## **EAST PLANO ISLAMIC CENTER**



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Plano, Texas 75074
Phone: 214-396-1943
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East Plano Islamic Center 4700 E 14th St. Plano, Texas 75074

March 5th, 2025

Dear Principals and Educators of Plano, Murphy, and Wylie ISD,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. My name is Nadim Bashir, and I serve as the Religious Leader at the East Plano Islamic Center (EPIC Masjid). Our mosque is honored to serve the growing Muslim communities in East Plano, Murphy, and Wylie, many of whom have children attending schools within your districts. I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for your ongoing efforts to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students.

As we enter the blessed month of Ramadan, Muslim students in your schools will be observing a daily fast from dawn until sunset. While fasting is a religious obligation for those who have reached maturity, many younger students also choose to participate. This spiritual practice involves refraining from food, drink, and physical exertion, which may affect students' energy levels throughout the school day.

With that in mind, we kindly request that schools consider making reasonable accommodations to help fasting students, including the bearer of this letter, remain comfortable and engaged in their studies. We fully respect the school's policies and procedures and are simply seeking flexibility within the existing framework of school regulations. Specifically, we request:

- Allowing students who are fasting to be excused from strenuous physical activities during PE, recess, and after school programs.
- Providing an alternative where they can spend their lunch period if they prefer not to be in the cafeteria.
- Offering flexibility with academic expectations, particularly related to assignment deadlines and tests.

We truly appreciate your commitment to fostering a respectful and inclusive educational environment. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Imam Nadim Bashir

Imam & Religious Director East Plano Islamic Center imam@epicmasjid.org