



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Protestors lined the intersection of Stadium Drive and FM 1463 and encouraged passing motorists to honk in solidarity with their cause; the protestors were met with support as well as opposition from passersby, said the students.

PROTEST

from page A1

taken on the policy.

"This could take a big step into transgender genocide," he said. Carter said that he had already been affected by the new policy, which requires that he be called by the name on his birth certificate rather than the name he prefers. Carter added that he was thinking of dropping out of KISD because of the policy and its ramifications, and instead finishing his education with a GED from an online school.

Alastair Parker of Cinco Ranch High School also reported already being affected by the new policy, citing an increase in bullying by other students. "I've been called a slur three or four times today in the school hallways, and that's never happened before," Parker said. "It's important for everyone to come out to things like this and support us. A lot of people from my school don't feel safe coming to an event like this."

Duckie Frederickson expressed concerns that the new policy would lead to increased homelessness, suicides and cases of abuse among local LGBTQ students, as well as low self-esteem and other mental health issues.

Katy ISD's police were onsite to ensure the students' safety, protestors said. One



Jacey Mouton, a Katy High School student, said on Friday that she organized the three-day protest to help people affected by KISD's new "gender fluidity" policy and to give them a place to share their frustrations.

student reported that "bullies from Katy High School" had come to the protest on Thursday to try to threaten and intimidate the participants, but that Katy ISD police asked the boys to leave and that they did so.

The "gender fluidity" policy requires that students be addressed by pronouns corresponding to the sex assigned on their birth certificates, rather than pronouns preferred by the student, unless the parent gives written permission. However, teachers and staff do not have to comply with use of the requested pronouns if they choose not to use them, even if the parent has given permission. Per the

policy, parents must also be notified by district personnel if the student has requested being addressed by different pronouns.

The policy also requires that students used the restrooms which are assigned to the biological sex assigned at birth; transgender students are prohibited from competing in sports on a team not corresponding to the biological sex assigned at birth.

The policy also restricts district employees from teaching gender fluidity in the classroom or using instructional materials that relate to gender fluidity.

IGLOO

from page A1

tem for the City of Katy; Angie Thomason, president and CEO of the Katy Area EDC; Vanessa Wheelless of the Katy Area EDC; Paul Kurt, chairman of the Katy Area EDC; Karla DeCuir, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management, University of Houston/Victoria at Katy; and Jay Donnella of Christ Clinic.

Igloo is involved within the local community from schools to children's centers, having recently donated several thousand hydration products to the Upreach Krause's Children's Center and Bryant Elementary School in addition to working with the Dan Pastorini Charity that supports severely disabled children.

LIBRARY

from page A1

wants to share, and we put a post in our neighborhood Facebook page inviting customers. Books are free and we encourage kids to 'take one and share one.'

The Katy Elementary School student started the program on August 29th and so far, the response from the neighborhood in Pine Lakes has been positive, said Wallace.

CORRECTIONS

■ In the August 31st edition of the Katy Times, the photo caption on page A6 incorrectly identified the company represented by Kevin Drury. Drury works for Enerconnex, not Reflective Energy.

■ In the August 31st edition of the Katy Times on page A3, the first reference to the Grapevine-Colleyville ISD was spelled incorrectly.

The Times regrets these errors.



HELPING THE GREATER KATY AREA GROW - CAREFULLY AND RESPONSIBLY

Lentz Engineering, LLC is a civil engineering and consulting firm founded in 1988.



We offer the following services:

- Single-family and multi-family residential developments
- Commercial and Industrial site developments
- Churches and schools site development
- Municipal Utility Districts
- Construction Administration and Inspection services
- Platting, planning, feasibility studies, and SWPPP

7322 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1850, Houston, TX 77074
(713) 839-8900 | lentzengineering.com

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 199 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 10:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	W. Stewart, J. Glazer, M. Junell & P. Huinker
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	M. Wilson

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year*	This Year*
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$ 0.600</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$ 0.700</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>\$0.100</u> /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>0.0000%</u>	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 0	\$ 0
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 0	\$ 0
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>\$0.00</u> <u>0.0000%</u>	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

* There were **NO** residential homesteads for comparison purposes.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 25 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday September 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Administration Building, located at 10347 Clodine Road, Richmond, Texas, 77407. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Glenn Farley, Escoto Thomas, Brain Addicks, Dan Turner, Jeffery Williams
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.87000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.85400 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$-0.01600 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-1.84%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$303,256.00	\$335,897.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$303,256.00	\$335,897.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,638.33	\$2,868.56
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$230.23 8.73%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.