

Donna Independent School District
Regular Board Meeting - Minutes
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 - Immediately following Board Workshop

The Board of Trustees will meet in the Staff Development Center/Board Room located at the Donna ISD Administration Building at 904 Hester Avenue, Donna, Texas 78537 to deliberate the matters noted below.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board President Fernando Castillo called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:58 pm.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

- *Fernando Castillo, President*
- *Jose Rogelio Reyna, Vice-President*
- *Ida M. Garcia, Secretary*
- *Eloy Avila, Trustee*
- *Jose L. Valdez, Trustee*
- *Dr. Maricela Valdez, Trustee*
- *Eva Castilo Watts, Trustee*

The following Administrators/Individuals were also in attendance:

- *Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent*
- *Rebecca Castañeda, Deputy Superintendent*
- *Adela Troncoso, Assistant Superintendent*
- *Alfonso Perez, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance*
- *Rashad Rana, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services*
- *Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction*
- *Javier Villanueva, Executive Director for Data Analysis & Performance Outcomes*
- *Tony Torres, School Attorney*
- *Dr. Diana Barrera-Ugarte, LSG Coach*

II. OPEN FORUM

No one signed up to speak during Open Forum.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. District Highlights

Dr. Angela Dominguez reported/presented on the following:

- *Lunch and Learn Session at J.P. LeNoir Elementary*
- *The 18+ program has been taking their Thrift Store on the road. They have set up at Central Office and Donna North High School*
- *At the last Principal's meeting, they had a panel of students (Juniors & Seniors from Donna HS) who shared with the Principals some of the struggles and some things that were going great to help them to be prepared and be ready. They offered some good advice to our school leaders and provided us with some insight from the student perspective as students who are getting ready to graduate.*

- *Battle of the Books*
 - *This year they had a Junior Division of 1st and 2nd graders*
- *District Spelling Bee*
 - *Top three (3) spellers that will advance to the Regional level are:*
 - *1st Place: JoMichael Casares, 5th grader @ C. Stainke Elementary*
 - *2nd Place: Austin Perez, 5th grader @ J.S. Adame Elementary*
 - *3rd Place: Lylian Yanez, 5th grader @ M.A.P. Muñoz Elementary*
- *CCMR Transition Fair – March 5, 2024 (5th through 8th graders)*
 - *Marlett Event Center on Val Verde Road*
 - *60 colleges, military, medical schools, etc.*
 - *Students will bussed and students will have a chance to talk to the representatives present*
 - *Will be open to parents and the community from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm*
- *Enrolling for the 2024-2025 School Year starting next week*
- *Adult Education Classes have been taking off*
 - *Old 3D has been converted to Learning & Development Center. Every evening there are adult classes taking place. We are currently hosting classes on ESL (95 participants), GED (34 participants in the 3rd cohort), CNA, and CDL classes. CNA and CDL classes are maxing out at capacity as soon as a new class starts. Families from other school districts are also coming to Donna to get that education.*
- *Lunch and Learn Events have continued*
 - *Students share vital information on what is going well and what needs to be tweaked and adjusted.*
- *Capturing Kid's Hearts Surveys & Nominations*
 - *Major initiative across our elementary campuses and 3 middle schools. Will be extending to the High School next year.*
 - *Donna ISD came out in the green across the board at all campuses on parent (over 5,000 surveys), teachers, students, and staff surveys about the campus culture and climate.*
- *Police Department Collaboration Valley Wide*
 - *The Police Department met with police chiefs and administrators from across the valley to strategize safety techniques, how we are doing, and how we will continue to work together with other ISD law enforcement agencies across the valley.*
- *Capturing Kids' Hearts*
 - *Donna ISD has been nominated for 8 National Showcase Schools and 3 Rising Star Schools*
- *Focus on Operational Excellence*
 - *Trustees will look at an order to sell the second series of bonds.*
 - *Construction timeline has been updated*
 - *We broke ground and started the Elementary tracks that were pending at Salinas Elem., Price Elem., Salazar Elem., Singleterry Elem., and Garza Elem.*
- *Focus on Employees and Organizational Excellence*
 - *Bilingual/ESL Summit was held on Saturday, February 10, 2024*
 - *High School Choir: 6 students from Donna North HS Choir and 8 students from Donna HS advancing to state*
- *Donna North Chiefs Boys soccer team is currently ranked 1st in the State.*
- *Dinner and Learn with Lead Teachers (approximately 100 lead teachers)*

- *Provided a box dinner, and asked the teachers what was going well, and how can we continue to support our educators in the classroom?*
- *Focus on Financial Stewardship*
 - *Budget Planning for the 2024-2025 has started*
 - *Staffing allocations for 2024-2025*

B. Texas State - Texas School Safety Center Intruder Audit Reports.

Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent, stated that Donna ISD sees safety as a top priority in our district. The State of Texas continues to conduct intruder detection audits across Donna ISD. In closed session, the Trustees will be updated on the most recent visits to schools on safety and security.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. LSG Progress and Accountability Goal 2: Reading GPMs 2.1,2.2,2.3.

