5 **Acceptance.** This offer will expire unless signed and returned to the Board or its authorized representative by 3:00 p.m., the 24th day of January, 2023.

By: 
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

ATTEST:

By: 
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD
Windthorst Independent School District
Board of Trustees

SUPERINTENDENT
By: 
Dr. William Paul