

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, September 19, 2018, beginning at 6:30 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 6:31 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
Yolanda Chapa	McAllen
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
Berta Palacios	San Juan
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following Board members were absent:

Javier Farias	McAllen
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.
Efrain Garza	Carrie Saucedo
Ann Vickman	Eduardo Arias

The following guests were present:

Gary Patterson - Superintendent Search Educational Consultant

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).

There was no public participation.

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 Maria Leal seconded by Yolanda Chapa, approving the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Action: Review and act on the August 28, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

Yolanda Cuellar reported on the following committee items:

- A. *Report on professional vacancies.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- B. *Report on student graduation plans.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. Review proposed Superintendent of Schools terms of employment contract, Final Reading.

The committee reported they reviewed the proposed employment contract for the Superintendent of Schools found on page 195 (proposed revisions were in red text).

- D. Action: Review and act on changing the Project Heal2 teaching position to supplemental services and approve the announcement of vacancy (G 2).

A motion was made by Larry Cantu, seconded by Yolanda Chapa, changing the Project Heal2 teaching position to supplemental services and approving the announcement of vacancy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- A. *Report on the Science Academy Re-roofing project.

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

Both committee co-chairs 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 Resolution authorizing bank signatures for BETA.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. *Action: Review and act on extending the approved vendors for the following categories:

1. Mats & Linens
2. Pizza
3. Petroleum Products
4. Bus & Auto Parts
5. Tow Truck Services

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. *Action: Review and act on approving vendors for the following categories:

1. Awards & Incentives and Printed Materials
2. Building Materials
3. General Merchandise
4. Instructional Materials & Classroom Supplies
5. Building Grounds Repairs & Equipment
6. Drug Testing Services

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. *Action: Review and act on proposed calendar for South Texas ISD Audit including the scheduling of a special called board meeting on December 12, 2018.

Approved with the consent agenda.

F. *Action: Review and act on STISD Employee incentives.

Approved with the consent agenda.

G. *Report on staff ethnicity, gender and degree status.

Approved with the consent agenda.

H. *Action: Review and act on the following requisitions:

1. Requisition #069211 to Longhorn Bus Sales for buses.
2. Requisition #069161 to Caldwell County Chevrolet for a pick-up truck for Medical Academy.
3. Requisition #069204 to Irwin Seating Company for STPA gym bleachers.

4. Requisition #068951 to Infinite Campus for student information system.
5. Requisition #069610 to Region One ESC for TxEIS.
6. Requisition #069390 to Middlebury Interactive Languages for language learning software (G 3).
7. Requisition #069359 to Blackboard for learning management system (G 3).
8. Requisition #069542 to Pattillo, Brown & Hill LLP for audit services
9. Requisitions to Adams Total Lawn Care for district's lawn maintenance service
10. Requisitions to American Surveillance for the district's security guard services

Approved with the consent agenda.

- I. *Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
1. Application for payment #11 to D. Wilson Construction for the Congressman Rubén Hinojosa Science Academy Innovation Lab project (G 4).
 2. Application for payment #6 to D. Wilson Construction for the Med High Air Handler Units and Chiller Line Replacement project.
 3. Application for payment #4 to American Contracting for the Science Academy Re-roofing project.
 4. Application for payment #2 (final) to Noble Texas Builders for the Mercedes Perimeter Fence project.

Approved with the consent agenda.

11. 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 district's Organizational Chart.

Approved with the consent agenda.

- C. *Report on the Education Foundation of South Texas ISD Annual Report (G 2).

Approved with the consent agenda.

- D. *Action: Review and act on board members to attend the following:

1. STISD Day At the Capitol, February 11-12, 2019, Austin, TX
2. NSBA Annual Conference, March 30-April 1, 2019, Philadelphia, PA

Approved with the consent agenda.

- E. *Action: Review and act on approval of Board delegates to attend the NSBA's Advocacy Institute (formerly Federal Relations Network), January 27-29, 2019, Washington, DC.