Mr. Javier Villanueva, Executive Director for Data Evaluation and Performance Outcomes, and Mrs. Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction presented on Goal 2 – Early Childhood Reading. They reviewed LSG Board Goal 2: Reading Data at MOY, Reading Progress Measures at MOY, Reading by Special Population as well as Reinforcements and Refinements.

Motion to accept at Proficient level was made by Jose L. Valdez, seconded by Ida Garcia. Eloy Avila, Jose R. Reyna, Dr. Maricela Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

B. Lone Star Governance Board Self Evaluation

Motion to approve the LSG Board Self-Evaluation with a score of 95f was made by Eloy Avila, seconded by Ida Garcia. Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Ida Garcia, and seconded by Eloy Avila. Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

A. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- a. Approval of Accounts Payable.
- b. Approval of Financial Statements for December 2023.
- c. Approval of Report of Monthly Tax Collections for December 2023.
- d. Approval of the Clean School Bus Program Rebates.
- e. Approval to Declare DISD Child Nutrition Program Surplus to be taken to auction.
- f. Approval to award vendor for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSP) 010824-385 W. A. Todd Middle School Re-Roofing.
- g. Approval to renew the pool of vendors for CSP#022123-380 Job Order Contractors for the 2024-2025 School Year.

- h. Approval to award Benz Lawn Service for RFP 011024-750 Lawn Care Services for Garza, Munoz, Singleterry, and Adame Elementary Schools.
- i. Approval to renew vendor SAS General Building Services for RFP 011223-69 Preventative Maintenance, Equipment and Repair Services District-Wide Athletics for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- j. Approval to renew the pool of vendors for RFP# 030422-331 Civil Engineer Services for the 2024-2025 School Year.
- k. Approval to purchase a Switch Gear for Adame Elementary from Noble Texas Builders for the amount of \$92,908.00.
- l. Approval to go over \$50,000 but not to exceed \$800,000 using ESSER Funds for the Renovations of Girls Locker Room at Donna High School.
- m. Approval to purchase AC units using ESSER funds not to exceed \$500,000.00.
- n. Consideration and approval of an Order authorizing the issuance of Donna Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2024; Entering into a Purchase Contract and a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Delegating to Certain Administrative Staff and Officials the Authority to Approve all final terms of the Bonds; and other matters related thereto
- o. Consideration and Approval of Freeport Goods Taxation Exemption Resolution

B. ACADEMIC SERVICES

- a. Approval to purchase of Skyward (SIS) Student Information System and ERP for the Donna ISD.
- b. Request for Acknowledgment of Harmony Public Schools-South Texas, County-District #015-828.
- c. Approval of out of state travel (Dual language teachers, administrators, and district staff) to attend the National Association of Bilingual Education in New Orleans, Louisiana, March 26-30, 2024.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

- a. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Closure Compensation to Donna ISD Employees due to emergency School Closure on January 16, 2024.
- b. Approval of Waiver Application to submit to Texas Education Agency.
- c. Approval of revisions to District Policy FFA (LOCAL) Student Welfare: Wellness and Health Services.
- d. Approval of Designating the 10 Non-Business Days in responding to a Public Information Request for HB 3033 Public Information Act Compliance.
- e. Approval revisions to EIC Local
- f. Approve Statistical Analysis System (SAS) Institute Inc. Consulting Services

D. SUPPORT SERVICES

- a. Approval of minutes for Regular Board Meeting, January 9, 2024.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION as Authorized by Texas Government

Code Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083 and 551.084.

The Board of Trustees went into Executive Session at 6:51 pm.

- A. Texas State - Texas School Safety Center Intruder Audit Report.

B. Discussion and Consideration of the Superintendent's Recommendation of Personnel Matters

- Recommendations for Professionals to Include Contract Renewal, Hiring, Adjustments, Termination, and Rescission Recommendation
- Update of District Personnel

VII. Discussion and Private Consultation with Attorney regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Settlement Matters, and/or Matters Where the Professional Duty Under State Board Requires Private Consultation with School Attorney.

VIII. **OPEN SESSION - Take possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session.**

The Board of Trustees reconvened from Executive Session at 7:39 pm.

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Superintendent's Recommendation of Personnel

- Approve the Recommendation for Professionals to Include Contract Renewal, Hiring, Adjustments, Termination, and Rescission Recommendations

Motion to approve as discussed in Executive Session was made by Eloy Avila, seconded by Jose R. Reyna. Ida M. Garcia, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

IX. **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn the Regular Board meeting was made by Eva Castillo Watts, and seconded by Dr. Maricela Valdez. Eloy Avila, Ida Garcia, Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

The Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm



Fernando Castillo, President
Board of Trustees
Donna ISD

and



Ida M. Garcia, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Donna ISD

Board approved: March 19, 2024