



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 April 29, 2026, 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. Swearing in of the STISD Police Department's first K9.
 - B. Recognition of Health Professions, Medical Professions, Rising Scholars Academy, Science Academy and World Scholars for being designated Apple Distinguished Schools for the 2026-2029 program term.
 - C. Recognition of World Scholars student for being selected as one of only 350 winners globally in Apple's 2026 Swift Student Challenge.
 - D. Recognition of STISD for receiving a \$304,864 Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant for the Science Academy Automotive program.
 - E. Recognition of Athletic State Champions for the 2025-2026 Season.
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 March 31, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting Minutes.
11. *Action: Review and act on the April 1, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting Minutes.
12. *Action: Review and act on the April 7, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting Minutes.
13. *Action: Review and act on the April 21, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting Minutes.
14. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Committee — David Briones and Sue Ann Villarreal, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Action: Review and act on the 2026-2027 District and Campus Improvement Plans.
 - B. *Action: Review and act on the annual Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - C. *Action: Review and act on the Math Instructional Materials adoption for the 2026-2027 school year.
15. Buildings and Grounds Committee — E. Larry Cantu and Jaime Solis, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report on the following projects:
 1. CTE Automotive Expansion at Science Academy
 - B. Action: Review and act on approving the job order contracting proposal with TelePro Communications for the Edinburg Intercom project.
 - C. Action: Review and act on approving Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. as the Architect for the New Performing Arts project (RFQ 27-007).
16. 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.
 - D. *Action: Review and act on removing assets from district inventory.

- E. *Action: Review and act on approving the following donations:
 - 1. Donation to Health Professions in the amount of \$1,000 from Osmin Vargas Family Clinic to PASF Club.
 - 2. Donation to Health Professions in the amount of \$2,000 from Branden Etienne & Kwabena Andoh-Baidoo for one Student Scholarship.
 - 3. Donation to Science Academy in the amount of \$100 from Faisal Saleem to Science Academy Electric Car Club.
 - 4. Donation to Medical Professions in the amount of \$1,500 from Sombrero Festival to Senior Class.
 - 5. Donation to Medical Professions in the amount of \$1,500 from Sombrero Festival to General Activities.
- F. *Action: Review and act on the following payment applications:
 - 1. Payment application #9 (final) to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$1,700.97 for the Medical Professions Audio/Video Intercom project.
 - 2. Payment application #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$234,000 for the New Rising Scholars Academy project.
 - 3. Payment application #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$121,800 for the Medical Professions Athletic Fields.
 - 4. Payment application #1 to Gomez Mendez Saenz, Inc. in the amount of \$83,751.39 for the Edinburg Intercom project.
- G. *Action: Review and act on the following budget amendment(s):
 - 1. Title I Part A (211)
 - 2. Title I Part C (212)
 - 3. Title II Part A (255)
 - 4. Title III Part A (263)
 - 5. Title IV Part A SSAEP (289)
 - 6. IDEA B (313)
- H. Action: Review and act on Senate Bill 546 regarding 3 point seat belts on buses.
- I. Consideration and possible approval of an order approving and authorizing publication of Notice of Intent to Contract Under the Public Property Finance Act for Constructing Certain Public School Facilities.
- J. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution by the Board of Directors of the South Texas Independent School District establishing the district's intention to reimburse itself for the prior lawful expenditure of funds from the proceeds of obligations to be issued on behalf of the district for authorized purposes, and other matters in connection therewith.
- K. Consideration and possible approval of a Resolution Appointing a Member to the South Texas Independent School District Public Facility Corporation Board of Directors, calling a meeting of the South Texas Independent School District Public Facility Corporation Board of Directors and approval of other matters related thereto.
- 17. Policy, Planning, Projects & Partnerships Committee — Abiel J. Cantú and Robert J. Lerma, Co-Chairs
 - A. Consideration and possible approval to adopt Resolution Approving Contingent Fee Legal Services Contract.

18. Community & Governmental Relations Committee — Sasha Crane and Zach Zamora, Co-Chairs
 - A. *Report: Update regarding the current marketing campaign and future possibilities for student recruitment.
19. 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. HOSA International Leadership Conference, June 16–21, 2026, Indianapolis, IN.
 2. TSA National Conference, June 22–26, 2026, Washington, D.C.
 3. National Conservation Foundation Envirothon Competition, July 19–25, 2026, in Starkville, MS.
 4. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference 2026, October 24–27, 2026, Orlando, FL.
 - 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 Position(s) for the 2026-2027 school year and the Announcement of Vacancy for the following:
 1. Speech Language Pathologist (1)
 2. Special Education Counselor (1)
 3. Wellness Counselor (1)
 4. TIA Director (1)
 5. Teacher (2)
 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. *Report on Safety and Security.
- D. *Action: Review and act on amending summer 2026 office hours.
- E. Report on the 2026 TASB Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.
- F. Action: Review and act on approving an Agreement for legal services with Eichelbaum Wardell Hansen Powell & Munoz, P.C.
- 20. **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 and the 2026-2027 school year.
 - a. Bilingual Coordinator
 - b. Coordinator of Instructional Services
 - c. Director of Special Programs
 - d. Educational Diagnostician Co-Op
 - e. Speech Language Pathologist Assistant Co-Op
 - f. 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 2026-2027 school year.
 - b. Consider Superintendent's recommendations regarding the employment and contract status of M.G.
 - 3. Discussion on the Superintendent's contract for Lone Finalist.
- 21. 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 2026-2027 school year.
 - a. Bilingual Coordinator
 - b. Coordinator of Instructional Services
 - c. Director of Instructional Services
 - d. Educational Diagnostician Co-Op
 - e. Speech Language Pathologist Assistant Co-Op
 - f. Teacher(s)
 - 2. Action: Review and act on recommendations for renewal/extension/non-renewal of employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff.
 - 3. Review and act on renewal of Chapter 21 term and probationary employment contracts for Central Office Administrators, Principals, Teachers and other Professional staff for the 2026-2027 school year.

4. Consider Superintendent's recommendations regarding the employment and contract status of M.G.
5. Approval of offer to employ new Superintendent.

22. 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 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Crystal Solís

For the Board of Directors