

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, March 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 Henry LeVrier. Mr. LeVrier 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
Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
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
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville
Joe L. "Joey" Lopez	Brownsville
Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Eliceo Muñoz, III	Brownsville

Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following board members were absent:

Yolanda Chapa	McAllen
Javier Farias	McAllen
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Berta Palacios	San Juan
Rebecca Villarreal	Peñitas

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
John Hinojosa	

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 Dr. Filomena Leo and her family.

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

Mrs. Grace Camargo asked to address the Board to ask for board members' support for the upcoming 3rd Annual Toast to Success scheduled for April 12th at IBC Bank in Brownsville. All proceeds will benefit the students of STISD through scholarships and enrichment opportunities.

Amanda Odom shared highlights and photos of Rising Scholars Academy Principal, Carrie Saucedo's surprise visit by HEB to announce she was a Secondary Principal of the Year Award Finalist.

Board President reported there was a correction on the language on agenda item 10.I. The request is for proposals not Request for Proposals (RFPs).

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 Larry Cantu, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Action: Review and act on the February 27, 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. *Report on Policy Update 110, First Reading.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- B. *Action: Review and act on the annual instructional materials allotment and TEKS certification for 2018-2019.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Action: Review and act on announcement of vacancies for the 2018 summer programs (G 2).

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. Review proposed deletion of Policy DJ (Local) - Employee Recognition and Awards, First Reading.

Doug Buchanan reported the administration was proposing deleting Policy DJ (Local). This will allow the district to use discretion and leadership in determining how to best recognize employees for their service to the district.

- E. Action: Review and act on school calendar and legend for the 2018-2019 school year.

A motion was made by Grace Camargo, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving the 2018-2019 school year calendar and legend as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Action: Review and act on 2018-2019 Campus Course Sequences (G 4).

A motion was made by Larry Cantu, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving the 2018-2019 Campus Course Sequences as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Rick Villarreal, DDS, 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 by the end of August 2018.

B. Action: Review and act on approving the ranking of proposals for construction services for the following projects and approval of a purchase order for each project:

1. Intercom Replacement project

A motion was made by Doug Buchanan, seconded by Irma Perez Treviño approving the ranking of the proposals for construction services on the Intercom Replacement project as recommended by the ranking committee; authorized the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate a construction agreement with Superior Alarms, pursuant to Texas Government Code section 2269.155; authorized the Superintendent to execute the construction agreement with Superior Alarms on behalf of the District; and approved the purchase order for the base bid. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project

A motion was made by Rick Villarreal, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving the ranking of the proposals for construction services on the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project as recommended by the ranking committee; authorized the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate a construction agreement with D. Wilson Construction, pursuant to Texas Government Code section 2269.155; authorized the Superintendent to execute the construction agreement with D. Wilson Construction on behalf of the District; and approved the purchase order for the base bid. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Finance - Maria G. Leal & Israel Quintanilla, Co-Chairs

Maria G. Leal reported on the following committee items:

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

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. *Review and act on district Investment Report.

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 on checks written since last report.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. *Action: Review and act on the Child Nutrition Report.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. *Action: Review and act on Hidalgo County Appraisal District's agreement for the allocation quarterly payments.

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

1. Application for payment #8 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Ramon Montalvo, approving the application for payment #8 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Application for payment #5 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G4).

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving the application for payment #5 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. Action: Review and act on awarding proposals for 403(B) Third Party Administrator.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Ramon Montalvo, awarding the 403(B) Third Party Administrator proposal to TSA Consulting Group. The motion passed unanimously.

- H. Action: Review and act on awarding proposals for Supplemental Benefits Third Party Administrator.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Hector Gonzales, awarding the Supplemental Benefits Third Party Administrator proposal to Lone Star Insurance. The motion passed unanimously. A recommendation was made to make sure employees were advised of plans and given the opportunity to utilize the benefits.

