**RESPONSE TO SCHOOL’S NOTICE OF SUMMER SCHOOL**

**For 5th and 8th Grade Students**

[Name of Principal]

[Name of School]

[Address]

 RE: Notification of Summer School

Dear [Name of Principal]:

Following my child's second administration of the STAAR assessment in [5th/8th] grade [reading/math], I received a notice from the school that my child was required to attend summer school. I was not part of any discussion regarding the assignment of accelerated instruction in the form of summer school.

This letter is to advise you that your determination is legally void and of no effect. Pursuant to Tex. Education Code §28.0211 (c):

*"After a student fails to perform satisfactorily on an assessment instrument a second time, a grade placement committee shall be established to prescribe the accelerated instruction the district shall provide to the student before the student is administered the assessment instrument the third time. The grade placement committee shall be composed of the principal or the principal's designee, the student's parent or guardian, and the teacher of the subject of an assessment instrument on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily. The district shall notify the parent or guardian of the time and place for convening the grade placement committee and the purpose of the committee."*

The determination of summer school as a consequence of failing the second administration and as preparation for the third administration may only be determined by the Grade Placement Committee. It may not be determined unilaterally by the school or the district. Any such determination is of no legal effect and cannot be treated as a compulsory requirement.

 This simple legal requirement is explicit in both the Education Code and the TEA's Student Success Initiative Manual. I am frankly shocked that my child's school would so blatantly ignore our statutory and administrative rights. Moreover, the actions of the school in unilaterally imposing this decision call into question the objectivity and fairness of any future GPC decisions. The GPC is intended to reach individualized decisions based on the needs of the specific student. When the GPC does meet, I will have to ask that any person involved in the improper determination previously sent to me recuse themselves from being a part of the committee.

Toward that end, I am asking that you notify me within seven days of the identity of each person involved in determining, outside of the GPC process, that my child was required to attend summer school.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Parent]