

# 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, May 22, 2018, beginning at 8:00 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 8:08 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
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Yolanda Chapa	McAllen
Javier Farias	McAllen
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
Eliceo Muñoz, III	Brownsville
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Rebecca Villarreal	Peñitas
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following board members were absent:

Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
Richard Fleming, M.D.	Mission
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Berta Palacios	San Juan
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen

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
Adrian Caceres	

The following guests were present:

Mike Saldaña - Walsh Gallegos Treviño Russo & Kyle PC

#### 4. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence.

#### 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 all four high schools for their 2018 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings.

On behalf of the Board and Administration, Marla M. Guerra, Ed.D. and President Joe Lopez presented certificates of recognition to BETA, Med High, Medical Academy and Sci Tech for ranking among top high schools in the state and nation in the 2018 U.S. News & World Report "Best High Schools."

#### 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 Hector Gonzales, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. \*Action: Review and act on the April 19 & 24, 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 professional vacancies.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Report on local teacher certification through the District of Innovation Plan.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. Report on first reading of proposed local evaluation systems for teachers and principals.

Jeff Hembree reported on the work that was done throughout the 2017-2018 school year by the District Education Improvement Council sub-committee and the entire council in developing the proposed evaluation systems. The EIC sub-committee members spent many hours looking at options and discussing the new systems. On May 14, 2018, EIC members voted unanimously to recommend approval of the local evaluation systems presented as a "first reading." The administration will bring this item back at the next regularly scheduled board meeting for board action.

D. Report on first reading of revision to DNA (LOCAL) policy.

Jeff Hembree reported the development of a STISD Local Appraisal System for teachers requires revision to the STISD Policy DNA (Local) on performance appraisal evaluation of teachers. This was presented as a "first reading." The administration will bring this item back at the next regularly scheduled board meeting for board action.

E. Action: Review and act on the following proposed actions:

1. New BETA Personal Financial Literacy course.
2. STISD financial support of AP/IB student exam fees for the 2018-2019 school year.

3. STISD during-the-school-day testing and financial support for SAT or ACT college entrance exams for high school seniors.

A motion was made by Doug Buchanan, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving the proposed actions listed above as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Rick Villarreal, D.D.S., reported on the following committee items:

- A. Report on the Science Academy Innovation Lab project.

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.

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

Maria G. Leal reported on the following committee items:

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

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

1. Application for payment #10 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project.
2. Application for payment #7 to D. Wilson Construction for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project.
3. Application for payment #3 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project.
4. Application for payment #2 to D. Wilson Construction for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project.

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Eliceo Muñoz, approving the application for payment #10 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$6,700.85 for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project; application for payment #7 to D. Wilson Construction in the amount of \$509,975.20 for the Science Academy Innovation Lab project; application for payment #3 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$2,487.24 for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project; and application for payment #2 to D. Wilson Construction in the amount of \$203,490 for the Med High A/C and Chiller Line Replacement project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

1. Requisition #066853 to Noble Texas Builders for Mercedes Complex fencing
2. Requisition # 066805 to Praxair for Science Academy equipment

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Doug Buchanan, approving requisitions #066853 to Noble Texas Builders for Mercedes Complex fencing and #066805 to Praxair for Science Academy equipment. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Action: Review and act on the following donations:

1. \$550 to Med High from Rio Grande Chapter of Texas Association of Softball Officials (TASO)
2. \$1,500 to Rising Scholars from RSA PSTO

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Homero Garcia, approving the \$550 donation from Rio Grande Chapter of Texas Association of Softball Officials and the \$1,500 donation from RSA PSTO as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Action: Review and act on the 2018-2019 Compensation Plan.

