



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 October 28, 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
4. District Call to Action
5. Moment of Silence.
6. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.
7. Public Audience for Non-Agenda Topics.

8. Awards & Recognitions.
 - A. Recognition of STISD students for excellence in academic, athletic and/or extracurricular endeavors.
 - B. Recognition of the district and campuses for ranking among the best in the state and nation in the Niche Best Schools Rankings for the twelfth year in a row.
 - C. Recognition of principals in honor of Principals' Month.
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 September 23, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.
11. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee — David Briones and Sandra Garza Ochoa, Ph.D., Co-Chairs
 - A. Report on the Bilingual ESL Program Evaluation for 2024-2025.
12. Buildings and Grounds Committee — Jaime Solis and Margarita Garcia, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report on the following projects:
 1. Athletic Fields project
 2. Science Academy CTE Expansion project
 - B. *Action: Review and act on the substantial completion of the the Edinburg Athletic Fields project.
 - C. Action: Review and act on the contract with Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. for the 2025-2026 Capital Projects.
13. Finance & Operations Committee — Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D. and Rudy Ramirez, 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 approving changes to the bank signers for World Scholars and Medical Professions.
 - F. *Action: Review and act on approving the following donations:
 1. Donation from Global Viewer Enterprise (GVE) of a monitor for the AV Network valued in the amount of \$7,775.
 - G. *Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
 1. Payment application #14 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$28,882.27 for the Athletic Fields project.

2. Payment application #13 to Gerlach Builders, LLC. in the amount of \$324,790.95 for the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.
 3. Payment application #11 to Holchemont, LTD. in the amount of \$150,861.90 for the Edinburg Athletic Fields project.
 4. Payment application #8 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$1,080.62 for the Restrooms/Concessions at the Mercedes Athletic Fields project.
 5. Payment application #4 to Herrcon in the amount of \$113,145.00 for the Science Academy CTE Expansion project.
- H. *Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
1. General Fund (199) #1
 2. ESSA Title I Part A (211)
 3. Title I Part C Migrant (212)
 4. Title II Part A (255)
 5. Title III Part A (263)
 6. Title IV Part A (289)
 7. Jet Grant (429)
- I. *Action: Review and act on the following requisition(s):
1. Requisition #136194 to Doggett Heavy Machinery in the amount of \$62,500.00 for the purchase of a John Deere 325G tractor for the district.
 2. Requisition #136284 to Sames Bastrop in the amount of \$125,728.00 for the purchase of two Chevrolet 25004WD Crew Cab Trucks.
 3. Requisition #136489 to Barnes and Noble Booksellers in the amount of \$7,134.82 for the purchase of books for the library.
 4. Requisition #136494 to Follett Content Solutions in the amount of \$1,507.07 for the purchase of books for the library.
 5. Requisition #136515 to Follett Content Solutions in the amount of \$1,125.26 for the purchase of books for the library.
- J. *Action: Review and act on approving a salary adjustment for the Virtual Academy Acting Principal.
- K. Action: Review and act on change order #1 to the contract with Telepro Communications in the amount of \$100,000 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom System project.
14. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee — Eduardo R. Rodriguez and Robert J. Lerma, Co-Chairs
- A. *Report on the status of TASB Policy Update.
 - B. *Action: Review and act on EIC Members for the 2025-2026 school year.
15. Community & Governmental Relations Committee — Sasha Crane and Yolanda Kamel, Co-Chairs
- A. *Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
 - B. Report: Update regarding STISD's Winter Fine Arts Academy Production of "The Trial of Santa"
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. Apple Headquarters Visit, November 11, 2025, in Cupertino, CA.
 - 2. American GeoPhysical Union 2025 Conference, December 15-19, 2025, New Orleans, LA.
 - 3. National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, February 24-27, 2026 in Chicago, IL.
 - 4. National Art Education Association Conference, March 5-7, 2026, Chicago, IL.
 - 5. 2026 CEC Convention & Expo, March 11-14, 2026 in Salt Lake City, UT.
 - C. 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 employee for third party employment.
 - d. Action: Review and Act on approving the request for New Professional and Non-Professional Position(s) for the 2025-2026 school year and the Announcement of Vacancy for the following:
 - 1. Professional:
 - 1. Director of Payroll and Employee Benefits
 - 2. Non-Professional:
 - 1. Employee Benefits Specialist
 - 2. Executive Director for Student Support
 - a. *Enrollment and Attendance Report.
 - b. 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.
 - 4. Chief of Police
 - a. Action: Review and act on South Texas ISD's 2025-2026 Emergency Operations Plan.
 - D. Report on status of Continuing Education of Board Members.
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. Teacher(s)
 - 2. Discussion with legal counsel on matters related to the proposed mid-year termination of the Chapter 21 term contract of employee Roel Flores, Jr. (TGC Code § 551.074 & 551.071)
 - 3. Discussion on retirement of Superintendent of Schools.
 - 4. Discussion on related matters regarding the transition related to the Superintendent retirement.
- 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. Teacher(s)
 - 2. Discussion and possible action to propose the mid-year termination of the Chapter 21 term contract of employee Roel Flores, Jr.
 - 3. Discussion and action on the proposed retirement of the Superintendent of Schools.
 - 4. Discussion and action on related matters regarding transition related to Superintendent retirement.
- 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

October 22, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Crystal Solis,

For the Board of Directors