

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD was held Tuesday, January 23, 2018, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Biblioteca Las Americas Lecture Hall, 300 Med High Drive, Mercedes, Texas.

1. Welcome.

Joe L. Lopez, Board President, welcomed the guests, staff and fellow board members.

2. Pledges of Allegiance & District Call to Action.

The pledges were led by board member Abiel Cantu. Mr. Cantu recited the district's Call to Action.

3. Board Meeting called to order.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Joe L. Lopez at 7:20 p.m. at which time he was assured by Superintendent, Marla M. Guerra that notices of this meeting were posted properly according to the laws of Texas and that a quorum of the board was present.

The following board members were present:

Graciela Camargo	Weslaco
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
Javier Farias	McAllen
Richard Fleming, M.D.	Mission
Adrian Garcia	Brownsville
Homero Garcia	Weslaco
Margarita Garcia	San Juan
Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D.	Edinburg
Hector Gonzales	Lyford
Maria G. Leal	Palmhurst
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville

Joe L. "Joey" Lopez	Brownsville
Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Eliceo Muñoz, III	Brownsville
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Rebecca Villarreal	Peñitas
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following board members were absent:

Douglas E. Buchanan	Raymondville
Yolanda Chapa	McAllen
Berta Palacios	San Juan
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville

The following staff members were present:

Marla M. Guerra, Ed.D.	Jeff Hembree
J.P. Villarreal	Marla R. Knaub
Sonia E. Rodriguez	Amanda Odom
Jaclyn Buelow	Barbara Heater, Ph.D.
Nora Casarez, Ed.D.	David Gamboa, Ed.D.
Harry Goette	Carrie Saucedo
Ann Vickman	Adrian Caceres

#### 4. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence.

#### 5. District & Campus Texas Academic Performance Report Public Hearing.

Jeff Hembree reported on the District and Campus Performance reports which included the District Call to Action, Strategic Plan Goals; guidelines for the Texas Academic Performance Report; 2016-2017 Texas Academic Performance Report; PEIMS Financial Standard reports; report on criminal incidents, school safety and security audit and reports of student enrollment and academic performance after graduation. Board President Joe Lopez thanked the students, faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication.

#### 6. Public participation at South Texas ISD Board Meetings: Allotted time to hear persons who desire to make comments to the Board (BED Local).

##### A. Recognition of Science Academy Principal, Irma Castillo, Ed.D., for being named a finalist for the Project Lead the Way Administrator of the Year.

Nelly Houston spoke a few words on behalf of Dr. Irma Castillo characterizing her work, commitment to the educational programs at the Science Academy and the difference she has made in the lives of students and staff. Ms. Houston nominated Dr. Castillo for the Project Lead the Way Administrator of the Year.

The Board of Directors and Administration presented Dr. Castillo with a certificate honoring her for being named a finalist for the Project Lead the Way Administrator of the Year.

- B. Recognition of South Texas Preparatory Academy Principal, Ana Castro, for being nominated for the National Life Group Foundation's 2017-2018 National LifeChanger of the Year Award.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Administration, Mrs. Ana Castro was recognized for being nominated for the National Life Group Foundation's 2017-2018 National LifeChanger of the Year Award.

- C. Recognition of South Texas ISD Board of Directors in honor of School Board Recognition Month.

As part of Texas Board Recognition Month, board members were presented with tokens of appreciation by each school principal and the superintendent honoring them for their leadership, work and dedication to South Texas ISD. The Board was also serenaded by BETA's Mariachi group.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda.

In order to promote efficient meetings, the Board may act upon more than one item by a single vote through the use of consent agenda. Consent items shall be items placed on the Agenda marked with an asterisk (\*) for which no Board discussion is anticipated and for which the Superintendent recommends approval. Prior to the meeting, at the request of any member of the Board of Directors, any item on the consent agenda shall be removed and given individual consideration. Requests for individual consideration are made at least a half-hour prior to Board meetings and requests must be directed to either the Board President or the Superintendent.

