



OFFICE OF THE STARR COUNTY ATTORNEY

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August 28, 2023

Mr. Adolfo Peña, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools
Rio Grande City Grulla ISD

via Hand Delivery

RE: **Cease and Decist NOTICE** of CONSTRUCTION and ALL RELATED ACTIVITY
At Rio Grande City Grulla ISD – Middle School (Adjacent to La Grulla High School)

Dear Mr. Pena:

The new Grulla middle school planned to be constructed next to the existing Grulla High School is within the jurisdictional construction and permitting oversight and authority of Starr County, Texas. The new school has not been prescreened or granted the required preliminary approval by the Starr County Commissioner's Court to commence any construction related activity. All activity and all improvements as a result therefrom at the site of construction has never been reviewed, prescreened, cleared, or given Starr County administrative preliminary approval to begin. As such, please be advised that all activity including construction must immediately stop. (Please see attached eight (8) pages/photographs).

Please be advised that improvements undertaken without and prior to any formal review, inspection, or the granting of preliminary approval by Starr County, is without legitimate administrative review process to exist. A major purpose of the construction administrative process, including granting of preliminary approval, overview, and Starr County oversight of inspection centered construction projects, is for uniform application of applicable safety building codes, which in turn provides independent accountability for the protection of all inhabitants of any building, most especially school buildings for children.

To expedite and immediately attempt to address this deficient situation and to get this important project in line with compliance of regulatory safety mandates, please coordinate compliance with Starr County building and permit inspectors. We all share and appreciate the needs of the children in this building and everyone that will one day enjoy the benefit of this important facility; however, Starr County's construction oversight and administrative safety approval process, should not be omitted.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Rene P. Montalvo
Starr County Attorney

Cc: Mr. Marin Lopez
Rio Grande City Grulla ISD

Grulla middle school construction

Tony Garcia <starrcodr@yahoo.com>

Mon 8/28/2023 1:56 PM

To: Rene Montalvo <rene.montalvo@co.starr.tx.us>

















Sent from my iPhone