



## Public Notice of Regular Meeting

### The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD will be held April 22, 2025, 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](mailto: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. Awards & Recognitions.

- A. Recognition of STISD students for excellence in academic, athletic and/or extracurricular endeavors.
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 March 25, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.
10. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee - David Briones and Sue Ann Villarreal, Co-Chairs
- A. \*Action: Review and act on the 2025-2026 District and Campus Improvement Plans.
  - B. Action: Review and act on the annual Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials for the 2025-2026 school year.
11. Buildings and Grounds Committee - E. Larry Cantu and Jaime Solis, Co-Chairs
- A. Report on the following projects:
    - 1. Health Professions Gymnasium
    - 2. Athletic Fields
    - 3. Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom System
    - 4. CTE Automotive Expansion
  - B. Action: Review and act on job order contracting for the CTE Automotive Expansion project, approving the contract, allowing the Board President to enter into the contract, and authorizing Administration to process the requisition for the selected contractor.
12. Finance & Operations Committee - Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D. and Noel Garza, D.D.S., Co-Chairs
- A. \*Report on District Comparison of Revenues/Expenditures.
  - B. \*Report on checks written since last report.
  - C. \*Report on school district investments:
    - 1. Investments owned by the district.
    - 2. Investments held by Wilmington Trust for the South Texas ISD Public Facilities Corporation.
  - D. \*Action: Review and act on removing assets from district inventory.
  - E. \*Action: Review and act on Wage Payments to District Employees Due to Weather-Related Closure.
  - F. Action: Review and act on the following change orders:
    - 1. Change order #1 to the betterment fund in the amount of \$65,772.30 for the Edinburg Athletic Fields project.
    - 2. Change order #2 to the betterment fund in the amount of \$32,964 for the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.

- G. Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
  - 1. Payment application #11 to Gerlach Builders, LLC in the amount of \$362,621.78 for the New Health Professions Gymnasium project.
  - 2. Payment application #7 to Gerlach Builders, LLC in the amount of \$205,059.72 for the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.
  - 3. Payment application #8 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$22,651.98 for the Athletic Fields project.
  - 4. Payment application #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc in the amount of \$105,000 for the CTE Automotive Expansion project.
  - 5. Payment application #2 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc in the amount of \$2,161.22 for Mercedes Restrooms project.
  - 6. Payment application #4 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$1,700.97 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom project.
  - 7. Payment application #5 to Holchemont, LTD in the amount of \$528,000.50 for the Edinburg Athletic Fields project.
  - 8. Payment application #4 to TelePro Communications in the amount of \$116,752.72 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom project.
- H. Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
  - 1. Budget amendment #5 General Fund (199)
  - 2. Budget amendment #1 Child Nutrition (101)
  - 3. Budget amendment #3 IDEA B (313)
- I. Action: Review and act on the following requisition(s):
  - 1. Requisition #131594 to Aries Building Systems in the amount of \$140,459 for the purchase of one portable for Special Programs.
- 13. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee - Abiel J. Cantú and Robert J. Lerma, Co-Chairs
  - A. Report on proposed revisions to Policy resulting from the TASB Policy Audit (First Reading).
- 14. Community & Governmental Relations Committee - Sasha Crane and Zach I. Zamora, Co-Chairs
  - A. \*Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
- 15. Superintendent's Report - Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.
  - A. \*Campus 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
  - B. \*Action: Review and act on the following out of district student/staff travel:
    - 1. National Education Leadership Awards, April 9-12, 2025 in Washington, DC.

2. Association of Title IX Administrators (ATIXA) 2025 Summer Symposium, June 9-14, 2025, in Portland, OR.
  3. Innovative Schools Summit, July 7-11, 2025, in Las Vegas, NV.
  4. 2025 National Conservation Foundation Envirothon, July 20-26, 2025, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
  5. The AI Conference, September 17-18, 2025, San Francisco, CA.
- C. \*Action: Review and act on the following Board travel:
1. TASB Summer Leadership Institute, June 11-14, 2025, in San Antonio, TX or June 18-21, 2025 in Fort Worth, TX.
  2. NALEO Annual Conference, July 22-24, 2025, in Atlanta, GA.
  3. TASA|TASB txEdCON25 Annual Convention, September 11-14, 2025, in Houston, TX.
- D. \*Action: Review and act on amending summer 2025 office hours.
- E. District Reports
1. Report: Celebrating Six Years of Service, as requested by Board Member, Dr. Sandra Garza Ochoa.
  2. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
    - a. \*Report on resignations and retirements of professional staff.
    - b. \*Report on professional vacancies.
    - c. \*Report on local certification through the District of Innovation Plan.
    - d. Action: Review and act on the program change within the Curriculum and Instruction Department and acknowledge that the program change requires a reduction in force of personnel.
    - e. Action: Review and Act on approving the request for New Professional Position(s) for the 2025-2026 school year and the Announcement of Vacancy for the following:
      1. Dean of Instruction (2)
      2. Coordinator for Instructional Services (1)
      3. Educational Diagnostician - Co-Op (1)
      4. Speech Language Pathologist - Co-Op (1)
      5. Special Education Instructional Specialist - Co-Op (1)
      6. Teacher (1)
  3. Executive Director for Student Support
    - a. \*Enrollment and Attendance Report.
    - b. Report on Student Support Services.
  4. Executive Director for Special Programs
    - a. Report on Special Programs.
    - b. Report on the South Texas Tri-County Special Education Co- Op.
  5. Chief of Police
    - a. Report on Safety and Security.
    - b. Report on the District Vulnerability Assessment conducted by TEA.

- c. Action: Review and act on an agreement with Rio Grande Valley Communications Group for Radio Services for the STISD Police Department.
  - F. Action: Name delegate and alternate for the TASA/TASB txEdCON25 Annual Convention, September 11-14, 2025, in Houston, TX.
- 16. **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. Section 551.074, Personnel Matters
    - 1. Recommendation of professional staff for the 2025-2026 school year.
      - a. Teacher(s)
    - 2. Review recommendations for renewal/extension/non-renewal/termination of employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff.
      - a. Renewal of Chapter 21 and Non-Chapter 21 term and probationary employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff for the 2025-2026 school year.
      - b. Discussion and consideration regarding the non-renewal of Chapter 21 term contract(s) due to a program change within the Curriculum and Instruction Department, subject to approval of program change. (G.L. and A.A.)
  - B. Sections 551.071, 551.074 and 551.0821, Consultation with attorney
    - 1. Consultation with legal counsel regarding Cause No. C-2608-23-E; Laura Noriega v. South Texas ISD; In the 275th Judicial District Court of Hidalgo County, Texas.
    - 2. Consultation with legal counsel regarding Marcolfa M. v. South Texas ISD.
    - 3. Consultation with legal counsel regarding pending or threatened litigation.
  - C. 551.072 Real Property
    - 1. Deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property.
- 17. 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 2025-2026 school year.
      - a. Teacher(s)
    - 2. Action: Review and act on renewal/extension/non-renewal/termination of employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff.
      - a. Action: Review and act on renewal of Chapter 21 and Non-Chapter 21 term and probationary employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff for the 2025-2026 school year.
      - b. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding the non-renewal of Chapter 21 term contract(s) due to a program change within the Curriculum and Instruction Department. (G.L. and A.A.)

- c. Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding Cause No. C-2608-23-E; Laura Noriega v. South Texas ISD; In the 275th Judicial District Court of Hidalgo County, Texas

18. 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

**April 18, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Crystal Solís*

For the Board of Directors