



Public Notice of Meeting Agenda

The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD will be held August 27, 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 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. Public Budget Hearing for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

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 July 30, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.
10. *Action: Review and act on the August 7, 2024 Special Called Meeting minutes.
11. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee - David Briones and Rick Villarreal, DDS, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report on the 2024-2025 updated Virtual Academy Course Offerings.
 - B. Report on the 2023-2024 Preliminary A-F Accountability Ratings.
 - C. Report on the STISD Fine Arts Academy.
12. Buildings and Grounds Committee - David Torres and Ruth Villarreal, Co-Chairs
 - A. Report on the following projects:
 1. Health Professions Gymnasium project
 2. Health Professions Parking Lot project
 3. Roofing project
 - B. Action: Review and act on the facilities/capital improvement projects for the 2024-2025 school year, pending approval of budget.
 - C. Action: Review and act on hiring Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year projects or go out for Request for Qualifications (RFQs) for Architectural services.
 - D. Action: Review and act on approving the contract with Holchemont for the Athletic Fields Edinburg project, and authorizing the Board President to execute the contract.
 - E. Action: Review and act on approving the contract with Gerlach Builders for the Athletic Fields Mercedes project, and authorizing the Board President to execute the contract.
13. Finance & Operations Committee - Israel G. Quintanilla and Rudy Ramirez, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report on checks written since last report.
 - B. *Action: Review and act on removing assets from district inventory.
 - C. *Action: Review and act on approving a donation in the amount of \$200 from Chris Chapman of the National Center for Education Statistics to Preparatory Academy.
 - D. *Action: Review and act on Resolutions/Interlocal Agreements to participate in the following cooperatives:
 1. Harris County Department of Education Purchasing Co-op (Choice Partners}
 2. Houston-Galveston Area Council Buy Co-op (H-GAC)
 3. Purchasing Association of Cooperative Entities (PACE)
 4. Region 19 ESC Allied States Cooperative
 5. Region III ESC Purchasing Cooperative of America (PCA)

6. Region VIII ESC TIPS Purchasing Cooperative
 7. Texas Association of School Boards Purchasing Co-op (BUYBOARD)
 8. Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR)
 9. Texas SmartBuy Membership Program
 10. Sourcewell Cooperative
 11. 791 Purchasing Cooperative (Region 15)
 12. OMNIA Partners National IPA , US Communities Government Purchasing
 13. Alliance & Region 14 ESC National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA)
 14. Good Buy (Region 2)
 15. Equalis Group (Region 10)
 16. Region One ESC School System Cooperative, Finance and Purchasing Cooperative, ESC Library, PEIMS, Cafeteria & Food and Transportation Co-ops, South Texas Cooperative – Child Nutrition Program, Human Resources and Personnel Services Cooperative, Region One ESC Counselor Cooperative.
- E. *Action: Review and act approving the use of MacKenzie Scott donation funds for CTE equipment at Science Academy and Health Professions in the amount of \$291,000.
- F. Report on Health Insurance options for 2025-2026 school year.
- G. Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
1. General fund (final budget amendment)
 2. Child Nutrition
- H. Action: Review and act on the following Change Orders:
1. Change Order #1 to the contract in the credit amount of \$7,150 for the Health Professions Gymnasium project.
 2. Change Order #1 to the contract in the credit amount of \$15,000 for the Health Professions Parking Lot project.
- I. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
1. Payment application #3 to Gerlach Builders, LLC in the amount of \$299,699.52 for the New Health Professions Gymnasium project.
 2. Payment application #8 to The Warren Group in the amount of \$5,658.80 for the New Health Professions Gymnasium project.
 3. Payment application #3 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$3,881.76 for the Roofing project.
 4. Payment application #2 to TADCO in the amount of \$209,342 for the Roofing project.
 5. Payment application #7 to Noble Texas Builders in the amount of \$21,599.20 for the Health Professions Parking Lot project.
 6. Invoice #2384 to Tri County Communications for the ERRC DAS System and cell phone signal boost.
- J. Action: Review and act on approving the use of the General Fund budget to cover staff and student negative balances in the Child Nutrition Program, in the amount of \$75,673.14.
- K. Action: Review and act on extending the TASB Risk Management Unemployment Compensation program for the 2024-2025 school year.