- I. Action: Review and act on authorizing the Administration to go out for Proposals for furnishings and technology for the Science Academy Innovation lab.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Abiel Cantu, authorizing the Administration to go out for proposals for furnishings, equipment and technology for the Science Academy Innovation lab as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

1. \$100 from Victor & Adela Chaverry to BETA
2. Document camera from Lorena Fraire to Science Academy

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, approving the \$100 donation from Victor & Adela Chaverry and the document camera from Lorena Fraire 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. Girls & Boys Golf State Tournament, April 9-10, 2018, Austin, TX
2. UIL Regional Competition, April 12-14, 2018, San Antonio, TX
3. Texas Association of Student Councils Annual Conference, April 13-16, 2018, Arlington, TX
4. Technology Student Association State Competition, April 14-17, 2018, Fort Worth, TX
5. College of Veterinary Medicine Career Day at Texas A & M University, April 19-21, 2018, College Station, TX
6. Texas Math & Science Coaches Association Championship Meet, April 20-21, 2018, San Antonio, TX
7. 2018 Texas Association for Pupil Transportation State Contest, April 29-May 1, 2018, Waco, TX
8. Beach to Bay Marathon Relay, May 18-20, 2018, Corpus Christi, TX
9. 2018 Scripps National Spelling Bee, May 27-June 1, 2018, National Arbor, MD
10. 2018 PLTW Core Training Update, June 1-8, 2018, Colorado Springs, CO
11. TSA National Competition, June 22-26, 2018, Atlanta, GA
12. Texas State University Leadership Camp, July 9-13, 2018, San Marcos, TX
13. Yale University Summer Institute for the Gifted 2018, July 15-August 4, 2018, New Haven, CT
14. MIT Research Presentations, August 1-5, 2018, Cambridge, MA

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. *Action: Review and act on the following retirement Resolutions:

1. Gabriela Smith
2. Yosef Mughrabi
3. Juan M. De Leon

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. *Quarterly report on the Education Foundation of South Texas ISD.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. Action: Cast votes for Place 1, Place 4 and Place 7 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors.

A motion was made by Maria G. Leal, seconded by Sylvia Garza, Ph.D., casting 7 votes for Place 1 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors to Alicia E. Requenez. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ramon Montalvo, seconded by Larry Cantu, casting 7 votes for Place 4 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors to Pete Garcia. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board cast 7 votes for Place 7 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors to Raul R. (Bobby) Chapa who ran unopposed.

12. *Correspondence.

No correspondence was received.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board met on March 27, 2018 at 7:37 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 2018 summer programs (G2, 4)
2. Review recommendations for renewal/non-renewal of employment contracts for the 2018-2019 school year for the following: teachers and other professional staff.
 - a. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, deliberation concerning proposed termination of the probationary contract of employee W.S. at the end of the current contract period.
 - b. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, consider and discuss recommendation to propose non-renewal of Texas Education Code, Chapter 21 term contract of employee K.W.S. at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.
 - c. Pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071, consultation with legal counsel regarding legal issues pertaining to procedures under Texas Education Code 21.206, proposed non-renewal of term contract employee, K.W.S.

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 2018 summer programs (G2, 4)

The Superintendent recommended the employment of the professional staff for the 2018 summer programs as listed on agenda pages 174-176. A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Doug Buchanan approving the professional staff for the 2018 summer programs as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Action: Review and act on recommendations for renewal/non-renewal of employment contracts for the 2018-2019 school year for the following: teachers and other professional staff.
 - a. Discuss and take possible action regarding proposed termination of the probationary contract of employee W.S. at the end of the current contract period.

The Superintendent recommended the proposed termination of the probationary contract employee as presented.

A motion was made by Abiel Cantu, seconded by Maria G. Leal, approving the Superintendent's recommendation to terminate the probationary contract of Wasiela Salinas at the end of the contract period because it is in the best interests of the district. They directed the Superintendent to see to the delivery of the required notice to the employee that her probationary contract with the district is terminated at the end of the contract period. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Consider and take possible action regarding proposed non-renewal of Texas Education Code Chapter 21 term contract employee, K.W.S., at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

The Superintendent reported no action was required because the employee submitted a resignation letter. No action was taken.

15. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Grace Camargo, adjourning the board meeting at 8:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.