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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Lamar CISD Board of Trustees Approves Mascots and Colors for New Campuses

September 26, 2024 – **Rosenberg, Texas** – During its regular meeting on Sept. 17, the Lamar Consolidated ISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the colors and mascots for the new campuses within Secondary Complex #7, set to open during the 2025-2026 school year.

In a 6-0 vote (Trustee Mandi Bronsell was not present), the Board approved Tomas High School, Banks Junior High School, and Bielstein Middle School as the new green track, selecting the Gators as the official mascot for all three campuses.

Following the vote, Lamar CISD Board President Zach Lambert emphasized the importance of honoring community legacy, particularly recognizing Gene Tomas, a longtime Lamar CISD educator and namesake for the new campus Tomas High School.

"My first thought was to honor legacy—where a person comes from and what brings them to a position," Lambert said. "One of the things that stood out to me was Mr. Tomas' role at George Junior High School when they were the Gators, and that connection resonated with me. I started thinking about the significance of the Gators in Fort Bend County."

<u>The selection process for the new secondary complex</u> involved district staff forming a small internal committee to set parameters and consider potential mascot and color options. Input from the school's namesake or a family member was also a key factor in the decision-making.

In June, the committee gathered community feedback through a two-week survey that garnered over 1,000 responses. A subsequent meeting in July, which included parents, principals, campus and district staff, reviewed the survey results and developed a ranked list of mascot and color options.

Once the top choices were identified, mockup graphics were created for presentation to the Board of Trustees.

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ABOUT LAMAR CISD

As one of the fastest growing districts in Texas, Lamar CISD encompasses 385 miles in Fort Bend County. The District serves more than 46,000 students at 52 campuses throughout 15 municipalities which include Beasley, Fairchilds ETJ, Fulshear, Houston ETJ, Katy, Kendleton, Missouri City ETJ, Orchard ETJ, Pleak, Richmond, Rosenberg, Simonton, Sugar Land, Thompsons, and Weston Lakes.

Additionally, mascots for two elementary schools were finalized. Fagert Elementary School in Richmond will be represented by the Foxes, and Haygood Elementary School in Fulshear will adopt the Hedgehogs as their mascot.

For more information on the Secondary Complex #7: Tomas High School, Banks Junior High, and Bielstein Middle School, please click <u>HERE</u>.

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