

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD was held Wednesday, October 17, 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. Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas Results (FIRST) Public Hearing.

At 7:08 p.m. the FIRST Public Hearing was called to order. The Board of Directors, parents, faculty, and patrons received an overview by Accountant Jaime Faz on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas report for the district. Mr. Faz facilitated the report in the absence of Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Marla Knaub.

South Texas ISD provided the following FIRST disclosures as per Title 19 Texas Administrative Code:

1. Superintendent's employment contract is posted on the district's internet site at www.stisd.net under Finance.
2. Reimbursements received by the Superintendent and Board Members for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Page 8 of FIRST Report).
3. Outside compensation and/or fees received by the Superintendent for Professional Consulting and/or Personal services in fiscal year 2016-2017 (Page 9 of FIRST Report).
4. Gifts Received by the Executive Officers and Board Members (and first degree relatives, if any) in fiscal year 2016-2017 (Page 9 of FIRST Report).
5. Business transactions between school district and Board Members for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the 12 month period ending August 31, 2017 (Page 10 of FIRST Report).
6. South Texas ISD's rating under School FIRST for the year ending August 31, 2017 was "Superior Achievement" which is the state's highest with a score of 100.

The Board President expressed congratulatory remarks to the Business Office for a job well done.

3. Pledges of Allegiance & District Call to Action.

The pledges were led by Board member Homero Garcia. Mr. Garcia recited the district's Call to Action.

4. Board Meeting called to order.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Joe L. Lopez at 7:08 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:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Douglas E. Buchanan | Raymondville |
| Graciela Camargo | Weslaco |
| Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu | Los Fresnos |
| Abiel J. Cantú | Raymondville |
| Yolanda Cuellar | Progreso Lakes |
| Richard Fleming, MD | 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 |
| Eliceo Muñoz, III | Brownsville |
| Ramon Montalvo, III | Weslaco |
| Israel G. Quintanilla | Raymondville |

The following Board members were absent:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Yolanda Chapa | McAllen |
| Javier Farias | McAllen |
| Berta Palacios | San Juan |
| Irma Perez-Treviño | Harlingen |
| Rebecca Villarreal | Peñitas |
| Rick Villarreal, D.D.S. | Brownsville |

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. |
| Efrain Garza | Carrie Saucedo |
| Ann Vickman | Gilberto Arreola |

The following guests were present:

Marco Antonio “Tony” Lara, Jr., Ed.D.

Mike Saldaña, Walsh Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle P.C

5. Moment of Silence.
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 for being named a District of Distinction.
 - B. Recognition of principals in honor of Principals' Month.
7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Directors met on October 17, 2018 at 7:21 p.m. a closed or executive session as pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section, 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, 551,084 and 551.001. The Presiding Officer appointed Sonia E. Rodriguez to record the minutes of the closed 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 2018-2019 school year.
 - a. Teacher(s)
 - b. Tutors
 - B. Pursuant to Tex. Govt. Code 551.074, discuss and consider hiring Superintendent and approval of Superintendent Contract.
 - C. Pursuant to Sections 551.074 and 551.0821 of the Texas Government Code, consideration and deliberation of FNG Level III Grievance of A.W.
 - D. Pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, consultation with attorney concerning possible legal issues regarding FNG Level III grievance of A.W.
 - E. Daniela S. Tamayo vs. South Texas ISD

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:29 p.m.

8. 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 2018-2019 school year.
 - a. Teacher(s)
 - b. Tutors

The Superintendent recommended the employment of Lisa Marie Aguilar as Teacher (10 month contract); and Patty Herrera as Teacher Tutor for the 2018-2019 school year. A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar approving the professional staff for the

2018-2019 school year as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Consider and take possible action to hire Superintendent and approve Superintendent Contract.

A motion was made by Doug Buchanan, seconded by Maria G. Leal, hiring Dr. Marco Antonio Lara, Jr. as the Superintendent and approve the terms of the superintendent contract as discussed in closed meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Consideration and possible action regarding FNG Level III Grievance of A.W.

Board President asked for a motion regarding the Level III Grievance that was heard during closed session. No Board action was taken. The Board President stated the Level III Grievance Hearing was concluded.

- D. Daniela S. Tamayo vs. South Texas ISD

No Board action was taken.

