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**South  
Texas ISD**

RIO GRANDE VALLEY | GRADES 7-12

## **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

### **The Board of Directors**

### **South Texas ISD**

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A special called meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD was held on August 19, 2021 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 Mr. Doug Buchanan.

3. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence and remembering Mr. Pete Garcia & Irma Perez-Treviño.

4. Board Meeting called to order.

The special called 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:

Douglas E. Buchanan	Raymondville
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Martin Castillo, DC	Edinburg
Sasha Crane	McAllen
Javier Farias	McAllen
Richard Fleming, MD	Mission
Adrian Garcia	Brownsville

Margarita Garcia	San Juan
Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D.	Edinburg
Hector Gonzales	Lyford
Yolanda Kamel	McAllen
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville
Sylvia S. Lopez	Brownsville
Ricardo Ochoa, MD	Weslaco
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Jaime R. Solis	Edinburg
Natividad Sosa	Mission
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following Board members were absent:

Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Eduardo Roberto Rodriguez	Brownsville
David Torres	Edinburg
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Ruth Villarreal	Mission

The following staff members participated:

Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.  
Sonia E. Rodriguez  
Ramon Longoria

##### 5. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.

The Board received written statements from the following individuals on agenda topics for this meeting.

Leticia Araujo, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Nyssa Cruz, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Scott Nicol, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Sylvia Gonzales, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Maggie Novelo, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Theresa Escobar, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Jose Sepulveda, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Christine Gors, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Alexia Solis, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Elizabeth Juarez, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Greg Rodriguez, Stand up for Counties' local health orders  
Roberto Garcia, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Stefanie Herweck, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Priscilla Urbina, Requesting Mask Mandate  
Maria de Jesus Rodriguez, DDS, Requesting Mask Mandate

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board of Directors met on August 19, 2021 at 7:14 p.m. in a closed meeting 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 Presiding Officer appointed Dr. Sylvia Sanchez Garza to record the minutes of the closed session to discuss the following:
  - A. 551.071 Consultation with school attorney: Closed Meeting
    1. Consultation with Legal Counsel concerning legal issues regarding Cameron County and Hidalgo County Local Health Authority Orders currently in place, Governor Abbott's current order, GA-38 and other health and safety protocols currently in effect.

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 8:03 p.m.

7. **OPEN SESSION:** Action on any Item Deliberated in Closed Meeting
  - A. 551.071 Consultation with school attorney:
    1. Discussion, consideration and possible action on Cameron County and Hidalgo County Local Health Authority Orders currently in place, Governor Abbott's current order, GA-38 and other health and safety protocols currently in effect.

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mr. A. J. Cantu allowing the superintendent to take the necessary actions to comply with the Hidalgo County Local Health Authority Order dated August 13, 2021 for All Public School Systems Related to Facial Coverings 21-001; and allowing the superintendent to take the necessary actions to comply with the Cameron County Local Health Authority Order dated August 16, 2021 for All Public School Systems Related to Facial Coverings; and delegated to the Superintendent the authority to develop and implement Administrative Guidelines consistent with the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control for universal masking and require all students, staff, teachers and visitors to the District's schools, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a face mask indoors. The motion passed.

8. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. A. J. Cantu, seconded by Mrs. Sosa, adjourning the board meeting at 8:11 p.m. The motion passed unanimously