**ACE Announcement**

**Angie Lee talking points**

**March 19, 2018**

**Spoken from the vantage point as the newly named RISD Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

Well good morning, everyone. My name is Angie Lee and I am going to state the obvious. It’s an exciting day here in Richardson ISD. It’s an exciting day here at Carolyn Bukhair Elementary School. It’s an exciting day for all those smiling faces that greeted us at the door. Excitement is everywhere. Can you feel it? Can you?

I know I can. In fact I might be the most excited person in this room—aside from our superintendent, of course. She is always smiling, but that grin has filled her face even more than usual since this event was announced a few weeks back.

My excitement stems from the realization that my new role as RISD’s Director of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion folds perfectly within our ACE initiative. ACE makes *equity* a focus for our students. It reflects and embraces the *diversity* of our 39,000 students in RISD. And it ensures that all of them will be *included*.

We have some special guests joining us today—helping us launch ACE—because they, too, know that RISD is moving forward in a direction that will tear down hurdles facing some of our highest-need students.

Here on stage with me are:

* Justin Bono, RISD Board President—Mr. Bono is representing an ace school board that is 100-percent supportive of “all means all”
* The aforementioned—and always smiling—Dr. Jeannie Stone, RISD Superintendent
* Mike Rawlings, Mayor for the City of Dallas—An aside, more than 60-percent of RISD lies within Mayor Rawlings’ Dallas city limits, including our four ACE campuses
* Mike Morath, Texas Education Commissioner—Commissioner Morath is invested in ACE and very familiar with the RISD area, of course having served as a Dallas ISD school board member and growing up next door in Garland ISD
* Ashley Jones, recently named STARS Award winning teacher and RISD Elementary Teacher of the Year—Her passion for teaching, and addressing an audience, will no doubt shine through here in just a bit
* And—one of the 39,000 reasons we all do what we do every day—Angeles Mojica, a wonderful young GENDER who will leave us with a special message as we leave here today.

Now, I will turn the program over to Justin Bono, our board president.

Mr. Bono.