February 27, 2017

Ken Becker, Executive Director
Sweetwater Enterprise for Economic Development
P.O. 785
Sweetwater, TX 79556

Dear Ken:

The students, parents, and taxpayers of the Blackwell Consolidated Independent School District have benefitted greatly from our Chapter 313 agreements. With the investment that these companies have made within the boundaries of BCISD, the district has been able to provide a much-needed school building in which to educate students. The previous building, which was constructed in 1939, had numerous safety issues which included unstable walls and holes in the exterior and roofs. After constructing a new campus, the continuing investment has allowed our rural school to provide the latest in technology. New computers, ipads, and smartboards are a few of the technology advantages that we now have for students.

The Chapter 313 investment has also allowed us to compete with other districts for quality teaching professionals. Not only do we provide access to online college classes, but being able to be competitive in salary and benefits has allowed us to attract and retain embedded college teachers on our campus.

Finally, and quite possibly the most important investment, is the ability to assist our students in their future. The vast bulk of our Chapter 313 benefits go directly to students in the form of scholarships. Our educational foundation provides $3,000 per year for each year of attendance in BCISD. For a student who attends first through twelfth grades in Blackwell, they will receive $36,000 to go towards a four-year or two-year degree, trade school, or job training. Our students have used this money to become employed, paying contributors to American society. From becoming certified in hand and breeding horses to pursuing dreams of acting in New York City, our educational foundation has been utilized by students to pursue their dreams and reach for a successful future.

Sincerely,

Abe Gott, Superintendent

Bryan Shipman, Secondary Principal
P.O. Box 505, Blackwell, TX, 79506

Abe Gott, Superintendent
www.blackwellhornets.org

Jason Powers, Elementary Principal
325.282.2311 (v) 325.282.2027 (f)