



## Public Notice 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 will be held March 26, 2024, 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](mailto: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.
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 February 27, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.
10. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee - Sylvia S. Lopez and Sandra Garza Ochoa, Ph.D., Co-Chairs
- A. \*Report on STISD Leader Monthly Newsletter.
  - B. Report on the Teacher Incentive Allotment Expansion/Modification Application.
  - C. Report on the 2024 summer programs.
11. Buildings and Grounds Committee - Margarita Garcia and Jaime Solis, Co-Chairs
- A. \*Action: Review and act on extending the lease agreement with Karle Farms for the maintenance of the orange grove on the Mercedes grounds.
  - B. Report on the following projects:
    - 1. Health Professions Parking Lot project
    - 2. Health Professions Gymnasium project
    - 3. 2023-2024 Capital Projects
  - C. Action: Review and act on approving the AIA contract with Gerlach Builders for the Health Professions Gymnasium project, and authorizing the Board President to execute the contract.
12. Finance & Operations Committee - Adrian Garcia and Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D., Co-Chairs
- A. \*Report on District Comparison of Revenues/Expenditures.
  - B. \*Report on checks written since last report.
  - C. \*Report on school district investments:
    - 1. Investments owned by the district.
    - 2. Investments held by Wilmington Trust for the South Texas ISD Public Facilities Corporation.
  - D. \*Report on the 2023-2024 second quarter student activity accounts.
  - E. \*Action: Review and act on removing assets from district inventory.
  - F. \*Action: Review and act on approving the following donations:
    - 1. Donation of popcorn from Cesar Barbin to Science Academy's Electric Car Club in the amount of \$100.00.
    - 2. Donations totaling \$290.00 to Medical Professions' Senior Class from the following vendors at the Medical Professions Senior Night Bazaar event:
      - a. Linda Saucedo/Ind. Scentsy Consultant \$25
      - b. Laura Luva/Laura's Succulents \$25

- c. Noemelch Lumang/Slomotion Studios \$25
  - d. Erica Guerra/Yo Mama Bubble Tea \$25
  - e. Kimberly Garcia & Laura L. Garcia/Girl Scouts Troop 4138 \$25
  - f. Daena Aguilar/DA Creations \$25
  - g. Manuel Cuvillier/Single Stitched \$25
  - h. Aaron Trains/Aaron Trains Apparel \$25
  - i. Madeleine/Robert Hernandez/Madeleine's Crafts \$25
  - j. Charles Cuvillier Jr./Cuviller's Cafe \$15
  - k. Victoria Lara/Common Scents \$25
  - l. Jackie Blankenship/Crazy Cows Keepsakes \$25
- G. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
- 1. Payment application #4 to The Warren Group in the amount of \$3,760.00 for the New Health Professions Gymnasium project.
  - 2. Payment application #22 to D. Wilson Construction Company in the amount of \$79,269.09 for the New Central Office Building Renovation project.
- H. Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
- 1. General Fund (199)
  - 2. Title I, Part A (211)
  - 3. Title I, Part C Migrant (212)
  - 4. Title II, Part A (255)
  - 5. Title III, Part A – ELA (263)
  - 6. Title IV, Part A SSAEP (289)
  - 7. Supply Chain Assistant Grant (240)
  - 8. TCLAS – GR (P-Tech) (429)
- I. Action: Review and act on the following requisitions:
- 1. Requisition #119487 to Tri-County Communications for district-wide Emergency and Cell signal.
  - 2. Requisition #119214 to Trane for Science Academy HVAC units.
- J. Action: Review and act on approving the Memorandum of Understanding to develop a Special Education Co-Op with La Villa ISD.
13. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee - Abiel J. Cantú and Hector Gonzales, Co-Chairs
- A. \*Action: Review and act on the Memorandum of Understanding related to the Hidalgo County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program for the 2024-2025 school year.
  - B. Action: Review and act on the proposed 2024-2029 Strategic Plan.
14. Community & Governmental Relations Committee - Eduardo R. Rodriguez and Yolanda Kamel, Co-Chairs
- A. Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
  - B. Report on planning for STISD 60-Year Anniversary Celebration.
15. 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 following out of district student/staff travel:
    - 1. US Chess 2024 National Middle School Championship, May 10-12, 2024 in Atlanta, Georgia.
    - 2. The National Forum National Schools to Watch, June 19-22, 2024 in Washington, DC.
  - D. Report from Dr. Sylvia Sánchez Garza and Yolanda Kamel on the 2024 TASB Texas Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC.
  - E. Report on Future Planning for areas including facilities, programs, and partnerships.
  - F. Action: Cast votes for Place 4 and Place 7 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors.
  - G. Action: Review and Act on approving the request for new Professional and Non-Professional positions for the 2024-2025 school year and the Announcement of Vacancies for the following:
    - 1. Professional positions
      - a. Co-op Speech Language Pathologist
      - b. Co-op Educational Diagnostician
      - c. Co-op Licensed Specialist in School Psychologist
      - d. Special Education Teachers (6)
    - 2. Non-Professional positions
      - a. Co-op Special Education Clerk
      - b. Co-op Bookkeeper
      - c. Special Education Classroom Aide (1)
16. **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 remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
      - a. School Nurse
    - 2. Discussion and consideration regarding employees placed on administrative leave.

- 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.
- 17. 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 remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
      - a. School Nurse
- 18. 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 **Friday, March 22, 2024, at 4:45 p.m.**

*Crystal D. Solis*

For the Board of Directors