9. 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 Maria Leal, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

10. *Action: Review and act on the September 19, 24, 25, 26, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

11. Policy & Curriculum - Yolanda Cuellar & Rebecca Villarreal, Co-Chairs

Yolanda Cuellar reported on the following committee items:

- A. *Action: Review and act on the following announcement of vacancies:

1. Head Teachers/Coordinators for summer symposiums and projects

2. Teacher Tutors

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. *Report on Professional Vacancies.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. *Report on home districts of all students.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. *Report on gender and ethnicity of all students.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. Review Board Operating Procedures (First Reading).

Doug Buchanan reported the committee held their first meeting to review the Board Operating Procedures. Board members were encouraged to submit any recommended changes/suggestions. The committee will meet again on November 27th and the item will be on the agenda for a second reading.

F. Report on the 2018-2019 District Improvement Plan (First Reading).

Mr. Jeff Hembree reported that the district will wait on the 2018-2019 District Improvement Plan for the new superintendent's review and will bring it to the Board for review and action.

12. Buildings & Grounds - Abiel J. Cantu & Homero Garcia, Co-Chairs

Abiel Cantu reported on the following committee items:

A. *Action: Review and act on the lease agreement with Delfino Cornejo, Jr. for the San Benito property.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. *Action: Review and act on declaring schools buses and a van as surplus equipment.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. Action: Review and act on accepting the Science Academy Re-Roofing project as substantially complete.

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Larry Cantu, approving the Science Academy Re-Roofing project as substantially complete. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Action: Review and act on the following Change Orders:

1. Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Congressman Ruben Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Congressman Ruben Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab for a \$78,051.00 credit of unused allowance on the project. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Change Order #2 to the Contingency Fund for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving Change Order #2 to the Contingency Fund for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project in the amount of \$14,700 for the commissioning of the new air handlers as required. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Hector Gonzales, approving Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project for a \$28,905 credit of unused allowance on the project. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Intercom Replacement project

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Hector Gonzales, approving Change Order #1 to the Contract for the Intercom Replacement project for a \$25,000 credit of unused allowance on the project. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Finance - Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D. & Ramon Montalvo III, Co-Chairs

Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D. reported on the following committee items:

- A. *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.

- B. *Report on checks written since last report.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Report on fourth quarter Student Activity Accounts.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:

1. Application for payment #14 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Congressman Rubén Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Hector Gonzales, approving application for payment 14 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Congressman Rubén Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab project in the amount of \$1,408.62. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Application for payment #12 (final) to D. Wilson Construction for the Congressman Rubén Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G 4).

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving application for payment #12 (final) to D. Wilson Construction for the Congressman Rubén Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab project in the amount of \$262,801.83. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Application for payment #7 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving application for payment #7 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project in the amount of \$668.34. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Application for payment #7 to D. Wilson Construction for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Abiel Cantu, approving application for payment #7 to D. Wilson Construction for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project in the amount of \$61,869.75. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Application for payment #5 to American Contracting for the Science Academy Re-Roofing project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving application for payment #5 to American Contracting for the Science Academy Re-Roofing project in the amount of \$139,460. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Application for payment #3 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the District Intercom Replacement project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Israel Quintanilla, approving application for payment #3 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the District Intercom Replacement project in the amount of \$1,208.94. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Applications for payment #4 & #5 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Re-Roofing project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving applications for payment #4 & #5 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Re-Roofing project in the amount of \$5,895. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Application for payment #4 (final) to Superior Alarm for Intercom Replacement project.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving application for payment #4 (final) to Superior Alarm for Intercom Replacement project in the amount of \$1,950. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. *Action: Review and act on Resolution authorizing bank signatures for the district accounts.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- F. *Action: Review and act on Investment Resolution as per Policy CDA (LOCAL).

Approved with the consent agenda.

- G. Action: Review and act on \$1,000 donation from G's Phoenix Construction Co. to Rising Scholars Academy.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar accepting the donation from G;s Phoenix Construction Co. as presented. The motion passed unanimously. The Board expressed appreciation for the generous donation.

H. Action: Review and act on designating \$6 million of fund balance.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Larry Cantu, approving to designate the unassigned fund balance of \$6,000,000 for future construction as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Review and act on the following requisitions:

1. Requisition #069724 to Apple Computer Inc. for Med High (G 3).
2. Requisition #070467 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Edinburg Complex New Bus Barn Parking project.
3. Requisition #070470 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the BETA/STPA Air Handler Replacement project.
4. Requisition #070474 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the BETA and Science Academy Restroom Renovation project.
5. Requisition #070479 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for STPA Administration Renovation project.
6. Requisition #070482 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Rising Scholars Academy AC Unit Replacement project.
7. Requisition #070484 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Air Handler Replacement project.
8. Requisition #070485 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Mercedes Bus Barn Parking Lot Addition project.

