



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

1450 Gillette Boulevard · San Antonio, Texas 78224 · (210) 977-7000 · Fax (210) 977-7017

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, April 19, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 1450 Gillette Blvd. San Antonio, Texas 78224.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Table with 4 columns: Trustee, Present, Absent, Late Arrival/Departed Early. Rows include Ernesto Arrellano Jr., Manuel Lopez, Shirley Ibarra, Stacey Alderete, Cynthia Ramirez, Homer Flores Jr., and Abel Martinez Jr.

Led by Michelle Martinez, Senior Executive Assistant

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
•TEXAS PLEDGE
•PRAYER

Led by Alexis Castillo, Director of Communications

Mr. Flores, Board President, read board meeting rules of decorum aloud.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Tom Cummins, AFT Representative, addressed the Board expressing AFTs gratitude for the transition efforts of the closing schools.

Gilbert Rodriguez, parent, addressed the Board regarding governance concerns and implored the Monitor to guide the Board on the corrective action plan.

Ernest Arrellano Jr., Trustee, addressed the Board regarding the Board President threatening to remove him and removing the District 1 Trustee from the last meeting and the Board Presidents attempt to ban Ms. Olvera, Community Member, by issuing a formal complaint which suspended her.

TEA MONITOR REMARKS/REPORT

Dr. Abe Saavedra, TEA Monitor: Thank you Mr. Flores. Good evening Board members and you know April the 5th was several people have said have stated already was deplorable and not very becoming of a Board. And on April the 5th, I saw a Board that was pretty strongly divided on a 4/3 on most major issues. And I realize Mrs. Alderete you have submitted your resignation at some point because of your health and it's good to see you and you look good. And once that resignation is accepted by the Board, the only thing I can tell you is that I am starting to see a 3/3 split at that point. And it's very difficult to conduct business with really any kind of split like that. Months back late Summer, early Fall, things started to look really good for this Board. You saw it in my reports. During that period of time I even identified a projected exit for the Monitor which I believe was August of this year which would have been right close to 2 years of being here. And even on the most recent reports submitted those dates are still there. But based on the behavior of April the 5th, how this meeting has already started, with division, I really think that that date needs to be amended. I don't know to what but things have got to get better before this Monitor or TEA exits completely from South San. I would encourage you that at whatever point that you accept the Trustees resignation that you move as quickly as possible replace that individual with whatever process the Board decides to follow that's entirely up to you. There's a lot of things that need to happen that have lingered for about a year and a half that were very clear from the very beginning as to what this Board needed to do, that TEA had requested. Everything from reviewing policies on how the Board and the Superintendent work together collaborate together, reviewing them, modifying as needed, the involvement of Board

training as a Board, and that's one of the reasons that replacing the Trustee quickly is important because all 7 of you need to participate in that Board training that's been on the books for a year and a half. From the very beginning and that hasn't been completed yet. The review of policies hasn't been completed yet, the list goes on but just about everything that TEA listed from the very beginning and from the appointment of this Monitor, very little of anything has been completed by the Board. And we continue to have the various discussions that we've had as a Board on issues that really don't pertain that much to kids. In some cases, they do but primarily they're adult issues. I would encourage the Board to collaborate with each other, work together, stop the split that is occurring, that has occurred now for a period of time because quite frankly its, the District is not moving forward until this Board can learn to work together.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board and audience regarding state testing started this week and continues through next week. He stated next Friday will be a district holiday. He stated that we are monitoring our campus participation rates, which are high so its promising that we will have a successful 2 weeks of testing. He informed that the TEA continues to conduct safety audits at our campuses and we have been successful with over 90% and we had one door infraction at Benavidez ES but all others have been positive reports. Mr. Yzaguirre thanked Mrs. Alderete her years of service to her community and for being an advocate of South San ISD.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)

None

PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. March 2023 Financials

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, and Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

2. Academic Health Report

Millicent Marcha, Chief Academic Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

3. Accountability Update

Joel Gaines, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction, and Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

4. School Safety Report

Eugene Tovar, SSAISD Chief of Police, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

CONSENT

Policy BE (Local) states that the consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board Member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.

