



SANTA MARIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Monday, November 16, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that a scheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Santa Maria Independent School District was held on Monday, November 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Santa Maria ISD Cafeteria, 11119 Military Hwy Santa Maria, Texas 78592.

The Santa Maria Independent School District offers reasonable accommodations for persons accessing its school facilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require special accommodations, please contact Dalia Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools at (956) 565-6308 for assistance.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board President called Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

Present:

Belinda Lugo, President
Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, Jr., Vice-President
Miguel Zavala, Secretary
Noe Aleman, Member
Consuelo De la Rosa, Member
Adolfo Hinojosa, Member
Oralia "Lala" Ortiz, Member

Present from the District:

Maria J. Chavez, Superintendent of Schools
Enrique Cuellar, Business Manager
Alyssa L. Romero, The Law Offices of Guerra & Farah, PLLC
Dalia Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPEN FORUM

Board president asked if anyone signed up for open forum. Mrs. Rodriguez stated yes.

Carol Schwartz stated I would like to help you prepare you English Language Learners for success this year. Valley Baptist Preparatory is ready, willing and able to fill in the gaps in your students acquisitions of English for general English that we all need and academic English that students need in order to keep up with the rest of the



classmates. Valley Baptist Preparatory which I represent meets at Primera Iglesia Bautista about three blocks east of here. Both Valley Baptist Preparatory and the Santa Maria School have begun the final grading period in this first semester. We are all looking forward in achieving the goals that we have set for this semester. At Valley Baptist Preparatory we can support you in those goals for your students. Right now were working all day every day on English as a second language with one local middle school student and preparing him to transition back to you. Mrs. Rodriguez and Ms. Quintero know that the student will be enrolling in Santa Maria Middle School soon. I have met with the Math, Science, English and Social Studies teachers and I want you to know that they have been very helpful getting this student ready to come back. I propose that you allow teachers in grades 5th-11th to identify the students that are doing poorly perhaps because of their lack of success in English. Those teachers might list the students that they would for me to teach basic or intermediate ESL to and then the principals would approve or modify the list and we could agree on a total program which would run for one semester although the student could come for one, two or three grading periods. Valley Baptist Preparatory provides experienced teachers, provides the Rosetta Stone in the Language Laboratory, provides small classes, internet and a library with over 600 books. The price per student, we would talk about. The Santa Maria District would provide some of the text books and I would provide some of the text books. If you want the students to also be prepared for the grades in a specific subject that you would like for them to get at the end of a specific semester, then I would work with you on those text books and work books, otherwise we would focus more on ESL. As far as daily attendance is concerned we would call to the school each morning and afternoon so that we could tell you about the absences and that would therefore take care of your federal funding. We would talk about breakfast and lunches and about transportation and any other questions that you might have, I'll be happy to work with you. Let's get these students ready for their state tests and for a successful school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Presentation update of TGE 5th Grade wing by Mr. George Lazaro, Fulcrum Consulting Services.

Mr. Noe Esquierdo introduced himself and stated I'm part of the management team for fulcrum consulting. George Lazaro could not be here today so I will be conducting the presentation for him. Basically up to date, we are at 50% as far as construction completion. This week the contractors anticipate the final steel columns to be delivered to the site as well as the brick veneer for the exterior. The interior block is 100% completion and as far as the contractor is concerned, he is on track to finish at the date that he's anticipated. If he does think that he's going to need any extra days, he will submit that proposal to us and we will review it and if we think it's within his contract, we will present it to the board if needed. That's basically the presentation on the 5th grade wing update.

Mrs. De la Rosa asked if we are on schedule for completion.

Mr. Esquierdo stated yes, right now the date for completion is the 8th of January but there have been some days where it's been raining so they may be able to ask for those days. As of today, they haven't asked for any so they are telling us that they think they will be able to finish by that date. That's what they are trying to push for. If they do need extra days, they do need to let us know ahead of time and we will present it to the board.



2. Student Recognition

3. Student Attendance/Enrollment

Ms. Chaves stated enrollment for this past week for elementary we have 344 students; overall attendance was at 98.1%. Middle School enrollment 144 students and overall attendance was 97.6% at the secondary level, 202 students and overall attendance was at 98.3%.

ACTION AGENDA

Curriculum and Instruction

4. Discussion and possible action to approve the PBMAS Improvement Plan for Santa Maria Independent School District for 2015-2016

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Noe Aleman. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the Region One Education Service Centers Local Assessment Fee Commitment Form for Special Service Projects for 2015-2016

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

No Action

7. Discussion and possible action regarding Get Up! Academy intends to submit an application to the State Board of Education in response to the Generation Twenty-One open-enrollment charter school application process. Statutory guidelines require the applicants send the enclosed Statement of Impact form and copy of the completed Application Coversheet to each district open-enrollment charter school that may be affected by the proposed charter school. Our district is receiving this information because the proposed charter school's designated geographic boundary (or transfer boundary) overlaps with our district's boundary

Motion made by Consuelo De la Rosa, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and possible action to approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Rio Grande Valley Pathways Initiative entered into by and between Santa Maria Independent School District and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board ("THECB")

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Consuelo De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and possible action to approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Santa Maria Independent School District and Behavioral Health Services of South Texas

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera. Motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources

10. Report and discussion of 2015-2016 Statement of District Compliance with Chapter 22 Fingerprinting and Criminal Background Check Requirements



11. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2015-2016 Annual Survey of High Qualified (HQ) Teachers and Paraprofessionals.

Motion made by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.

