



## 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 on August 4, 2020, beginning at 7:00 PM and was conducted via Video/Audio Conference Pursuant to Governor Greg Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020. The board meeting was audible to the Board and public and allowed for two-way communication.

1. Welcome.

Doug Buchanan, 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 Abiel J. Cantu.

3. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence.

4. Board Meeting called to order.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Doug Buchanan at 7:10 p.m. at which time he was assured by Superintendent, Dr. Marco A. Lara, Jr. that notices of the meeting were posted properly according to the laws of Texas and that a quorum of the board was present.

The following board members participated remotely:

Douglas E. Buchanan	Raymondville
Graciela Camargo	Weslaco
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
Javier Farias	McAllen
Adrian Garcia	Brownsville
Homero Garcia	Weslaco
Margarita Garcia	San Juan
Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D.	Edinburg
Hector Gonzales	Lyford
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville
Sylvia S. Lopez	Brownsville

Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Eduardo Roberto Rodriguez	Brownsville
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Rebecca Villarreal	Penitas
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following Board members were absent:

Martin Castillo, DC	Edinburg
Richard Fleming, MD	Mission
Yolanda Kamel	McAllen
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Jaime R. Solis	Edinburg

The following staff members participated remotely:

Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.	Jeff Hembree
J.P. Villarreal	Marla R. Knaub
Lissa Frausto	Sonia E. Rodriguez
Amanda Odom	Ana Castro
Marcos L. Flores	Criselda R. Flores
Efrain Garza	Ann Vickman
Harry Goette	Irma Castillo, Ed.D.

#### 5. Awards & Recognitions.

#### 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.

The Board President reported there was a correction to the July 15, 2020 meeting minutes to reflect that Sylvia S. Lopez abstained from voting on agenda item 8.A.1 and not Dr. Sylvia S. Garza. A motion was made by Mr. Gonzales, seconded by Mrs. Cuellar, approving the consent agenda items and the correction of the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 7. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.

The Board did not receive requests to address the Board of Directors on agenda topics for this meeting.

#### 8. Public Audience for Non-Agenda Topics.

The Board did not receive requests to address the Board of Directors on non-agenda topics for this meeting.

9. \*Action: Review and act on the June 23, 2020 and July 15, 2020 Board Meeting minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

10. Policy & Curriculum - Sylvia S. Lopez & Yolanda Kamel, Co-Chairs

Mrs. Sylvia S. Lopez reported on the following committee items:

A. \*Report on Policy Update 115, First Reading.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Action: Review and act on the following Memorandums of Understanding related to the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program for the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Cameron County
2. Hidalgo County

Approved with the consent agenda.

11. Buildings & Grounds - Rick Villarreal, DDS & Jaime Solis, Co-Chairs

Mr. Homero Garcia reported on the following committee items:

A. Report on the following projects:

1. Preparatory Academy Parking Lot Expansion
2. Mercedes Complex Electronic Marquee
3. Medical Professions Classroom Wing Addition
4. New Central Office Building Renovation

Mr. JP Villarreal provided a report on the status of each project as listed on agenda pages 76-83.

B. Action: Review and act on authorizing Administration to advertise for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSPs) for the following projects:

1. Science Academy CATE Building Renovation Project
2. Edinburg Exterior Restroom

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. H. Garcia, authorizing the administration to go out for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSPs) for the Science Academy CATE Building Renovation Project and the Edinburg Exterior Restroom as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Action: Review and act on approving the ranking of proposals for construction services for the Edinburg Bus Barn/Maintenance Facility project.

A motion was made by Mr. H. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Quintanilla, ranking the proposals for construction services on the Edinburg Bus Barn/Maintenance Facility project as recommended by the ranking committee; awarding the project to the top ranked contractor, D. Wilson Construction and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a construction agreement pursuant

to Texas Government Code section 2269.155, authorized the Superintendent to execute the construction agreement on behalf of the District and approved the purchase order for the cost of the base bid in the amount of \$2,496,000. The motion passed with one against (Mr. R. Montalvo).

