

**Donna Independent School District**  
**Regular Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 19, 2024 - Immediately following Public Hearing**

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**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*Board President Fernando Castillo called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:55 pm.*

*The following Board Members were in attendance:*

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

*The following Board Member was absent:*

- *Eloy Avila, Trustee*

*The following Administrators/Individuals were also in attendance:*

- *Dr. Angela Dominguez, 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 Evaluation and Performance Outcomes*
- *Tony Torres, School Attorney*
- *Dr. Diana Barrera-Ugarte, LSG Coach*

**II. OPEN FORUM**

*No one signed up to speak during the Open Forum*

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. District Highlights**

*Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent presented on the following:*

- *First College, Career, Military Ready (CCMR) Fair – hosted in early March*
  - *Every single 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade student had an opportunity to speak with Colleges, four year universities, two year technical and various career pathways as well as the CTE pathways.*
  - *82 vendors that came out to participate in the CCMR Fair*

- *Donna North Powerlifting Team going to State*
- *STAAR review in full swing*
- *Visit from Edcouch-Elsa came to visit Rivas Primary Discovery Academy*
  - *Wanted to learn more about what was happening at the school*
  - *Gave district/campus good feedback to prepare for HEB visit*
- *First State Award winners*
  - *June Acevedo – Donna HS – 1<sup>st</sup> place at state in the 97 lb division for powerlifting*
  - *Yaritza Gonzalez – Donna North HS – 1<sup>st</sup> place at state in Business Professionals of America in Fundamentals of Web Design*
- *The Transportation Department hosted the Annual Bus Road-e-o*
  - *Donna ISD won across almost every category*
- *Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA)*
  - *TIA was established with the goal of providing outstanding teachers an accessible pathway to a six-figure salary*
  - *Through **approved** local designation systems, districts can identify and designate outstanding teachers based on student growth and classroom observation.*
  - *Employing designated teachers generates extra funding for districts to reward top performers.*
  - *Purpose of TIA: Recruit, Retain, Reward, and look at excellent teaching in the classroom, student growth, and a locally developed designation system*
  - *The goal of TIA is to support districts in building, expanding, and sustaining strategic compensation systems that are able to differentiate teacher effectiveness in all content and grade areas.*
  - *Once they receive this designation it stays on their Texas Teacher Certificate for 5 years. The designation follows the teacher wherever they go. This will help recruit teachers from other districts. The amount will remain with them for up to five years. Teachers can move up annually and their five-year cycle will start over with the new designation.*
  - *9% of teachers in Donna ISD that received a designation – 3 teachers at the highest level of Master’s designation*

**B. LSG Progress and Accountability Goal 1: Math GPMs 1.1,1.2,1.3**

- *Mr. Javier Villanueva, Executive Director of Data Evaluation and Performance Outcomes presented on the following:*
  - *LSG Board Goal 1 Data for Math at MOY*
  - *LSG Goal 1 GPM Data for Math at BOY (updated) and MOY*
- *Mrs. Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction presented on the following:*
  - *Reinforcements and refinements including year-to-date progress of Goal 1*
  - *Superintendent’s Evaluation*

*The motion to accept LSG Goal 1: Math GPMS’s 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 at the Monitor level was made by Dr. Maricela Valdez, and seconded by Jose R. Reyna. Ida M. Garcia, Jose L. Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

C. Discussion and Possible Action on Ballot selection of Board of Directors of Regional Education Service Centers.

*Region One Education Service Center – Board of Directors – Ballot*

*Each trustee received a ballot to cast their votes. Dr. Dominguez collected and will send back to the Regional Service Center.*

*Nominees:*

*Place 4: Hidalgo County*

*Sonia A. Falcon and Homero Garcia*

*Place 7: Brooks County and Willacy County*

*Raul R. Chapa and Nora De la Paz-Ruiz*

*The motion to move forward with the ballots that each board members submitted was made by Ida M. Garcia, and seconded by Dr. Maricela Valdez. Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

D. Discussion and Possible Action on Ballot/Proxy to Elect Three (3) Director Positions for the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation.

