



## GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

January 21, 2026

Mrs. Julie Hinaman  
Board of Trustees President  
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District  
P.O. Box 692003  
Houston, Texas 77269-2003

Dr. Douglas Killian  
Superintendent  
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District  
P.O. Box 692003  
Houston, Texas 77269-2003

Dear Mrs. Hinaman and Dr. Killian:

It has come to my attention that Bridgeland High School intends to offer public school facilities to host the 2026 Houston Islamic Games in October.<sup>1</sup> Event organizers proudly boasted that the New Jersey Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (“CAIR NJ”) would sponsor the event.<sup>2</sup>

Be aware I recently designated “the Muslim Brotherhood and its successor organization CAIR” as foreign terrorist organizations and transnational criminal organizations under state law.<sup>3</sup> That Proclamation described “ample evidence” collected by the federal government—and relied on by a federal court—showing that CAIR is a “front group” for Hamas. Hamas, a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood in Gaza, has been designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the U.S. government since 1997, and is the group responsible for kidnapping and murdering American citizens in its surprise attack on October 7, 2023.<sup>4</sup>

That same day, CAIR NJ praised Hamas’s slaughter of innocent civilians, including Americans, stating: “This is not a war. It is an occupation... End the occupation. Free Palestine.”<sup>5</sup> Two days later, CAIR NJ doubled down, stating that “the people of Gaza effectively broke out of prison” and that their resistance was “inevitable and should not be unexpected.”<sup>6</sup> Consistent with CAIR NJ’s anti-American and antisemitic agenda, Selaedin Maksut, the Executive Director of CAIR NJ, solicited donations at a New Jersey mosque to “fight against... the Zionism that has infiltrated” America and boasted that CAIR was “working hand in hand with our partners to fight for Palestine.”<sup>7</sup> CAIR NJ does not hide that it views public schools as the battleground for promoting terrorism; that is why Mr. Maksut sought to disrupt high school operations with a “Walkout for Palestine” protest.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Islamic Games of North America, Inc., *Islamic Games Houston 2026*, <https://islamic-games.com/houston/>.

<sup>2</sup> Islamic Games of North America, Inc., 2026 – Here We Come!, <https://web.archive.org/web/20251116163337/https://islamic-games.com/>.

<sup>3</sup> Office of the Texas Governor, Proclamation (Nov. 18, 2025), <https://perma.cc/PSN7-WUHR>.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Dep’t of State, Bureau of Counterterrorism, *Foreign Terrorist Organizations*, <https://perma.cc/2S5N-D5SY>.

<sup>5</sup> CAIR New Jersey (@CAIRNJ), X (Oct. 7, 2023, 2:59 P.M.), <https://perma.cc/8T3W-7N9R>.

<sup>6</sup> CAIR New Jersey (@CAIRNJ), X (Oct. 9, 2023, 8:29 AM), <https://perma.cc/P73S-TC5S>.

<sup>7</sup> ICPC Paterson, *Building American Muslim Political Strength / Selaedin Maksut / 8/15/2025*, YOUTUBE, at 23:57 (Aug. 15, 2025), [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqbSzo96\\_qI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqbSzo96_qI).

<sup>8</sup> Press Release, Council on American-Islamic Relations, *CAIR-NJ Rep to Speak at Student ‘Walkout for Palestine’ at Teaneck High School* (Dec. 3, 2024), <https://perma.cc/Y53S-BAMJ>.

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This type of division, disruption, and support for terrorism is exactly why I directed the Texas Department of Public Safety to launch investigations into the Muslim Brotherhood, CAIR, and any of their affiliated entities operating in the State.<sup>9</sup> It is also why I called upon U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent to suspend CAIR's status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.<sup>10</sup> Those documents detail the dangers posed by Muslim Brotherhood, CAIR, and their affiliates to the citizens of this State.

You cannot invite such dangers through the front doors of our schools. In fact, state law requires public schools to prohibit illegal activities from taking place on school property. It is obvious, then, that you may not use taxpayer-funded public facilities to host events sponsored by a designated terror organization. To do so would violate your duty to taxpayers and the safety of students. Radical Islamic extremism is not welcome in Texas—and certainly not in our schools.

Just this week, Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District rightfully announced it was "severing the negotiations for the use of District properties for the 2026 Islamic Games" at Colleyville Heritage High School facilities.<sup>11</sup> District officials cited my designation of CAIR as a foreign terrorist organization and observed that state law prohibits governmental entities from entering into contracts with such entities.

Accordingly, I direct Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District to immediately preserve all records and communications concerning this event. You must confirm with my office within seven days of receiving this letter that any negotiations or agreements for this event have been terminated. If you fail to do so, I will direct the Texas Education Agency to immediately seize and uncover any communications district employees may have regarding CAIR, any attempts to conceal CAIR's involvement, and any agreements or financial statements related to the proposed event.

I will also direct the Texas Education Agency to immediately refer its findings to Texas Attorney General, Ken Paxton, with the expectation that his office will pursue legal actions, including investigative demands and injunctions to halt public school districts from hosting events sponsored by designated terror organizations like CAIR.

Texans deserve immediate action to curb the spread of Islamic extremism, and public facilities funded by their tax dollars will not be utilized to host terrorist related groups.

Respectfully,



Greg Abbott  
Governor

cc: Ken Paxton, Texas Attorney General  
Mike Morath, Commissioner of Education

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<sup>9</sup> See Press Release, Office of the Texas Governor, *Governor Abbott Directs DPS To Launch Criminal Investigations into Muslim Brotherhood, CAIR* (Nov. 20, 2025), <https://perma.cc/RBQ5-BRZ3>.

<sup>10</sup> See Press Release, Office of the Texas Governor, *Governor Abbott Sends Letter to U.S. Secretary Bessent Requesting Suspension of CAIR's Tax-Exempt Status* (Dec. 2, 2025), <https://perma.cc/7NUH-6D66>.

<sup>11</sup> Logan Washburn, *GCISD Halts Negotiations for Islamic Games Event Citing State Ban on Terror-linked Contracts*, DALLAS EXPRESS (Jan. 20, 2026), <https://perma.cc/BPN3-CWZV>.