1. Approve the Board Meeting Minutes

A. March 22, 2023 Regular Called

2. Approval of Head Start Cost of Living (COLA) and Quality Improvement Funding Application

3. TEKS Certification

Mrs. Alderete moved to approve the consent agenda items 1 – 3 as presented, Mrs. Ramirez. seconded and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. Discussion and possible action to purchase and approve the Texas Instruments TI-Nspire Calculators

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, and Joel Gaines, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Alderete moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

2. Discussion to approve the Budget Amendment

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Ramirez moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Alderete seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

3. Discussion and possible action to approve the iPad Initiative for grades Pre K – 5

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, Millicent Marcha, Chief Academic Officer, and Raymond Medina, Technology Director, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Alderete moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

4. Discussion and possible action to permanently close West Campus High School and authorize the Superintendent to, at his discretion, to reassign personnel and students to South San Antonio High School and other campuses.

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent withdrew his recommendation with reasons: it is very difficult for staff to consolidate 500+ kids on a master schedule to another campus this late in the year. Normally that practice happens in January, we are now in mid to late April. We will not have the ability to forecast staffing should we make a decision at this time to be able to fulfill the needs of our students. Aside from that, the undo stress to our students and our families this late to be able to move them around and situate them at another campus would be uncalled for or at least unfair for those families. He shared that we are in the middle of a consolidation of 3 other schools at this particular time, and adding one now, a month and a half behind, would put another undue stress. He added that however, removing this item today does not mean that we must put this aside forever. We all know that we have a deficit and this issue has to be brought up at some time for the following school year. He stated that this also comes with some sort of a shortfall for our students and our staff. He said please understand that the district will not be able to afford any major upgrades to facilities as we now are sitting in a deficit. He stated that students that wish to take a course or a class at South San High School whether it's for CTE or for another special program they will be scheduled to a half day at that campus. He stated that we would eliminate the hourly transporting kids back and forth all day and that they will be done in the morning, midday and at the end of the day to alleviate the headache of transportation and of course we will not deny any parent who wishes to have any interest of an intradistrict transfer just like we would for any other student in our district. He said that we need to be fair to our families, we need to be fair to our students, and we need to be transparent. He stated that the decision is difficult and that they understand the situation we are in but at the end of the day we are here for the students of this district and that moving them now would be a disservice but it doesn't mean that this is not something that we need to bring back for further discussion as we prepare for the following year. He stated, so at this time Mr. Board President, I would like to remove item#4 from the agenda.

Mrs. Alderete made a motion: I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Superintendents recommendation to remove this item, Mr. Lopez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		

Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 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. 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. Discussion concerning personnel matters pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.
2. Consultation with attorney regarding status of pending TEA investigations and matters related thereto.

Start time: 8:26 PM.
End time: 9:45 PM.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. Reconvene from Executive Session for action relative to items considered during Executive Session

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I move to approve the joint motion to dismiss with prejudice the case of South San ISD vs David Davis, Mrs. Alderete seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/1. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.		X	

2. Discussion and possible action to accept the written resignation of Stacey Alderete, District 7.

Mr. Yzaguirre’s stated: Mrs. Alderete last week sent us a letter of resignation resigning effective June 28th. As per policy we have to bring it to the Board for approval and the recommendation is to approve the recommendation of Mrs. Alderete’s resignation.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I move that we accept the motion as recommended by the Superintendent, Mr. Lopez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Alderete moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM.

ATTEST



Homer Flores Jr., Board President



Shirley Ibarra, Board Secretary

NOTICE: This meeting of the Board of Trustees is authorized in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.001 - 551.146. Verification of Notice of Meeting and Agenda are on file in the Office of the Superintendent. Closed meeting, if required and if authorized by the statute, will be conducted prior to the conclusion of the meeting for any item listed on this agenda.

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