A motion was made by Sylvia Sanchez Garza, seconded by Doug Buchanan, approving Requisition #069724 to Apple Computer Inc. for Med High in the amount of \$69,650; Requisition #070467 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Edinburg Complex New Bus Barn Parking project in the amount of \$144,855; Requisition #070470 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. the BETA/STPA Air Handler Replacement project.in the amount of \$84,480; Requisition #070474 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the BETA and Science Academy Restroom Renovation project in the amount of \$37,435; Requisition #070479 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for STPA Administration Renovation project in the amount of \$19,995; Requisition #070482 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Rising Scholars Academy AC Unit Replacement project in the amount of \$59,052.50; Requisition #070484 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Air Handler Replacement project in the amount of \$62,927.50; and Requisition #070485 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Mercedes Bus Barn Parking Lot Addition project in the amount of \$18,995. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Action: Review and act on HEAL2 Program (288) Budget Amendment #1.

A motion was made by Sylvia S. Garza, seconded by Doug Buchanan, approving the HEAL2 Program budget amendment #1 to set up budget for year 2 pass thru from Region One ESC as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

A. *Campus Reports

1. STPA - A. Castro
2. Rising Scholars - C. Saucedo
3. BETA - E. Garza
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. Cross Country Meet, October 26-27, 2018, Wimberley, TX
2. TCSAAL State Volleyball Tournament, November 9-10, 2018, Georgetown, TX
3. TSA State Conference, November 29- December 1, 2018, Kerrville, TX
4. University of Houston Mathematics Contest, February 1-3, 2019, Houston, TX
5. Holmes Cadet/AACTE National Conference, February 20-23, 2019, Louisville, KY
6. San Antonio Livestock Show Competition, February 21-24, 2019, San Antonio, TX
7. TAFE State Teach for Tomorrow Summit, February 27- March 3, 2019, Allen, TX
8. Pan American Student Forum State Convention, March 1-3, 2019, San Antonio, TX
9. The Woodlands Marathon, March 1-3, 2019, Woodlands, TX
10. BPA State Leadership Conference, March 5-10, 2019, Dallas, TX
11. Texas Math and Science Coaches Association State Competition, March 15-16, 2019, San Antonio, TX
12. Tomoka Marathon, March 22-25, 2019, Orlando, FL
13. Skills USA State Competition, April 4-7, 2019, Corpus Christi, TX

14. TSA State Competition, April 24-27, 2019, Fort Worth, TX
15. BPA National Leadership Conference, May 1-5, 2019, Anaheim, CA
16. UIL State Competition, June 1-3, 2019, Austin, TX
17. Educators Rising National Leadership Conference & Competition, June 22-25, 2019, Dallas, TX
18. TSA National Conference & Competition, June 28- July 2, 2019, Washington, D.C.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Action: Review and act on new members for the STISD School Health Advisory Council (SHAC).

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. Report on South Texas ISD Board member training continuing education credit report.

The Board President publicly announced the training continuing education credit report for each individual board member for the period beginning November 1, 2017 through October 17, 2018 for Tier 1 Orientation to the Texas Education Code; Update to the Texas Education Code; Tier 2 Team Building; Tier 3 Continuing Education based on needs assessment; and Tier 4 Senate Bill 1566 as detailed on page 12.

15. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Sylvia Sanchez Garza adjourning the board meeting at 8:57 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

| Experienced Board Member Requirements | Tier 1 | At least 3 hrs. Tier 2 | At least 5 hrs. Tier 3 | At least 3 hrs. SB 1566 |
|--|---------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Douglas Buchanan | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Graciela Camargo | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Abiel Cantu | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Eduardo Cantu | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Yolanda Chapa | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Yolanda Cuellar | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Javier Farias | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Richard Fleming, MD | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Adrian Garcia | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Homero Garcia | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Margarita Garcia | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D. | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Hector Gonzales | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Maria G. Leal | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Henry LeVrier | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Robert J. Lerma | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Joe L. Lopez | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Ramon Montalvo, III | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Eliceo Muñoz, III | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Berta Palacios | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Irma Perez-Treviño | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Israel G. Quintanilla | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Manuel R. Villarreal, DDS | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |
| Rebecca Villarreal | n/a | Deficient To be scheduled with new Superintendent | Exceeded | Completed |