



BOYS RANCH

FOUNDED BY CAL FARLEY

April 17, 2025

Mr. Mike Morath
Commissioner
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701-1494

Dear Commissioner Morath,

In my capacity as President and Chief Executive Officer of Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, I request that the State Board of Education, at its June 2025 meeting, reappoint James Taylor and appoint Leon Hollis to the Boys Ranch Independent School District (BRISD) Board of Trustees. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hollis are qualified under Texas Law and meet all requirements. Mr. Hollis will replace Jacque Branch who elected not to request reappointment at the completion of her current term.

The following documents are provided for Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hollis: resume, signed statement expressing willingness to accept re-appointment/appointment and serve in full adherence to the state-established standards for school board members and certifying that the biographical information is true and correct, and background check information.

I understand that the BRISD Board of Trustees has the power to govern and oversee management of the district, and my power as President and Chief Executive Officer of Cal Farley's Boys Ranch is limited to duty as defined by statutes relating to the process of appointing members to the BRISD Board of Trustees. I also certify that the membership composition of the BRISD Board of Trustees is in full compliance with the provisions of the Texas Education Code, section 11.352. I further certify that the role of the BRISD superintendent is in full compliance with the provisions of the Texas Education Code, section 11.201.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 806-322-2609 or via email at richardnedelkoff@calfarley.org.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to confirmation of these appointments.

Sincerely,

Richard Nedelkoff
President and Chief Executive Officer

RN:ss
Enclosures

LEON HOLLIS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Firefighter Level 1 Certification
- Firefighter Instructor
- ALEERT Level 1 Certified
- CRASE Instructor
- Licensed Class D Water Operator License
- OSHA General Industry Certification

SKILLS & ABILITIES

- Have completed multiple scenario driven security trainings
- Started classes for Fire Inspector, completed level 1 of 2
- Have been a trainer for verbal de-escalation techniques
- Facilitate table top emergency drills for the organization
- Licensed security officer for 6 years

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE**

ADMINISTRATOR OF OPERATIONS
DECEMBER 2021 - PRESENT

Participates in appropriate professional development programs to attain and maintain competency. This competency will include the appropriate provision of services for the age-specific population served. Requires childcare training in compliance with state regulations.

Effectively manages financial, informational and physical resources to achieve the organization's objectives.

Performs work in a safe manner at all times. Maintains an organized and safe work area. Considers the safety of others at all times, and reports unsafe conditions.

Promotes the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) process by identifying quality indicators and opportunities for departmental and organizational process improvement.

Within departmental parameters, exhibits customer service, decision-making and problem-solving skills to include establishing and maintaining liaisons with external vendors and within the Cal Farley organization.

Generates reports, correspondence and other documentation as assigned.

Attends and participates in administrative/staff/committee meetings as assigned.

Exhibits effective communication skills.

Facilitates other projects as assigned.

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY & COMPLIANCE
SEPTEMBER 2015 - MARCH 2024

Supports the development, implementation, and maintenance of a comprehensive Environmental Health and Safety Compliance Program for the organization.

Oversees the safety training/risk management, environmental quality, environmental services, and security services to include preventative activities, as well as timely response to requests for service.

Co-chairs campus safety committees.

Oversees the design, implementation, and maintenance of the organization's emergency and disaster plans, and evaluates outcomes and implements necessary corrective actions.

Oversees investigation of all campuses accidents in a confidential manner and assures implementation of necessary immediate corrective action. Coordinates analysis and assessment of serious and/or repetitive safety-related incidents with administration.

Oversees development and implementation of bi-annual safety inspection of each campus building to identify safety risks, environmental hazards, and environmental cleanliness. Ensures "corrective action" notice to appropriate staff and supervisors.

Oversees development and implementation of monthly environmental audits of each resident home. Ensures "corrective action" notice to appropriate staff and supervisors.

Oversees duties to ensure compliance and timely reporting of ranch environmental quality programs to various regulatory agencies to include domestic water, wastewater, solid waste and incinerator, asbestos, IPM and others as assigned.

Oversees all preparations and development of maps, blueprints, pictures and database for Boys Ranch buildings, grounds and utilities

Oversees the campus security activities of Boys Ranch. Assures a schedule of routine security activities as well as timely response to requests of service of emergency situations. Assures that security staff has the required credentials, training, equipment and PPE and that all safety procedures are strictly adhered to.

Generates correspondence, administrative reports and related documentation as assigned.

Ensures all ranch and personnel environmental quality related licenses are current and training and continuing education requirements comply with regulatory agency directives.

Oversees organization if any requested maps, reports, investigations, and regulations used for reports or special projects.

**CAMPUS LIFE SUPERVISOR, CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH
SEPTEMBER 2006 - SEPTEMBER 2015**

Responsible for 3 resident homes, 12 staff and 36 teenage boys. Ensuring staff assigned to the homes are current with training standards. Work with houseparent's on budgeting for each home and following budgetary guidelines. Train all campus staff in emergency behavior management techniques (SAMA). Work a rotating on call schedule for campus emergencies whether it be staff or resident related.

**CAMPUS LIFE SUPERVISOR, CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH
SEPTEMBER 2006 - PRESENT**

Responsible for 3 resident homes, 12 staff and 36 teenage boys. Ensuring staff assigned to the homes are current with training standards. Work with houseparent's on budgeting for each home and following budgetary guidelines. Train all campus staff in emergency behavior management techniques (SAMA). Work a rotating on call schedule for campus emergencies whether it be staff or resident related.