A motion was made by Larry Cantu, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

8. \*Action: Review and act on the November 28 and December 13, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

9. Policy & Curriculum - Berta Palacios & Joe L. Lopez, Co-Chairs

Joe L. Lopez reported on the following committee items:

- A. \*Action: Review and act on announcements of vacancies for the 2018 summer programs.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- B. Action: Review and act on new personnel positions and announcements of vacancies for the 2018-2019 school year.

A motion was made by Joe Lopez, seconded by Larry Cantu, approving the new personnel positions and announcement of vacancies for the 2018-2019 school year as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Action: Review and act on Policy Update 109, Final Reading.

A motion was made by Joe Lopez, seconded by Homero Garcia, adopting Policy Update 109 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Buildings & Grounds - Robert J. Lerma & Rick Villarreal, DDS, Co-Chairs

Rick Villarreal reported on the following committee items:

- A. Report on the Science Academy Innovation Lab (G4).

JP Villarreal shared pictures of the work in progress at the Science Academy Innovation Lab. The project remains on schedule for completion in August 2018.

- B. Action: Review and act on authorizing administration to go out for Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSPs) for the following projects:

1. Science Academy Re-Roofing project.
2. Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project.
3. Districtwide Intercom Replacement project.

A motion was made by Rick Villarreal, seconded by Irma Perez Treviño authorizing the administration to go out for competitive sealed proposals (CSPs) for the Science Academy Re-Roofing, Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement, and Districtwide Intercom Replacement projects. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Finance - Margarita Garcia & Henry LeVrier, Co-Chairs

Henry LeVrier reported on the following committee items:

- A. \*Report on District Comparison of Revenues/Expenditures.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Report on school district investments:

1. Investments owned by the district.
2. Investments held by Wilmington Trust for the South Texas ISD Public Facilities Corporation.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. \*Report for Child Nutrition Program statement of revenues & expenditures.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. \*Report on checks written since last report.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. \*Action: Review and act on proposed 2018-2019 budget calendar.

Approved with the consent agenda.

F. Action: Review and act on designation of \$13.5 million from fund balance for future construction.

A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Javier Farias, designating the unassigned fund balance of \$13,500,000 for future construction as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Action: Review and act on 2018 bond payments for the School Facility Lease Revenue Qualified School Construction Bonds Taxable Series 2013.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Ramon Montalvo, approving the School Facility Lease Revenue Qualified School Construction Bonds Taxable Series 2013 bond payments of February 15 and August 15, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:

1. Application for payment #6 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).
2. Application for payment #3 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Hector Gonzales, approving application for payment #6 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the

Science Academy Innovation Lab project and application for payment #3 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Report on 403(B) Third Party Administrator and Supplemental Benefits Third Party Administrator proposals.

Marla Knaub reported receiving five proposals for 403(B) Third Party Administrator and has narrowed it down to two proposals. Additional information and a list of providers were requested from the two companies that are being considered. In addition, eight proposals for Supplemental Benefits were received and the administration has narrowed it down to three proposals. The administration requested additional information from the three companies to provide a listing of their products and prices. The information for both the 403(B) Third Party Administrator and Supplemental Benefits was requested in order to make an informed decision and make the best recommendation for the district at the next board meeting.

J. Action: Review and act on the following donation(s) (G4,5):

1. \$200 from William PC Hudson to Science Academy.
2. \$5,000 from Gloria Fitch to Med High.
3. \$200 from MadWorks, LLC to Med High.
4. \$350 from STBETA-PSTO to BETA.
5. \$100 from Victor and Adela Chaverry to BETA.
6. \$250 from ABC Pediatrics to Medical Academy.
7. \$500 from Harlingen Medical Center to Medical Academy.

A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the \$200 from William PC Hudson to Science Academy; \$5,000 from Gloria Fitch to Med High; \$200 from MadWorks, LLC to Med High; \$350 from STBETA-PSTO to BETA; \$100 from Victor and Adela Chaverry to BETA; \$250 from ABC Pediatrics to Medical Academy; and \$500 from Harlingen Medical Center to Medical Academy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members expressed gratitude towards all donors and asked we look at ways of recognizing them. Ms. Gloria Fitch was noted because this is the second year she donates to Med High.

