

Pharrell To Trump: Don't Play My Song Hours After 11 People Were Murdered

By **Defender News Service**



(DEFENDER NEWS SERVICE) - Grammy winner Pharrell Williams was unhappy when Trump played his iconic song "Happy" just hours after 11 people were killed at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on October 27.

Attorney Howard King, Williams' lawyer, sent a cease-and-desist letter to Trump, which read in

part, "On the day of the mass murder of 11 human beings at the hands of a deranged 'nationalist,' you played [Williams'] song 'Happy' to a crowd at a political event in Indiana. There was nothing 'happy' about the tragedy inflicted upon our country on Saturday and no permission was granted for your use of this song for this purpose."

The letter continued, "Pharrell has not, and will not, grant you permission to publicly perform or otherwise broadcast or disseminate any of his music."

This is not the first time Donald Trump has been shut down from playing music at rallies. The long list includes songs by Adele, Neil Young, the Rolling Stones, Queen and REM. Most recently, Prince's estate released a statement when Trump played "Purple Rain" at a rally in Mississippi, saying, "The Prince Estate has never given permission to President Trump or The White House to use Prince's songs and have requested that they cease all use immediately."

STATEMENT BY DR. TED GORDON REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION AND CONTRACT AMENDMENT

(AUSTIN, TX) - On Monday night, October 29, 2018, most of my AISD board colleagues voted to extend the contract of Superintendent Dr. Paul Cruz. My vote was the sole voice of dissent. The majority votes send a message that they are satisfied with the status quo.

In District 1, in East and Northeast Austin, I cannot accept the status quo. I am the only African American on the Board. The voters of District 1 elected me to represent them. If I do not represent those in East Austin who have traditionally been marginalized, who will? AISD operates as two segregated school districts, one affluent with high levels of academic achievement and the other relatively less affluent with correspondingly lower levels of achievement. In my district, black and brown third-graders, who are predominantly of low-socio-economic status, score 30 points lower on reading and writing on the state-mandated STAAR exam.

This is unacceptable and a crisis. And my vote signifies that this stark performance gap requires an urgent response.

In the past few weeks, Dr. Cruz and I have had some difficult conversations about the shortcomings of the district. Most of those are not of the Superintendent's doing, but he is our CEO, and the buck stops with him.

Although the Superintendent understands my concerns and knows what can be done to make a difference for the children in my district, he can't do it alone; but he needs to provide leadership for the board. Moreover, the will of the board is needed to fundamentally restructure the district and reprioritize its focus and funding to truly bring life to the district mantra of "reinventing urban education."

Thus, my vote not only represents more than a "wait and see" attitude on my part. It represents my profound dissent from AISD's paralyzing status quo. Because of the depth of change needed and the urgency of that change, I cannot go along with a status quo vote.

I would like to be confident that the board and the superintendent can work together for a quality education for all AISD students, but that work needs to begin now – and not later. - **Dr. Edmund "Ted" Gordon, AISD Trustee, District 1**

DELTA BETA CHAPTER XINOS HIGHLIGHTS



DELTA BETA XINOS - L to R: Trinity Davis; Marnique Neille; Olivia Cairo; Madison Arbuckle; Amunique Swan; Kieaira Townsend; Zy'Nyah Walker; Moniseia Blaylork; Kourtney Jobe; Kennedi Carter, and Gasheeya Youman. Not Shown in Photo: Jada Adams

The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. (NSPDK, Inc.) is a professional non-profit organization of active and retired female educators committed to the pursuit of excellence in education as they mentor, tutor and support the youth of the United States of America. The youth groups sponsored by Delta Beta Chapter are called the Xinos (girls) and Kudos (boys), in grades 9th thru 12th. NSPDK, Inc. encourages the development and potential of our youth while providing a welcoming, respectful, and inclusive environment for our Xinos and Kudos.

The Delta Beta Chapter Xinos hosted

the 45th Xinos Southwest Regional Conference at the Omni Hotel in Austin, Texas. The 2018 theme for this year's conference was "Change Begins With Me". Approximately 400 students from four states, under the guidance and supervision of soror sponsors, participated in general sessions, development workshops, and competitions in academic excellence, oratorical speaking, art, dance, basketball and scrapbooking.

Delta Beta Xinos earned the following recognitions: Amunique Swan and Kennedi Carter—*Academic Excellence*; Moriah Leonard—*Basketball—1st Place*;

Kourtney Jobe—*Basketball—2nd Place*; Scrapbook—*2nd Place*. Delta Beta Xinos did an outstanding job!!

In September 2018 the Xinos volunteered at an AISD women's conference where they assisted with providing activities with the children as the parents attended the conference. During an October 2018 workshop with engineer Mack Riley, the Xinos and Kudos received information about the importance of mathematics.

Special recognition to the Xinos Sponsor, Dorcas Seals, for her untiring support of our youth girls throughout the school year, and for preparing them for their



Dorcas Seals
Xinos Sponsor

regional youth conference. Delta Beta Xinos continue to excel in the local community, the Southwest Region and beyond!!


See the September 24, 2018 edition of The Villager for details and photos about the Kudos.

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ACC) DISTRICT is soliciting qualified firms for the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Dental Hygiene Equipment Request For Qualifications (RFQ) No. 260-19-0079-00-M-CC

All sealed proposals must be submitted to the Procure to Pay Department (P2P) by no later than Thursday, November 12, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. Central Standard Time (CST). Solicitation documents are available on the ACC's website at <http://www.austincc.edu/offices/purchasing/advised-solicitations>, or at the ACC P2P Department with advance notice at (512)-223-1041 between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

All responses must be sealed and returned to the ACC P2P Department, ACC Service Center, 9101 Tuscany Way, Austin, Texas 78754, by the date and time indicated above. Electronically transmitted responses will NOT be accepted unless otherwise stated in the documents.

An optional Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the ACC Service Center, 9101 Tuscany Way, Austin, TX 78754. Check the website listed above for any updates or changes



SUPPORT THE EAST AUSTIN SCHOOLS MANIFESTO!

Edmund (Ted) Gordon


AISD Board of Trustees Pl. 1

I would be honored to have your support and vote to continue representing AISD District 1, ALL AISD students and protecting the integrity of public education.

ELECTION DAY IS NOV. 6TH!

ENDORSED BY:

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- Education Austin
- Austin Kids First
- Austin Central Labor Council
- Capital Area Progressive Democrats
- Workers Defense Action Fund
- Stonewall Democrats of Austin
- University Democrats



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