**HOUSEPARENT, CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH
MAY 2005 - SEPTEMBER 2006**

In charge 1 resident home with up to 14 residents. Responsible for resident's daily routines and schedules. Maintained the home budget, daily communication with all team members,

**SUCCESS COACH, CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH
OCTOBER 2004 - MAY 2005**

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR, AMARILLO PARKS AND RECREATION,
MARCH 2002-MAY 2004**

Supervised 50 staff at 20 different locations. Also planned 4 yearly special events. Coordinated the lunch program through AISD which provided meals at 17 different locations.

**REGIONAL INVENTORY SPECIALIST, MASTEC ENGINEERING
CONSTRUCTION, DULUTH, GA
MARCH 2001-SEPTEMBER 2001**

Inventory control for the telecommunications division in the Southeast Region which included locations in Birmingham, AL, Duluth, GA and Memphis, TN.

**OPERATIONS MANAGER, GOLFSMITH INTERNATIONAL, KENNESAW, GA
JUNE 1998-MARCH 2002**

Responsible for all building maintenance and grounds upkeep of retail location. Trained and supervised warehouse supervisor, golf club repair shop, and the components warehouse. Maintained weekly schedule and electronic timesheets for 40 staff and 3 managers.

EDUCATION

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Bachelors of General Studies

STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY
BOYS RANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT REQUEST
FOR
LEON HOLLIS

I, **Leon Hollis**, verify that I am qualified under the general school laws of Texas to be a BRISD School Board Trustee. I certify that the attached biographical information is true and correct. I am willing to accept the appointment as BRISD School Board Trustee and serve in such capacity with full adherence to the state-established standards for the duties and responsibilities of school board members.



Leon Hollis (signature)



Date

James Taylor

5714 Andover,
Amarillo, TX 79109

Ph. 806-681-6189(M)
E-mail: taylor.jim01@gmail.com

Experience:

Compliance Coordinator and Training Assistant

6/01/2018-3/2/2023 – Current – Amarillo Area CASA

- Responsible for ensuring volunteer files contain all documentation required by Texas CASA and National CASA.
- Responsible for gathering background information on volunteer applications.
- Responsible for updating on-line records for volunteers
- Responsible for assisting with training of new volunteers and providing on-going training opportunities
- Team Leader for CASA Legislative Action Team (LAT)

Director of Training

11/19/2005 – 11/30/2018 - Cal Farley's, Amarillo, TX

- Responsible for Corporate Residential Services Training Department for Cal Farley's Boys Ranch and Girlstown campuses.

Duties included:

- Coaching/Mentoring/Supervising department staff
- Assuring training meets/exceeds TDFPS and COA standards.
- Coordinate community training seminars
- Provide Training for internal and external participants in strength-based models – Life Space Crisis Intervention, Response Ability Pathways, Satori Alternatives to Managing Aggression
- Align training curricula with corporate strategic plan
- Implement OPQI based on outcomes indicators

PDTE Coordinator

6/4/2005 – 11/19/2005 Cal Farley's

- Coordination of Program Development Training and Evaluation Team in Corporate Office

Duties included:

- Assuring training meets/exceeds TDFPS and COA standards.
- Assuring training meets/exceeds TDFPS and COA standards.
- Provide training for organization staff

Director of Adolescent Boys

12/27/03 – 6/4/2005 Cal Farley's

- Responsible for programming in 15 Adolescent boys homes at Boys Ranch.

Duties included:

- Coaching/Mentoring/Supervising Direct care and Casework Staff
- Assuring homes were meeting/exceeding licensing standards.
- On-call administrator for crisis intervention.
- Responsible for contacting child abuse hotline if abuse neglect incidents suspected.

Director of Homelife

7/12/03 – 12/27/2005 Cal Farley's

- Responsible for programming in 26 Youth Residential homes at Boys Ranch

Duties included:

- Coaching/Mentoring/Supervising Direct care and Casework Staff
- Assuring homes were meeting/exceeding licensing standards.
- On-call administrator for crisis intervention.
- Responsible for contacting child abuse hotline if abuse neglect incidents suspected.

Assistant Administrator for Homelife

6/28/2000 – 7/12/2003 Cal Farley's

- Responsible for programming in 26 Youth Residential homes at Boys Ranch

Duties included:

- Coaching/Mentoring/Supervising Direct care and Casework Staff
- Assuring homes were meeting/exceeding licensing standards.
- On-call administrator for crisis intervention.
- Responsible for contacting child abuse hotline if abuse neglect incidents suspected.

Community Director

November 1, 1997 – 6/28/2000 Cal Farley's

- Responsible for programming in 5 Adolescent Boys Community at Boys Ranch

Duties included:

- Coaching/Mentoring/Supervising Direct care and Casework Staff
- Assuring homes were meeting/exceeding licensing standards.
- On-call administrator for crisis intervention.
- Responsible for contacting child abuse hotline if abuse neglect incidents suspected.

Education & Professional Licenses

B.A. Henderson State University (1979) – Double Majors – English and Psychology
Nova Southeastern University (1990) Masters in Childcare Administration
Childcare Administrators License (1994) Current

Military

USMC – December 1969 – December 1972, Honorable Discharge E-5

Personal information: A wonderful marriage resulting in 2 wonderful, successful daughters.

Interests and hobbies: Reading, Photography, Music, Hiking, Racquetball, Tennis
Boys Ranch Independent School Board Member

References:

Mel Droegemeier
Friend
806-352-9520


Jay Ricci
Friend/Neighbor
806-679-9973 (Mob)

Tyrone Malish
Friend/Neighbor
806-358-1207

STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY
BOYS RANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT REQUEST
FOR
JAMES TAYLOR

I, **James Taylor**, verify that I am qualified under the general school laws of Texas to be a BRISD School Board Trustee. I certify that the attached biographical information is true and correct. I am willing to accept the appointment as BRISD School Board Trustee and serve in such capacity with full adherence to the state-established standards for the duties and responsibilities of school board members.


James Taylor (signature)


Date