K. Action: Review and act on Requisition #063503 to SHI Government Solution for new laptops for Medical Academy.

A motion was made by Ramon Montalvo, seconded by Larry Cantu, approving requisition # 063503 to SHI Government Solution for new laptops for Medical Academy in the amount of \$137,697. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Superintendent's Report - M. Guerra, Ed.D.

A. \*Campus Reports

1. STPA - A. Castro
2. Rising Scholars - C. Saucedo
3. BETA - N. Casarez, Ed.D.
4. Medical Academy - H. Goette
5. Med High - B. Heater, Ph.D.
6. Science Academy - I. Castillo, Ed.D.
7. Attendance Reports - J. Hembree

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Action: Review and act on the following out of district student/staff travel (G 2,4,5):

1. Texas A & M Veterinary Technology Program visit, December 7, 2017, Kingsville, TX
2. PASF State Officers' Meeting, January 26-27, 2018, San Antonio, TX
3. Tour of Universities, February 2-3, 2018, San Antonio, Austin, Waco and Houston, TX
4. Texas A & M University SHARE Program, February 2-4, 2018, College Station, TX
5. TAFE State Teach for Tomorrow Summit, February 14-17, 2018, Huntsville, TX
6. Corpus Christi's Art Museum of South Texas visit, February 16, 2018, Corpus Christi, TX
7. Basketball State Tournament, February 19-20, 2018, Austin, TX
8. Texas A & M University Kingsville College of Engineering E-Week Challenge, February 23, 2018, Kingsville, TX
9. Holmes Cadet/AACTE Conference, February 28-March 3, 2018, Baltimore, MD
10. 2018 PASF State Convention, March 1-3, 2018, San Antonio, TX
11. 2018 UIL/TFA CX Debate State Competition, March 4, 2018, La Vernia, TX
12. State SkillsUSA Conference and Competition, April 4-8, 2018, Corpus Christi, TX
13. TSA State Competition, April 14-17, 2018, Fort Worth, TX

14. University of Texas HSC-San Antonio tour, April 20, 2018, San Antonio, TX
15. National Math Conference, April 22-28, 2018, Washington, DC
16. 2018 National Science Bowl, April 25-29, 2018, Washington, DC
17. UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest, May 25-26, 2018, Austin, TX
18. 2017-2018 Educators Rising National Leadership Conference & Competition, June 20-25, 2018, Orlando, FL

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. \*Action: Review and act on retirement resolution(s) for the following:

1. Irasema Coody
2. Guadalupe de la Garza
3. Juana Maria Roach

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. Action: Review and act on legal services contract with Walsh, Anderson, Gallegos, Green & Treviño, P.C. or authorize the administration to advertise for Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for legal services.

A motion was made by Javier Farias, seconded by Hector Gonzales, approving the legal services contract with Walsh, Gallegos, Treviño, Russo & Kyle, P.C. as presented. The motion passed with one abstention (Joe Lopez).

13. \*Correspondence.

No correspondence was received.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION: A closed or executive session as pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section, 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, 551,084 and 551.001C, the Board may go into Executive Session to discuss the following:

- A. 551.074, 551.071 Personnel Matters and consultation with school attorney regarding Personnel Matters: Closed Meeting
  1. Recommendation of professional staff for the 2017-2018 school year (G3).
    - a. Teacher Tutors
    - b. Head Teachers & Coordinators for summer programs

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, agreeing there was no need to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.



15. OPEN SESSION: Action on any Item Deliberated in Closed Meeting

A. 551.074, 551.071 Personnel Matters and consultation with school attorney regarding Personnel Matters:

1. Action: Review and act on recommendation of professional staff for the 2017-2018 school year (G3).
  - a. Teacher Tutors
  - b. Head Teachers & Coordinators for summer programs

The Superintendent recommended the employment of professional staff retroactive to the start date for the following teachers tutors: Maribel Berrones, Cate Ball, Jose Perez, Ilsa Orta, Amy Pena, Brian Arriola and David R. Garza.

A motion was made by Javier Farias, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the employment of teacher tutors as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

16. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Grace Camargo, adjourning the board meeting at 8:37 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.