

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 Tuesday, February 27, 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 Yolanda Cuellar. Mrs. Cuellar 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 7:00 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
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
Yolanda Chapa	McAllen
Richard Fleming, M.D.	Mission
Adrian Garcia	Brownsville
Homero Garcia	Weslaco
Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D.	Edinburg
Hector Gonzales	Lyford
Maria G. Leal	Palmhurst
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Joe L. "Joey" Lopez	Brownsville
Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Eliceo Muñoz, III	Brownsville
Berta Palacios	San Juan
Rebecca Villarreal	Peñitas
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following board members were absent:

Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Javier Farias	McAllen
Margarita Garcia	San Juan
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
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.
Carrie Saucedo	Ann Vickman
Gilberto Arreola	

The following guests were present:

Leandra Ortiz - Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo & Kyle PC
Priscilla de la Garza – Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo & Kyle PC

4. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence and remembered the victims and their families of the recent tragedy in Florida.

5. 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 district retirees.

The Board of Directors and Administration recognized the district retirees and presented a Resolution for their service to our school community

6. 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 Grace Camargo, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Action: Review and act on the January 23, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

8. Policy & Curriculum - Doug Buchanan & Berta Palacios, Co-Chairs (G2)

Doug Buchanan reported on the following committee items:

- A. Action: Review and act on the following proposed actions:

1. Medical Academy new summer 2018 program with RGV Youth Preparedness Medical Reserve Corps
2. Rising Scholars new course Pre-AP World Geography (high school course)
3. Science Academy new course PLTW Human Body Systems

Doug Buchanan explained the detailed process used by the Administration when Proposed Actions are recommended. A motion was made by Doug Buchanan, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving Medical Academy's new summer 2018 program with RGV Youth Preparedness Medical Reserve Corps, Rising Scholars' new course Pre-AP World Geography and Science Academy's new course PLTW Human Body Systems as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Robert J. Lerma reported on the following committee items:

- A. Report on the Science Academy Innovation Lab (G2).

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.

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

In the absence of the Committee Co-Chairs, Eliceo Muñoz reported on the following committee items:

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

Approved with the consent agenda.

- B. *Report on 2017-2018 first quarter student activity accounts.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Action: Review and act on the following budget amendments:
1. 204 Title IV, Part A Technology & Safe, Drug Free Schools, budget amendment #1
 2. 211 Title I, Part A, budget amendment #1
 3. 212 Title I, Part C Migrant, budget amendment #1
 4. 224 IDEA B, budget amendment #1
 5. 244 Carl D. Perkins, budget amendment #1
 6. 255 Title I Part D, budget amendment #1
 7. 263 Title III, Part A, budget amendment #1

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. *Action: Review and act on amending Stipend Agreement and Resolution authorizing stipends and excused absences for extra-curricular activities to include national competitions (G5).

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

1. Application for payment #7 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving application for payment #7 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project in the amount of \$2,436.68 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Application for payment #4 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Robert Lerma, approving application for payment #4 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project in the amount of \$199,154.20 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Application for payment #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Intercom Replacement project.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving application for payment #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Intercom Replacement project in the amount of \$14,625 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Application for payment #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving application for payment #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project in the amount of \$38,200 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

1. \$250 from Payne Auto Group to Med High.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Doug Buchanan, approving the generous donation received as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Action: Review and act on the following requisitions:

1. Requisition #064089 to Bowman Distributing Company for the Medical Academy ambulance canopy.

A motion was made by Ramon Montalvo, seconded by Maria G. leal, approving requisition #064089 to Bowman Distributing Company for the Medical Academy ambulance canopy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Requisition #064541 to Insight for network infrastructure replacement.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving requisition #064541 to Insight for network infrastructure replacement as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

11. 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. Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference, February 28-March 4, 2018, Corpus Christi, TX
 2. National Junior High Championship Chess Tournament, April 6-8, 2018, Atlanta, GA
 3. 2018 HOSA State Leadership Conference, April 12-14, 2018, Dallas, TX
 4. Texas Tobacco-Free Teen Leadership Summit, April 20-21, 2018, Kemah, TX
 5. Texas A&M University Medical Scholars Summer Program, June 10-15, 2018, College Station, TX
 6. Texas State University Youth Preparedness Camp, June 17-21, 2018, San Marcos, TX
 7. University of Texas Health Science Center BEAT Academy, June 17-23, 2018/July 8-14, 2018, San Antonio, TX
 8. American Library Association Annual Conference and Lilead Fellow meeting, June 20-24, 2018, New Orleans, LA
 9. 2018 HOSA National Leadership Conference, June 27-30, 2018, Dallas, TX

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Action: Review and act on board members to attend the following:
1. Region One School Board Association Spring Conference, May 18-19, 2018, South Padre Island, TX
 2. TASB's Summer Leadership Institute, June 14-16, 2018, San Antonio, TX

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. Report from Israel Quintanilla and Abiel Cantu on the NSBA Advocacy Institute.

Mr. Abiel Cantu spoke about his experience and shared highlights of the NSBA Advocacy Institute. Mr. Israel Quintanilla was unable to attend the meeting due to a last minute schedule conflict. Mr. Quintanilla did share a power point presentation with important information that was part of the board agenda packet.

12. *Correspondence.

No correspondence was received.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board met on February 27, 2018 at 7:35 p.m. in a closed or executive session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chp. 268, Section

551.001 et al, 1993 Tex. Sess. Law 589 (Vernon), The Presiding Officer appointed Maria G. Leal 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 2017-2018 school year (G3).
 - a. Teacher Tutors
 - 2. Recommendation of professional staff for the 2018 summer programs (G2, 4)
 - 3. Summative Evaluation of Superintendent's job performance.
 - 4. Review recommendations for renewal/extension of employment contracts for the following: Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator, Principals and Administrator for Support Services.
 - 5. Consultation with school attorney regarding Personnel Matter and Legal Issues pertaining to employee C.C.
 - 6. Discussion regarding Personnel Matters pertaining to employee C.C.

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:00 p.m.

14. 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

The Superintendent recommended the employment of David Ramos as teacher tutor for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year retroactive to start date.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the employment of professional staff for the 2017-2018 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Action: Review and act on recommendation of professional staff for the 2018 summer programs (G2, 4)

The Superintendent recommended the employment of professional staff for the 2018 summer programs as listed on agenda pages 131.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the employment of professional staff for the 2018 summer

programs as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Action: Review and act on Summative Evaluation of Superintendent's job performance.

The Board Officers met with Dr. Marla Guerra prior to the board meeting to review the evaluation results. A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Doug Buchanan, approving the Summative Evaluation of the superintendent's job performance. The motion passed unanimously.

Board President Joe Lopez complimented Dr. Marla M. Guerra for the excellent work she has done and thanked her for her leadership.

The Superintendent's employment contract and fringe benefits will be placed on a future board agenda for board action.

4. Action: Review and act on recommendations for renewal/extension of employment contracts for the following: Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator, Principals and Administrator for Support Services.

The Superintendent recommended the extension of employment contracts through June 30, 2020 for Jeff Hembree, Marla Knaub, JP Villarreal, Amanda Odom, Harry Goette, Nora Casarez, Ed.D., Ana Castro, Irma Castillo, Ed.D., Barbara Heater, Ph.D. and Carrie Saucedo.

A motion was made by Homero Garcia, seconded by Abiel Cantu, approving the employment contract extensions through June 30, 2020 for the administrators listed above as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Grace Camargo, seconded by Maria G. Leal, adjourning the board meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.