



Public Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD will be held August 26, 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 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.
 - A. Remembering late Board Member, Sylvia S. Lopez and keeping the Lopez Family in our thoughts and prayers.
5. Public Budget Hearing for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

6. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.
7. Public Audience for Non-Agenda Topics.
8. Awards & Recognitions.
 - A. Recognition of U.S. News & World Report's Best High School rankings.
 - B. Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Check Award
9. 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.
10. *Action: Review and act on the August 5, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes.
11. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee - Sandra Garza Ochoa, Ph.D. and Andrea E. Gonzales Loya, Co-Chairs
 - A. Report on STISD Curriculum Design & Enhancement.
12. Buildings and Grounds Committee - Rick Villarreal, D.D.S. and David Suarez, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report on the following projects:
 1. Athletic Fields
 2. Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom System
 3. CTE Automotive Expansion
 - B. Action: Review and act on the facilities/capital improvement projects for the 2025-2026 school year, pending approval of budget.
 - C. Action: Review and act on hiring Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year projects or go out for Request for Qualifications (RFQs) for Architectural services.
 - D. Action: Review and act on accepting the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom System as substantially complete.
13. Finance & Operations Committee - Adrian Garcia and Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D., Co-Chairs 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 of a microwave valued at \$150 to Rising Scholars Academy from Ana Cristina Leandro.
 - 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 Alliance, & Region 14 ESC National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA)
 13. Good Buy (Region 2)
 14. Equalis Group (Region 10)
 15. 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
- E. *Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
1. Payment application #6 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc., in the amount of \$2,161.23 for the Restrooms/Concessions at the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.
 2. Payment application #15 to Gerlach Builders, LLC, in the amount of \$14,724.96 for the New Health Professions Gymnasium Project.
 3. Payment application #12 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc., in the amount of \$9,892.35 for the Athletic Fields project.
 4. Payment application #11 to Gerlach Builders, LLC in the amount of \$354,521.25 for the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.
 5. Payment application # 9 to Holchemont, LTD in the amount of \$400,031.98 for the Edinburg Athletic Fields project.
 6. Payment application #8 to TelePro Communications in the amount of \$7,233.19 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom project.
 7. Payment application #8 to Gomez Mendez Saenz in the amount of \$425.24 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom project.
 8. Payment application #2 to Herrcon LLC in the amount of \$28,634.91 for the CTE Automotive Expansion project.
- F. *Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
1. Mental Health Grant (289) #1
 2. SSA Special Education Coop (437) #1
 3. General Fund (199) #8
 4. MacKenzie Scott (485) #2
 5. TPS Safe Grant (486) #1
 6. IDEA B (313) #1
- G. Action: Review and act on allotting COVID leave for employees.
- H. Action: Review and act on request for use of funds from MacKenzie Scott donation for CTE Program.
- I. Action: Review and act on extending the TASB Risk Management Unemployment Compensation program for the 2025-2026 school year.

- J. Action: Review and act on Resolution adopting the General Fund, Child Nutrition and Health Insurance Budgets for the 2025-2026 school year.
- K. Action: Review and act on approving a revision for the Administrative Professionals 2025-2026 Compensation Plan.
- L. Action: Review and act on Resolution adopting the tax rate for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- M. Action: Review and act on the contract for legal services with O'Hanlon, Demerath, & Castillo as General Counsel.
- N. Action: Review and act on the contract for legal services with The Law Office of Javier Villalobos, P.C. as General Counsel (RFQ 24-012).
- 14. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee - Eduardo Rodriguez and Oscar Salinas, Co-Chairs
- 15. Community & Governmental Relations Committee - Yolanda Kamel and Ruth Villarreal, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
- 16. 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 - E. Gutierrez
 - B. *Action: Review and act on the following out of district student/staff travel:
 - 1. Teaching Learning Conference 2025, October 5-7, 2025, in Phoenix, Arizona.
 - 2. ATIXA's 2025 Annual Conference, October 13-18, 2025, in Baltimore, Maryland.
 - C. Report on the 2025 A-F Accountability Ratings.
 - D. Report on Superintendent's Evaluation Process.
 - E. District Reports
 - 1. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 - a. *Report on resignations and retirements of professional staff.
 - b. *Report on professional vacancies.
 - c. 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. Marketing Specialist (1)
 - 2. Executive Director for Student Support
 - a. Report on Student Support Services.
 - 3. Executive Director for Special Programs
 - a. Report on Special Programs.

- b. Report on the South Texas Tri-County Special Education Co- Op.
 - c. *Action: Review and act on the appointment of Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) Members for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - d. *Action: Review and act on the administrators to hold ARDs for the 2025-2026 school year.
4. Chief of Police
- a. Report on Safety and Security.
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 2025-2026 school year.
 - a. Social Worker
 - b. Virtual Instructional Specialist
 - c. Teacher(s)
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 2025-2026 school year.
 - a. Social Worker
 - b. Virtual Instructional Specialist
 - c. 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 **August 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

Crystal Solis,

For the Board of Directors