Travel

12. Discussion and possible action to approve the travel of the Board Members to attend the TASB Fall Governance and Legal Seminar-Friday, November 20, 2015- Sunday, November 22, 2015, South Padre Island, TX

Motion made by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, second by Consuelo De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Discussion and possible action to approve Board travel to MASBA 2016 Annual Convention, February 18-21, 2016 at Hilton, San Antonio Airport, San Antonio, TX

Motion made by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, second by Consuelo De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance

14. Discussion and possible action to approve 2016 TASB Membership Renewal

Motion made by Consuelo De la Rosa, second by Noe Aleman. Motion passed unanimously.

15. Discussion and possible action to approve payment request #3 to M-5 Texas Enterprises, LL for 5th Grade Building

Ms. Chavez stated that the communication as per the project management, the contractor is a little over 50% completion. As you can see the disbursement of payments that \$55,537.25 will bring the overall draw down for that project to \$466,229.75.

Motion made by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, second by Consuelo De la Rosa. Motion passed unanimously.

16. Discussion and possible action to approve Fulcrum Consulting Services engineering service fees for the month of October 2015 for new High School Project

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera. Motion passed unanimously.

17. Discussion and possible action to approve payment for Fulcrum Consulting Services for inspection services rendered for Santa Maria ISD 5th Grade Building Project

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.

Governance

18. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2015-2016 Inter-local Agreement between Santa Maria ISD and Rio Grande Valley Communication Group (RGVCG) for communication between Santa Maria Police Department and Cameron County Sheriff's Department

Motion made by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz, second by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera. Motion passed unanimously.

19. Discussion and possible action regarding the renewal of TASB Legal Assistance Fund for 2015-2016

Motion made by Miguel Zavala, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.



Curriculum and Instruction

20. Approval of revised 2015-2016 Gifted and Talented Program Plan
Item #20 was moved from consent agenda to action agenda.
Motion made by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz, second by Noe Aleman. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance

21. Approval of Check Payments since last report for October 2015
22. Approval of the Tax Collection Report for October 01, 2016 to October 31, 2015
23. Approval of Monthly Investment Report for the period of October 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015
24. Approval of Revenue and Expenditure Report ending January 31, 2016

Governance

25. Approval of TASB Update 103 affecting (LOCAL) Policies (see attached list)
- BF (LOCAL): BOARD POLICIES
CAA (LOCAL): FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES-FINANCIAL ETHICS
CB (LOCAL): STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SERVICES
CKE (LOCAL): SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT-SECURITY PERSONNEL
CO (LOCAL): FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT
DBD (LOCAL): EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS- CONFLICT OF INTEREST
DH (LOCAL): EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
DIA (LOCAL): EMPLOYEE WELFARE- FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION
FEA (LOCAL): ATTENDANCE- COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE
FEC (LOCAL): ATTENDANCE- ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT
GKA (LOCAL): COMMUNITY RELATIONS- CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES
GRA (LOCAL): RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES- STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES
26. Approval of the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting- September 14, 2015
27. Approval of the minutes for the Special Board Meeting - September 28, 2015

Item number 20 was pulled out of consent agenda and placed under action agenda.

Board President asked for a motion to approve all items under consent agenda. Motion made by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, second by Noe Aleman. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board President asked for a motion to go into executive session.



Motion made by Noe Aleman, second by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board President announced it is 7:03p.m. the Board of Trustees is now going into executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion under the authority of Section 551, Texas Government Code: If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed session of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any item included in this Notice, then such closed session as authorized by Section 551.001 *et. seq.* of the Texas Government Code (the Open Government Act) will be held by the Board after the commencement in open session of the meeting covered by this Notice. Such closed session may concern any or all of the subjects and be conducted for any and all purposes permitted by Section 551.071 through and including Section 551.084 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, including, but not limited to, private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.

- A. Section 551.071—Consultation with Attorney on Any Permitted Subject Including, But Not Limited to:
 - 1) Discussion with School Attorney on Item(s) Exempted under Attorney-Client Privilege
 - 2) Discussion regarding settlement negotiations and approval of settlement, Edwin Barrera v. SMISD
- B. Section 551.072—Deliberation Regarding Real Property
- C. Section 551.073—Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift
- D. Section 551.074—Personnel Matters
 - 1) Discuss all items as appropriate on Superintendent's personnel recommendations
- E. Section 551.076 – Deliberations on Security Devices or Security Audits
- F. Section 551.082—School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matters or Complaint
- G. Section 551.0821—Personally Identifiable Information about Public School Student

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board President asked for a motion to reconvene in open session.

Motion made by Noe Aleman, seconded by Oralia "Lala" Ortiz. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board President announced it is 7:25 p.m. and the Board of Trustees is now in open session.

1. Discussion and possible action on items discussed in Executive Session



- a) Discussion and possible action on recommendations on all items as appropriate on Superintendent's personnel recommendations


Motion made by Oralía "Lala" Ortiz, second Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

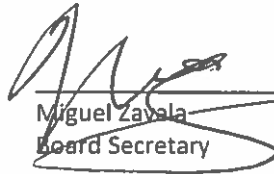
The Board President asked for a motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion made by Noe Aleman, second by Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board President announced it is 7:26 p.m. the meeting is now adjourned.



Belinda Lugo
Board President



Miguel Zavala
Board Secretary

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This notice has been publicly posted at the administrative offices of the Santa Maria Independent School District, 11119 Military Rd., Cameron County, Santa Maria, Texas, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the above mentioned meeting, as required by the following sections of the Texas Government Code: 551.071 through 551.084. During the regular school year, this notice is also posted in all schools in the District. The school district also posts its board meeting agendas on the District's internet web site (www.smisd.net)

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Trustees and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired on a specific item(s), that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

Maria J. Chavez, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Belinda Lugo, President
Rambaldo "Ram" Rivera, Jr., Vice-President
Miguel Zavala, Secretary
Noe Aleman, Member
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Adolfo Hinojosa, Member
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