

Malakoff Independent School District

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February 27, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

It is with great enthusiasm and the utmost confidence that I write this letter in support of Dr. Sharon Ross's pre-tenure review. I have had the distinct privilege of working alongside Dr. Ross in multiple capacities, and I can attest to her exemplary leadership, unwavering dedication, and transformative impact on education.

Dr. Ross has played a significant role in shaping my own professional journey. As a superintendent mentor, she provided invaluable guidance in central office administration, equipping me with the knowledge and strategic acumen necessary to navigate the complexities of educational leadership. Her mentorship extended beyond mere advisement; she invested in my growth and development with the same passion and commitment that she extends to her students and colleagues.

In my role as Director of M.Ed. Programs at East Texas Baptist University, I had the privilege of collaborating with Dr. Ross to launch our superintendent program. Recognizing her deep expertise and visionary approach, I sought her assistance in designing a program that would adequately prepare future superintendents for the demands of educational leadership. After securing approval for the program, there was no question that Dr. Ross would be the first faculty member I hired. Her contributions were instrumental in shaping the curriculum and ensuring that our candidates received rigorous, relevant, and high-impact training. Her insights, dedication, and student-centered approach significantly strengthened the program's foundation and overall effectiveness.

Beyond her professional expertise, Dr. Ross's energy is infectious. She brings an unparalleled passion for teaching and learning that permeates any space she enters. Her influence extends far beyond the classroom, as she has touched the lives of countless students, educators, and leaders through her commitment to excellence and innovation in education. She leads with integrity, inspires with her vision, and uplifts those around her with her unwavering enthusiasm.

Without a doubt, Dr. Sharon Ross is one of the most deserving candidates for tenure. Her contributions to education, her mentorship, and her dedication to shaping future leaders make her an invaluable asset to the institution. I strongly and unequivocally recommend Dr. Ross for tenure and look forward to witnessing the continued impact she will undoubtedly have in her field.

Sincerely,

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Patrick J. Winters, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Malakoff Independent School District