- L. Action: Review and act on designating fund balance for future projects.
 - M. Action: Review and act on authorizing Administration to advertise Request for Qualifications for Real Estate Broker Services.
 - N. Action: Review and act on approving Administration to advertise for Request for Qualifications for an architect for the New Rising Scholars Academy.
 - O. Report on Financial Data Comparison.
 - P. Action: Review and act on Resolution adopting the tax rate for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
 - Q. Action: Review and act on Resolution adopting the General Fund, Child Nutrition and Debt Service Budgets for the 2024-2025 school year.
14. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee -Abiel J. Cantu and Robert J. Lerma, Co-Chairs
- A. Report on Policy FFAC (LEGAL) Wellness and Health Services: Medical Treatment.
 - B. Action: Review and act on changes to Policy DCE (LOCAL) Employment Practices: Other Types of Contracts.
15. Community & Governmental Relations Committee - Yolanda Kamel and Eduardo R. Rodriguez, Co-Chairs
- A. *Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
 - B. Action: Discussion and possible action to consider and approve the Superintendent's recommendation regarding designation of remaining nonbusiness Public Information Act days for Public Information Act requests during calendar year 2024.
16. 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. Human Resources Report
 - B. *Report on professional vacancies.
 - C. *Action: Review and act on the following out-of-district staff/student travel:
 - 1. 2024 Annual PLC+ Conference, September 22-24, 2024 in Las Vegas, NV.
 - 2. HOSA Leadership Academy, September 27-30, 2024 in Washington, D.C.
 - 3. AASA National Conference on Education, March 6-8, 2025 in New Orleans, LA.
 - 4. NSBA 2025 Annual Conference, April 4-6, 2025 in Atlanta, GA.
 - D. *Action: Review and act on the following out-of-district Board travel:
 - 1. TASB Texas Federal Advocacy Conference, January 27-28, 2025 in Washington, D.C.

2. NSBA 2025 Annual Conference, April 4-6, 2025 in Atlanta, GA.
 3. NALEO 42nd Annual Conference, July 22-24, 2025 in Atlanta, GA.
 - E. *Action: Review and act on the Highland Hustlers 4-H Club request for the extended use of Rising Scholars Academy facilities.
 - F. Report on progress toward Superintendent's Goals.
 - 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 Vacancy for the following:
 1. Technology Applications/STEM teacher (1) – Rising Scholars Academy
 2. Classroom Aide (1) – Health Professions
 3. Classroom Aide/SPED (1) – Health Professions
 4. Executive Director Special Programs Secretary (1) – Special Programs
 5. Custodians (6)
 6. Child Nutrition Worker (1)
 - H. Action: Review and accept the Certification (Election Code 2.052) of Unopposed Candidates for Election to the office of South Texas ISD School Board of Directors:
 1. Sylvia S. Lopez, Cameron County Precinct 2
 2. David Briones, Cameron County Precinct 4
 3. Zachary I. Zamora, Hidalgo County Precinct 3
 4. Andrea E. Loya, Willacy County Precinct 3
 - I. Action: Review and act on a Resolution declaring each unopposed candidate, as per certification, elected to the office of School Board of Directors, ordering the cancelation of election, and authorize an issuance of election to each candidate (Election Code 2.053).
17. **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 2024-2025 school year.
 - a. Occupational Therapist Co-Op
 - b. Special Education Counselor Lead
 - c. School Nurse
 - d. Teacher(s)
 - B. 551.071 Consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation regarding Cause No. 2023-CV-0282-A: Closed Meeting.
18. 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 2024-2025 school year.
 - a. Occupational Therapist Co-Op

- b. Special Education Counselor Lead
- c. School Nurse
- d. Teacher(s)

19. 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 July 25, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Crystal D. Solis,

For the Board of Directors