*The motion to nominate Thomas Jendrusch to the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation District #1 was made by Ida M. Garcia, and seconded by Dr. Maricela Valdez. Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

*The motion to nominate Samuel Ruiz to the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation District #2 was made by Ida M. Garcia, and seconded by Eva Castillo Watts. Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

*The motion to nominate Derrick Swanber to the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation District #3 was made by Ida M. Garcia, and seconded by Jose L. Valdez. Dr. Maricela Valdez, Jose R. Reyna, Eva Castillo Watts and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

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

*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 month of March school visits on safety and security.*

F. Acknowledgment by the Board of Trustees of receipt of a statement submitting an expansion amendment request from George Gervin Academy to the commissioner of education to add more sites.

*Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent announced the the Geroge Gervin Academy will be opening a new school site in San Antonio, TX.*

#### IV. **PRESENTATIONS**

##### A. Update on Self-Funded Insurance Plan.

*Mr. David Mosqueda, Director of Benefits and Risk Management explained where we are with our self-funded insurance plan. He also stated that we are currently out for RFP on Medical, ASO, PBM and stop loss. Bids are due by March 27<sup>th</sup> and will reconvene with the Insurance Committee to share the results and see which company we will decide to go with. Conducted a district-wide survey and are looking to see what employees want to see with their insurance, i.e., lower deductibles, lower co-pays, lower premiums, etc.*

#### V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

##### A. **BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- a. Approve Accounts Payable.
- b. Approve Financial Statements for January 2024.
- c. Approve Budget Amendments.
- d. Approve Report of Monthly Tax Collections for January 2024.
- e. Approval to Declare DISD Child Nutrition Program Surplus to be taken to auction.
- f. Approval to dispose of surplus items.
- g. Approval to award vendor, as recommended by Administration, for RFP 021624-789 Five (5) New Ford Explorers or Equal for Donna ISD Police Dept. for school year 2023-2024.
- h. Approval to award vendor, as recommended by Administration, for RFP 021624-790 Four (4) New F-150 Pickup Trucks or Equal to Donna ISD Police Dept. for the school year 2023-2024.
- i. Approval to award vendor, as recommended by Administration, for RFP 021624-791 Two (2) to Four (4) New F-150 or F-250 Pickup Trucks or Equal for Maintenance Dept. for the school year 2023-2024.
- j. Approval to award vendor, as recommended by Administration, for RFP 021624-792 Two (2) Dry Box Trucks w/Tuck under back lift for Donna ISD Warehouse for the school year 2023-2024.
- k. Request for Approval to go over \$50,000.00 but not to exceed \$70,000.00, via a board approved cooperative, for the Floor Epoxy on the exterior sidewalks for Administration Buildings.

##### B. **ACADEMIC SERVICES**

- a. Approval to Renew TEAMS Support Maintenance Cloud Hosting and Backup Agreement for 2024-2025.
- b. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The County of Hidalgo, Texas by and through its Hidalgo County Juvenile Board and Donna Independent School District for the 2024-2025 school year for a fee outlined in the MOU for the use of the Juvenile Justice Alternative Program.

### C. SUPPORT SERVICES

- a. Approve minutes for Board Workshop Meeting, February 13, 2024.
- b. Approve minutes for Regular Board Meeting, February 13, 2024.
- c. Approve minutes for Special Board Meeting, March 1, 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 6:57 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
- C. Discussion and consideration of C-4214-21-I; DISD v. ERO International, LLP, et al
- D. 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.

*Trustees Dr. Maricela Valdez and Eva Castillo Watts left the meeting at 8:43 pm due to illness.*

### VII. OPEN SESSION - Take possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session.

*The Board of Trustees reconvened from Executive Session at 8:43 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 recommendation for Professionals to Include Contract Renewal, Hiring, Adjustments, Termination, and Rescission Recommendations as discussed in Executive Session was made by Jose L. Valdez, seconded by Jose R. Reyna. Ida M. Garcia, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

- B. Discussion and possible action on C-4214-21-I; DISD v. ERO International, L.L.P., et al

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

VIII. **ADJOURN**

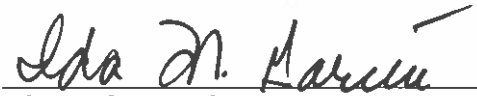
*The motion to adjourn the Regular Board meeting was made by Ida M. Garcia, and seconded by Jose R. Reyna. Jose L. Valdez and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.*

*The Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm*



*Fernando Castillo, President  
Board of Trustees  
Donna ISD*

and



*Ida M. Garcia, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
Donna ISD*

Board approved: April 09, 2024