## 12. Finance - Ramon Montalvo, III & Israel G. Quintanilla, Co-Chairs

Mr. Israel Quintanilla reported on the following committee items:

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

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Report for Child Nutrition Program statement of revenues & expenditures.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. \*Action: Review and act on Resolution authorizing bank signatures for Health Professions.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. \*Action: Review and act on approving 13 paychecks for new employees.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. \*Action: Review and act on the following budget amendments:

1. 2019-2020 COVID-19 Summer Seamless Option for Child Nutrition Program, Budget Amendment #3

2. 2019-2020 Advance Placement and International Baccalaureate, Budget Amendment #1

Approved with the consent agenda.

F. \*Action: Review and act on setting date for public meeting to discuss the 2020-2021 budget and proposed tax rate to be published on the notice of the public hearing.

Approved with the consent agenda.

G. \*Action: Review and act on 2020-2021 Employee Benefits & Travel Reimbursement Schedule.

Approved with the consent agenda.

H. Action: Review and act on awarding the following Request for Proposals (RFPs):

1. Travel Agencies & Charter Bus Services - RFP 20-014
2. Unemployment Insurance - RFP 20-015

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mr. H. Garcia, awarding the request for proposals for travel Agencies & Charter Bus Services for a one year contract to the following vendors: All Valley Charters, LLC, Cougar Bus Lines, Escamilla Tour Buses, MVLE Enterprises Inc/TheCharterBus.com, OK Tours, Texas Music Festivals Enterprise (TMF) Inc. and Express Travel; and approving TASB Risk Management Fund for the 2020-2021 Unemployment Compensation Insurance as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Superintendent's Report - Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.

A. \*Campus Reports

1. Preparatory Academy - A. Castro
2. Rising Scholars Academy - C. Rodriguez
3. World Scholars - E. Garza
4. Medical Professions - H. Goette
5. Health Professions - M. L. Flores
6. Science Academy - I. Castillo, Ed.D.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. \*Report on professional vacancies.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. \*Action: Review and retroactive approve announcement of vacancies for the 2020 summer programs.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. \*Action: Review and retroactive approve the Operation Connectivity Interlocal Acquisition Agreement with Region 4 ESC.

Approved with the consent agenda.

E. \*Report on local certification through District of Innovation Plan.

Approved with the consent agenda.

14. \*Correspondence.

No correspondence was received.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Directors met on August 4, 2020 at 7:32 p.m. in 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 2020-2021 school year.
  - a. Teachers
  - b. Assistant Principal
2. Recommendation of professional staff for the 2020 summer programs.
3. Rescission of professional employment contract for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:06 p.m.

16. 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 2020-2021 school year.
  - a. Teachers
  - b. Assistant Principal

Dr. Marco A. Lara, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, recommended the following staff for the 2020-2021 school year: Mario Guzman, Priscilla Calderon, Hugo Sanchez, Raquel Garcilazo, Saire Y. Moreno-Gonzalez, Daiyce Ovando and Jaclyn A. Gutierrez as Teachers (10 month contract); and Leonel Casanova, Jr. as Assistant Principal (11 month contract).

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. L. Cantu, approving the Superintendent's recommendation to hire professional staff for 2020-2021 school year as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Action: Review and retroactive approve on recommendation of professional staff for the 2020 summer programs.

A motion was made by Mr. Levrier, seconded by Mrs. Perez-Trevino, approving the Superintendent's recommendation to hire professional staff for the 2020 summer programs as listed on agenda page 147. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Action: Review and act on the rescission of professional employment contract for the 2020-2021 school year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Perez-Trevino, seconded by Mr. Gonzales, approving the rescission of Luis Muniz employment contract for the 2020-2021 school year as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

17. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. Montalvo, seconded by Mrs. Perez-Trevino, adjourning the board meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.