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Abiel Cantu approving the 2018-2019 employee compensation plan, which includes a step plus a 2% increase from midpoint, as presented in Option 2. 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. German-American Partnership Program, May 29-June 18, 2018, Dessau, Germany
2. Investing in Innovation/Education Innovation and Research Program 2018 Project Directors Meeting, June 10-12, 2018, Washington, DC
3. Baylor College of Medicine Doc Prep Program, June 10-16, 2018, Houston, TX
4. Building Expertise Accommodations 2018 Workshop, June 12-15, 2018, Lake Buena Vista, FL
5. Rice Summer Symposium, June 19-29, 2018, Houston, TX
6. TAMUK Engineering Residential Summer Camp, June 24-29, 2018, Kingsville, TX
7. Mariachi Workshop, July 9-13, 2018, Las Vegas, NV
8. IB Program Workshop, July 11-14, 2018, Albuquerque, NM
9. Cornell Curie & Catalyst Summer Academy, July 14-21, 2018, Ithaca, NY
10. Texas Health Occupations Association Health Science Teacher's Conference, July 22-25, 2018, College Station, TX
11. Johns Hopkins Discover Program, July 22-August 4, 2018, Baltimore, MD
12. HOSA Leadership Development Institute, August 5-8, 2018, Cedar Creek, TX
13. Washington Leadership Conference, September 14-19, 2018, Washington, DC

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

1. Barbara Yeupell

Approved with the consent agenda.

12. \*Correspondence.

13. 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 551.001, 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 2018 summer programs (G2)
    2. Recommendation of professional staff for the 2018-2019 school year.
      - a. Teacher(s)
      - b. Counselor(s)

3. Consultation with Attorney regarding threatened and pending litigation:
  - a. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding a.) pending or contemplated litigation b.) settlement offer; or c.) a matter in which the duty of the attorney to South Texas Independent School district under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Tx. Gov't Code 551.071):
    1. Discussion regarding potential settlement concerning L.V.

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:33 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)

The Superintendent recommended the employment of the professional staff for the 2018 summer programs as listed on agenda page 139 and the handout recommending Robert Navarro, Miriam Garcia, David Kohlhase, Rachel Puckett for the Baylor Doc Prep; Colette Rogers, Tammy Castillo, Clemente Del Campo & Leslie Trevino, Stephanie Bauer, Miriam Garcia, Sylvia Odoms for Caduceus Camp; Rachel Puckett, Clemente Del Campo, Lee Puckett, Miriam Garcia, David Kohlhase for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Diana Martinez, Stephany Bauer, Michelle Cabrera, Marisa Cavazos, Rosemary Courtney, Ileana Garcia-Spitz, Yael Leal, Sharon McQuaid, Lee Puckett, Angelica Rodriguez, Shelly Schneider and Leslie Trevino for New Scholar Academy; Rosemary Courtney, Sylvia Odoms, Stephany Bauer, Tammy Castillo, Miriam Garcia, Ileana Garcia-Spitz, Yael Leal for Simulation Hospital Summer Institute and Stephany Bauer, Tammy Castillo, Ileana Garcia-Spitz, Yael Leal, Sylvia Odoms and Leslie Trevino for the Summer Leadership and Virtual College Symposium. A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Maria G. Leal approving the professional staff for the 2018 summer programs as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Action: Review and act on recommendation of professional staff for the 2018-2019 school year.
  - a. Teacher(s)
  - b. Counselor(s)

The Superintendent recommended the employment of the professional staff for the 2018-2019 school year for the following: Cinthia Alvarado, Francisco Hernandez and Luz Griselda Zamora as counselors (11 month contract); Avy M. Jaimes, Christina Chase, Anabell De Leon, Rene Lerma,

Elizabeth Rocha, Winifred Rios, Loryn Rodriguez, Monica Saldivar, Andrea Ratliff, Amaris Vargas, Javier Rene Garza, Patty Lynn Herrera,

Yvette Marie Ruiz, Courtney MacNeil and Stacy Saenz as teachers (10 month contract.) and Rosa S. Cortez as Nurse (10 month contract).

A motion was made by Henry LeVrier, seconded by Maria G. Leal approving the professional staff for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding settlement concerning L.V.

A motion was made by Doug Buchanan, seconded by Grace Camargo, approving the settlement as discussed in executive session and authorized the Superintendent to finalize the settlement including execution of the Compromise Release and Settlement Agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Hector Gonzales, seconded by Rick Villarreal, adjourning the board meeting at 9:05 p.m. the motion passed unanimously.