Approved with the consent agenda.

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

1. Harvard Business School Case Method Project TEACH Workshop, September 23-25, 2018, Boston, MA (G 2)
2. Texas Renaissance Festival, September 28-29, 2018, Plantersville, TX (G 2)
3. St. Edwards University - Texas Teen Book Festival, October 6, 2018, Austin TX (G 2)
4. Project HEAL2 Field Experience - Texas A & M University, October 18-20, 2018, College Station, TX (G 2)
5. State Cross Country Meet, October 26-27, 2018, Wimberly, TX
6. HOSA Fall Leadership Conference, November 2-3, Laredo, TX (G 2)
7. Boston Educational Field Trip, November 2-5, 2018, Boston, MA (G 2)
8. Flag Football State Tournament, November 9-10, 2018, Austin, TX
9. Volleyball State Tournament, November 9-10, 2018, Austin, TX
10. UIL Regional Contest, March 21-23, 2019, Austin, TX
11. UIL Regional Meet, April 12-13, 2019, San Antonio, TX
12. UIL State Meet, May 1-4, 2019, Austin, TX

Approved with the consent agenda.

- G. Action: Review and act on pending Certification (Election Code 2.052) of unopposed status of candidates for election to the office of South Texas ISD School Board Director:

1. Margarita Garcia, Hidalgo County Precinct 2
2. Eduardo "Larry" Cantu, Cameron County Precinct 3
3. Abiel J. Cantu - Willacy County Precinct 1
4. Douglas E. Buchanan - Willacy County Precinct 4

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Eliceo Muñoz, approving the certification of unopposed status for candidates for election to South Texas ISD board member office as follows:

Margarita Garcia, Hidalgo County Precinct 2
Eduardo "Larry" Cantu, Cameron County Precinct 3
Abiel J. Cantu, Willacy County Precinct 1
Douglas E. Buchanan, Willacy County Precinct 4

The motion passed unanimously.

- H. Action: Review and act on Resolution declaring each unopposed candidate, as per certification, elected to the office of School Board Directors and authorize an issuance of a certificate of election (Election Code 2.053).

A motion was made by Homero Garcia seconded by Maria Leal, approving the Resolution declaring each candidate unopposed, as per the above certification, electing them to the office of School Board Director and authorizing the issuance of a certificate of election. The motion passed unanimously.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board met on September 19, 2018 at 6:41 p.m. in a closed or executive session in accordance with 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. Assistant Principal
 - c. Distance Learning Facilitators (G 2)
 - d. Teacher Tutors
- B. Pursuant to Tex. Govt. Code 551.074, review, consider and discuss applicants for the Superintendent position; receive report from Gary Patterson; discuss Superintendent contract terms; finalize interview questions; discuss background check information and possible applicants for interviews.

- C. Pursuant to Tex. Govt. Code 551.071, attorney consultation regarding legal issues related to applicants for the Superintendent position and employment of new Superintendent.

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:55 p.m.

13. 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. Assistant Principal
 - c. Distance Learning Facilitators (G 2)
 - d. Teacher Tutors

The Superintendent recommended the employment of Criselda Flores as Assistant Principal (11 month contract); Jacqueline Hinojosa as Teacher (10 month contract); Denise Barrera, Ana Ruvalcaba, Juan J. Trujillo as Distance Learning Facilitators; and after school Teacher Tutors listed on agenda page 192-193. A motion was made by Yolanda Cuellar, seconded by Grace Camargo approving the professional staff for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Consider and take possible action regarding applicants for the Superintendent position including, but not limited to, selecting applicants for interviews.

A motion was made by Maria Leal, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar authorizing Walsh Gallegos and Gary Patterson to proceed as discussed in closed meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Irma Perez Treviño, seconded by Yolanda Cuellar, adjourning the Board meeting at 8:56 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.