



Public Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD will be held December 5, 2023, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Central Office Teaching and Learning Center, 7001 E. Expressway 83, Mercedes, Texas 78570.

Individuals who wish to address the Board during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up at least 48 hours prior to the meeting by submitting an email to public.audience@stisd.net and attaching the District's Public Audience Sign-in Sheet available on the District's website.

During the course of a board meeting, the Board may discuss any item on the agenda in a closed meeting if permitted under the Texas Open Meetings Act. If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.129, the Board of Trustees may use a telephone conference call, video conference call or communications over the internet to conduct a public consultation with its attorney in an open meeting of the governmental body or a private consultation with its attorney in a closed meeting of the governmental body.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Welcome.
2. Board Meeting called to order.
3. Pledges of Allegiance & District Call to Action.
4. Moment of Silence.
5. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.
6. Public Audience for Non-Agenda Topics.
7. Awards & Recognitions.
 - A. Recognition of STISD students for excellence in academic, athletic and/or extracurricular endeavors.
 - B. Recognition of Medical Professions teacher Maria Saenz for receiving two awards from Summit K12 for her work with Emergent Bilingual students.

- C. Recognition of both STISD middle schools for ranking among the best in the state and nation in the 2024 US News and World Report Best Middle Schools Rankings.
 - D. Recognition of Health Professions, Medical Professions and Science Academy for earning spots on the 2023 AP School Honor Roll.
8. 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.
9. *Action: Review and act on the November 9, 2023 Special Called Board Meeting Minutes.
10. *Action: Review and act on the October 24, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.
11. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee - David Briones and Rick Villarreal, DDS, Co-Chairs
- A. *Report on STISD Leader Monthly Newsletter.
 - B. *Report on Honors, Advanced Placement Program, Dual Enrollment and IB Enrollment.
12. Buildings and Grounds Committee - E. Larry Cantu and Ruth Villarreal, Co-Chairs
- A. Report on the Cameras and Access Controls District-wide project.
 - B. Action: Review and act on approving the Preparatory Academy Pavilion project as substantially complete.
 - C. Action: Review and act on approving Herrcon, LLC as the contractor for the Health Professions Parking Lot project, and authorizing the Administration and the Board President to negotiate and enter into a contract for the project.
13. Finance & Operations Committee - Adrian Garcia and Rudy Ramirez, Co-Chairs
- A. *Report on checks written since last report.
 - B. *Action: Review and act on removing assets from the capital asset listing.
 - C. *Action: Review and act on Bank Resolution for Health Professions.
 - D. Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment and carry forward budgets:
 - 1. General Fund (199) budget amendment #2
 - 2. Supply Chain Assistant Grant (240)
 - 3. TCLAS Grant (279 429)
 - 4. Mental Health Grant (289)
 - 5. AP/IB Incentive Program Grant (397)
 - 6. School Safety Standards Grant (429)
 - 7. ESSER III (282)
 - E. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
 - 1. Payment application #5 to TelePro Communications in the amount of \$187,647.16 for the Cameras and Access Controls District-wide project.
 - 2. Payment application #21 to D. Wilson Construction in the amount of \$512,032.27 for the New Central Office Building Renovation project.

3. Payment application #20 to Gignac & Associates Architects LLP in the amount of \$1,200.20 for the construction phase, and \$6,667.76 for the final completion for the New Central Office Building Renovation project.
- F. Action: Review and act on Change order #1 to the contract in the credit amount of \$50,000.00 for the Preparatory Academy Pavilion project.
- G. Action: Review and act on request for use of funds from MacKenzie Scott donation for CTE Programs at Preparatory and Rising Scholars Academy.
14. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee - Douglas Buchanan and Noel Garza, DDS, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Action: Review and act on Policy Update 122.
15. Community & Governmental Relations Committee - Sasha Crane and Yolanda Kamel, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
16. Superintendent's Report - Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.
 - A. *Campus and District Reports
 1. Preparatory Academy - M. Zamora
 2. Rising Scholars Academy - R. Rodriguez, Ed.D.
 3. World Scholars - C. Chairez, Ed.D.
 4. Medical Professions - J. Lucio
 5. Health Professions - M. Guajardo, Ph.D.
 6. Science Academy - E. Gutierrez
 7. Virtual Academy - M. Valdez
 8. Enrollment & Attendance Report
 9. Human Resources Report
 - B. *Report on professional vacancies.
 - C. *Action: Review and act on the Texas Association of Sports Officials (TASO) request for the extended use of Health Professions facilities.
 - D. *Action: Review and act on board members to attend the TASB Governance Camp, February 28 - March 2, 2024 in Galveston, TX.
 - E. Action: Review and act on approving the request for a New Professional and Non-Professional Position(s) for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year and the Announcement of Vacancy for the following:
 1. Professional
 - a. Post-Secondary Success Specialist
 2. Non-Professional
 - a. Secretary/Receptionist
 - F. Action: Cast vote(s) for the Appraisal District Director(s) for the following:
 1. Cameron County Appraisal District
 2. Hidalgo County Appraisal District
 3. Willacy County Appraisal District
17. **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. 551.071, 551.074 Personnel Matters and consultation with school attorney regarding Personnel Matters: Closed Meeting

1. Recommendation of professional staff for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
 - a. Educational Diagnostician
 - b. Occupational Therapist
 - c. Special Education Coordinator
 - d. Speech Language Pathologist
 - e. Teacher(s)
 - f. Teacher Incentive Allotment Coordinator
- B. 551.071 Consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation: Closed Meeting
 1. Ryan Busse, Josh Klostermann, Russell Klostermann, Mitch Thomas, Olivia Rincones, Robert Rincones, Ruben Rincones, Enrica Rincones, Adelaida Garcia, Gary Busse, Alison Savage and Lyford Consolidated Independent School District vs. South Texas Independent School District, Elizabeth Barnhart, Willacy County Tax Assessor-Collector in her Official Capacity, and Willacy County, Texas, Cause No. 2023-CV-0282-A.
18. OPEN SESSION: Action on any Item Deliberated in Closed Meeting
 - A. 551.071, 551.074 Personnel Matters and consultation with school attorney regarding Personnel Matters:
 1. Action: Review and act on recommendation of professional staff for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
 - a. Educational Diagnostician
 - b. Occupational Therapist
 - c. Special Education Coordinator
 - d. Speech Language Pathologist
 - e. Teacher(s)
 - f. Teacher Incentive Allotment Coordinator
 - B. 551.071 Consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation:
 1. Discussion, consideration, and possible action regarding pending or contemplated litigation: Ryan Busse, Josh Klostermann, Russell Klostermann, Mitch Thomas, Olivia Rincones, Robert Rincones, Ruben Rincones, Enrica Rincones, Adelaida Garcia, Gary Busse, Alison Savage and Lyford Consolidated Independent School District vs. South Texas Independent School District, Elizabeth Barnhart, Willacy County Tax Assessor-Collector in her Official Capacity, and Willacy County, Texas, Cause No. 2023-CV-0282-A.
19. Adjournment.

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f). Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting. [See BEC(LEGAL)]

The notice for this meeting was posted in compliance with the Texas Open Meeting Act on December 1, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Crystal Solis

For the Board of Directors