



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

# SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Minutes of Regular Meeting

### The Board of Trustees South San Antonio ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of South San Antonio ISD was held Wednesday, July 17, 2013, beginning at 6:30 PM in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

#### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call			
Member	In Attendance	Absent	Late Arrival
Mr. Carlos G. Longoria		X	
Ms. Julie Ponce			X 6:40
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X		
Ms. Connie Prado	X		
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X		
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata	X		
Ms. Helen Madla	X		

Staff Present			
Rebecca Robinson	Pablo Escamilla	Ed Suarez	Pete Alaniz
Ben Davis	Luz Elena Ramirez	Lorraine De Leon	David Landeros
Rod Bunsen	Elvia Perez	Melba Urdiales	Mourette Hodge
Ramiro Nava			

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mr. Mata.

Ms. Martinez asked for a moment in silence in remembrance of Mr. Longoria's grandmother.

#### CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mary Fechter	25 year veteran at South San and a teacher at Palo Alto. Would like to ask the board to leave Ms. Mercado as Principal of Palo Alto. At Palo Alto they work as a team and when they learned of their STAAR scores, they scrambled to find success for their kids
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	<p>and Ms. Mercado did whatever she could to make it happen. They have developed improvement plans with Ms. Mercado. She knows their strengths and weaknesses and motivates them to improve. We are asking you not to change her for the sake of change. Benavidez will already have to get used to a new principal and Ms. Mercado should stay to continue the foundation they are creating.</p>
Cindy Hernandez	<p>Here to speak to the board regarding the District's decision to remove Ms. Mercado from Palo Alto. Palo Alto is a family and removing Ms. Mercado you will be removing the heart of the campus. Do not look at us as just numbers. We are educators who go to work every day to provide the best education to the children. Please look at our campus more closely and see how well we work together. We work together as a family and there is more to education than numbers and test scores.</p>
Robert Hernandez	<p>Teacher at Palo Alto and former AFT president of south san. On behalf of AFT we ask to increase the pay scale of teachers and staff. Asking the Superintendent to reinstate Ms. Mercado at Palo alto. Take a closer look at the culture at the school and the parents of this community. It takes everyone to make the school a success. Suggested to make billboards to involve the community to educate the parents, have teachers walk the neighborhoods and encourage team work and education. Suggested quarterly rallies in the community and distributing books to children not yet in school.</p>
Patricia Gamez	<p>Here to support Ms. Mercado in hopes that she can continue to call Palo Alto home. Excellent rapport with everyone she meets. As board members u run a district as a business however you must have trust with staff and parent. We want our parents to come in and feel comfortable with teachers and administrators. Ms. Mercado knows the students by name and has built structure and relationships with the students. Please consider leaving Ms. Mercado exactly where she belongs, at Palo Alto.</p>
Belinda Zepeda	<p>President of South San AFT. We have addressed the pay issues with the board and with administration. Earlier you were presented with a 2% increase for employees, which we disagree with. Employees have gone too long without a pay increase. Our best teachers are leaving the district for more money in other districts. Emphasizing the importance of a substantial pay increase of 4% for all staff members. Requesting all stipends be restored. As a 5A school we must do better. If health insurance costs go up, we are asking the district cover any extra costs. We hope that you act early on pay in the budget workshops. We are sending a message to future applicants that this is not the district to come to.</p>
Pete Alaniz	<p>Teacher of South San High school and faculty advisor. In 2007</p>

	<p>we received monies through a grant and installed purple martin houses in the district. With the project we are able to connect academics with lifelong lessons. We were concerned with saving the bird houses with the new high school being built. Was able to work on a plan to save the houses. Thank you very much for working with the Parsons and Joeris to relocate the birdhouses successfully. We received nice recognition within the school website and the local news. We look for these commendable ways to work together with the district, community and partners.</p>
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Citizens to be heard concluded at 6:50 p.m.

**RECOGNITION**

**1. Recognition of the Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas (HWNT) Scholarship Recipient, 2013 graduate, Jocelyn Guerra.**

Ms. Rosa Martinez was called upon to recognize Jocelyn Guerra.

**CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Closed Session began at 6:52 p.m.  
 Retuned to Open Session at 10:43 p.m.

*NOTICE: The Board of Trustees may elect to go into Closed Meeting any time during the meeting to discuss matters listed on the Agenda when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board of Trustees elects to go into Closed Meeting regarding an Agenda Item, the Board of Trustees will hold a Closed Meeting to discuss individual personnel matters including termination, litigation and other matters the Board deems necessary. Upon completion of Closed Meeting, the Board of Trustees may, in the open session, take such action as appropriate on items discussed in a Closed Meeting. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item listed on the agenda should be held in Closed Meeting, the Board will convene in such Closed Meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code Sections 551.001 - 551.088. The Board members may take action in the open portion of the meeting on items discussed in the Closed Meeting but no action will be taken in closed session. The Board will consider and discuss, the following items:*

**Closed Meeting pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code § 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, and 551.0821**

**1. Consultation with Attorney regarding Superintendent's evaluation. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees, moved to authorize legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed session. 6/0 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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Mr. Trinidad T. Mata	X	
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	X	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla	X	

**2. Consultation with the Attorney and discussion regarding the status of all outstanding Level I and Level II employee grievances. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074)**

No action.

**3. Consultation with Attorney and discussion regarding possible security breach of District premises. (Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071 and 551.076)**

No action.

**4. Discussion regarding professional resignations, retirements and employment of new personnel. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees move to approve administration's recommendations regarding professional resignations, retirements, and employment of new personnel as discussed in closed session. 6/0 Motion carried.

