

Donna Independent School District
Regular Board Meeting - Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2024 - Immediately following Public Hearing

The Board of Trustees met 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

Board President Fernando Castillo called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

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

The following Administrators/Individuals were also in attendance:

- *Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent*
- *Alfonso Perez, Jr., Chief Financial Officer*
- *Rebecca Castañeda, Deputy Superintendent*
- *Stephanie Powelson-Garza, Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction*
- *Javier Villanueva, Executive Director for Leadership & CCMR*
- *Javier Garza, Chief Operations Officer*
- *Domingo Aguirre, Jr., Police Chief*
- *Sandra Quintanilla, Public Relations Officer*
- *Tony Torres, School Attorney*

II. OPEN FORUM

No one signed up to speak during Open Forum.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. District Highlights

Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent shared a special update/video with our community. TASA Committee of Superintendents presented Donna ISD as the 2024 Texas Outstanding School Board.

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

Dr. Angela Dominguez, Superintendent informed the Board and Community that we consistently have Intruder Detection Audits. Region Service Center sends someone out to ensure that our buildings are secure and that we are actively monitoring our doors and have safety protocols in place.

During Executive Session, she will discuss the findings from the most recent visits and how we have been fairly on those visits. Due to the confidential nature of safety, we don't announce the information publicly. Dr. Dominguez stated that she wants the community to know that safety is a priority in our District and that we are monitored by the state in these particular areas.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. LSG Progress and Accountability Goal 1: GPMs 1.1,1.2,1.3
Lone Star Governance

Mrs. Stephanie Powelson-Garza presented on GPMs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3.

- *Presented on the following:*
 - *Data celebrations pertaining to the 1st Six Weeks*
 - *Relevant data pertaining to Goal 1 at BOY, focusing on GPMs metrics 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3*

In the absence of Griselda Alvarez, Executive Director for Leadership and Federal Programs, Dr. Dominguez presented the following:

- *Areas of Reinforcement and Refinement in teaching and learning, as well as leadership practices*
- *Relevant data pertaining to Board Self-Constraint 2*
- *Superintendent's Evaluation*

B. Report of Donna Independent School District Board of Trustees Required Training as per Texas Education Code, Sec. 11,159(b) (Board Self Constraint 2)

Dr. Dominguez announced that it is a requirement that the Board of Trustees report their training to the public. The Board is required to receive training on the following: Open Meetings Act & Public Information Act; Local District Orientation; Orientation to Texas Education Code; Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes; Sexual Abuse, Human Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children; Child Abuse Prevention; School Safety; Cybersecurity; Team Building; and additional training hours. Dr. Dominugez reported that all of our Trustees have met their minimum continuing education requirments and then some. Our collective team of 8 has 206 additional training hours as a Team!

Additional hours of training above the minimum required:

- *Fernando Castillo, President: 67 hours*
- *Jose R. Reyna, Vice President: 39 hours*
- *Ida M. Garcia, Secretary: 23.75 hours*
- *Eloy Avila, Member: 28 hours*
- *Eva Castillo Watts, Member: 9.5 hours*
- *Jose L. Valdez, Member: 34.25 hours*
- *Dr. Maricela Valdez, Member: 4.5 hours*

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

C. Lone Star Governance Board Self-Evaluation

Dr. Diana Barrera-Ugarte, LSG Coach guide the Board through the Lone Star Governance Self-Evaluation

- *Vision and Goals 1: 15*
- *Vision and Goals 2: 15*
- *Vision and Goals 3: 10*
- *Vision and Goals 4: 5*
- *Progress and Accountability 1: 15*
- *Progress and Accountability 2: 4*
- *Systems and Processes: 15*
- *Advocacy and Engagement: 10*
- *Synergy and Teamwork: 10*
- **TOTAL: 99**

Eloy Avila made a motion to accept the LSG Board Self-Evaluation, which was seconded by Eva Castillo Watts. Ida M. Garcia, Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- a. Approve Accounts Payable.
- b. Approve Financial Statements for August 2024.
- c. Approve Report of Monthly Tax Collections for July 2024. (Amended)
- d. Approve Report of Monthly Tax Collections for August 2024. (Amended)

- e. Approval of the Annual Tax Collection Report from Pablo "Paul" Villarreal, Jr. Tax Assessor-Collector for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
- f. Approve Investment Report 4th Quarter (June, July and August 2024).
- g. Approve Resolution of Annual Review of Donna ISD Investment Policy and Strategies.
- h. Approve Investment Report for Fiscal Year ending August 2024.
- i. Approve to declare Donna ISD surplus to be taken to an auction/scrap recycling center.
- j. Approval to Declare DISD Child Nutrition Program Surplus to be taken to auction.
- k. Request permission to purchase three (3) special needs buses for the Transportation Department from Longhorn Bus Sales, LLC for the amount of \$439,290.00.

B. ACADEMIC SERVICES

- a. Approval of the purchase for the printing of student and teacher blackline masters for the 3rd through 6th Six Weeks in English and Spanish from Sharon Wells in the amount of \$226,110.93.
- b. Approval of the 2024-2025 District Improvement Plan and all Campus Improvement Plans.
- c. Approval of Out-of-State travel for the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) annual convention in Seattle, Washington on February 17-21, 2025.
- d. Seeking Approval for Edgenity (Imagine Learning) Credit Recovery Renewal for Donna High School and Donna North High School.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

- a. Discussion and Possible action to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Donna ISD and The University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, College of Education and P-16 Integration.
- b. Approval of revisions to Policy DEC (LOCAL).
- c. Approval of 2024-2025 Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Appraiser for Ms. Melissa Alejandro.

D. SUPPORT SERVICES

- a. Approve minutes for Regular Board Meeting September 10, 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 6:55 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 Superintendent's Employment Agreement/Contract
- 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.

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

The Board of Trustees reconvened from Executive Session at 8:28 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

Ida M. Garcia made a motion to approve the recommendation of personnel as discussed in Executive Session, which was seconded by Jose R. Reyna. Eloy Avila, Jose L. Valdez, Dr. Maricela Valdez, Eva Castillo Watts, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

- B. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent's Employment Agreement/Contract

Eva Castillo Watts made a motion to approve the Superintendent's Employment Agreement/Contract as discussed in Executive Session, which was seconded by Dr. Maricela Valdez. Eloy Avila, Ida M. Garcia, Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURN

Eva Castillo Watts made a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting, which was seconded by Dr. Maricela Valdez. Eloy Avila, Ida M. Garcia Jose R. Reyna, Jose L. Valdez, and Fernando Castillo voted in favor. Motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



*Fernando Castillo, President
Board of Trustees
Donna ISD*



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

Board Approved: November 12, 2024