**5. Discussion regarding auxiliary resignations, retirements and employment of new personnel. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees move to approve the administration's recommendations regarding auxiliary resignations, retirements, and employment of new personnel as discussed in closed session. 6/0 Motion carried.

**6. Discussion regarding terminations, promotions, reclassifications, assignments and reassignments of district personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071 and 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees move to approve administration's recommendations regarding terminations, promotions, reclassifications of district personnel as discussed in closed session. 6/0 Motion carried.

**7. Consultation with attorney and discussion regarding the results of an investigation of a former employee. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.071)**

No action.

**8. Discussion regarding the appointment of the Principal of Price Elementary School for the 2013 - 2014 school year, subject to assignment and reassignment by the Superintendent. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Prado, the Board of Trustees moved to table this item till the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. 3/2 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata		X
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	Abstain	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla		X

**9. Discussion regarding the appointment of the Principal of Palo Alto Elementary School for the 2013 - 2014 school year, subject to assignment and reassignment by the Superintendent. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Prado, the Board of Trustees moved to table this item till the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. 4/2 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata		X
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	X	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla		X

**10. Discussion regarding the appointment of the Director of Human Resources for the 2013 - 2014 school year, subject to assignment and reassignment by the Superintendent. (Tex. Gov't Code §§ 551.074)**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Prado, the Board of Trustees moved to approve administration's recommendation and appointment Robert Gardner, Director of Human Resources, for the 2013-2014 school; subject to assignment and reassignment by the Superintendent on a term contract as discussed in closed session. 3/2 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata		X
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	Abstain	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	

Ms. Helen Madla		X
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*The Board will return to open session and take appropriate action, if any, on items discussed in closed session. No Action will be taken in closed session. Further, Board Members are reminded that all items discussed in closed session must remain confidential so as to avoid liability to the district.*

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

**1. Discussion and possible action to approve the renewal of NovaNET Courseware Licenses utilized by our high school students.**

Mr. Nava called upon to present and answer questions related to this item.

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees moved to approve the renewal of NovaNET Courseware Licenses utilized by our high school students. 5/0 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata	X	
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	X	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla	Abstain	

**2. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of Developmental Reading Assessment Second Edition PLUS (DRA2+) reading inventory kits for K-8 teachers in the amount of \$75,418.88.**

Ms. DeLeon was called upon to present and answer questions related to this item.

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Mr. Longoria, the Board of Trustees moved to table the purchase of Developmental Reading Assessment Second Edition PLUS (DRA2+) reading inventory kits for K-8 teachers in the amount of \$75,418.88 till we go out for bids and look at other vendors. 4/0 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata	Abstain	
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	X	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla	Abstain	

**3. Discussion and possible action to approve the South San Antonio ISD Head Start**

**Grant for the 5 year cycle of 2013 - 2018.**

Ms. Hodge and Ms. Perez were called upon to present and answer questions related to this item.

Upon motion by Mr. Mata, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees moved to approve action item number 3 as presented by Ms. Hodge.

Upon substitute motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Prado, the Board of Trustees moved to approve the Head Start Grant for a 5 year cycle of 2013 – 2018 with the personnel in the same positions as written in the grant and notification of the award for the entirety of the cycle. 4/1 Motion carried.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Mr. Trinidad T. Mata	Abstain	
Ms. Connie Prado	X	
Ms. Julie Ponce	X	
Mr. JoeJo Savage	X	
Ms. Rose Marie Martinez	X	
Ms. Helen Madla		X

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the following contracts for Special Education:**

- A. Marcia Napier, to provide speech/language therapy services and evaluations which include ARD attendance for the 2013-2014 school year for RDSPD for children who are Deaf at \$65.00 per hour, not to exceed \$37,000.00.**
- B. Maria C. Lara, to provide speech/language therapy services and evaluations which include ARD attendance for the 2013-2014 school year to children enrolled in Special Education at \$50.00 per hour, not to exceed \$28,000.00.**
- C. Maurie Hazelwood, to provide speech/language therapy services and evaluations that include ARD attendance for the 2013-2014 school year to children enrolled in Special Education at \$65.00 per hour, not to exceed \$62,000.00.**
- D. Bilingual Therapies, for two speech/language pathologists to provide speech/language therapy and evaluation services for the 2013-2014 school year to children enrolled in Special Education at \$67.00 per hour, not to exceed \$200,000.00.**
- E. TX-STARR, to provide speech/language therapy services, and evaluations which include ARD attendance for the 2013-2014 school year to children enrolled in Special Education at \$75.00 per hour, not to exceed \$86,000.00.**

Ms. Urdiales was called upon to present and answer questions related to this item.

Upon motion by Ms. Prado, seconded by Ms. Madla, the Board of Trustees moved to



approve agenda item 4, A – E. 6/0 Motion carried.

**5. Discussion and possible action to approve minutes for Regular Called and Special Called Board Meetings:**

**A. May 15, 2013 Regular Called Board Meeting**

**B. May 28, 2013 Special Called Board Meeting**

**C. June 19, 2013 Regular Called Board Meeting**

**D. June 26, 2013, Special Called Board Meeting**

**E. July 10, 2013 Special Called Board Meeting**

Ms. Robinson was called upon to present and answer questions related to this item.

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Martinez, the Board of Trustees moved to table the June 19<sup>th</sup> meetings and approve agenda item 5, A, B, D and E. 6/0 Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Mr. Savage, seconded by Ms. Prado, the Board of Trustees unanimously moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 p.m.

**ATTEST**

  
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Rose Marie Martinez, President

  
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Joe Jo Savage, Secretary