



## Minutes of Regular Meeting

### The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

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A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD was held on July 15, 2020 beginning at 7:00 PM and was conducted via Video/Audio Conference Pursuant to Governor Greg Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020. The board meeting was audible to the Board and public and allowed for two-way communication.

#### 1. Welcome.

Doug Buchanan, Board President, welcomed the guests, staff and fellow Board members.

#### 2. Pledges of Allegiance & District Call to Action.

The pledges were led by Board President Doug Buchanan.

#### 3. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence.

#### 4. Board Meeting called to order.

The following board members participated remotely:

Douglas E. Buchanan	Raymondville
Graciela Camargo	Weslaco
Abiel J. Cantú	Raymondville
Eduardo L. "Larry" Cantu	Los Fresnos
Martin Castillo, DC	Edinburg
Yolanda Cuellar	Progreso Lakes
Javier Farias	McAllen
Adrian Garcia	Brownsville
Homero Garcia	Weslaco
Margarita Garcia	San Juan
Sylvia Sanchez Garza, Ph.D.	Edinburg
Hector Gonzales	Lyford
Yolanda Kamel	McAllen
Robert J. Lerma	Brownsville
Henry LeVrier	Brownsville
Sylvia S. Lopez	Brownsville

Ramon Montalvo, III	Weslaco
Eduardo Roberto Rodriguez	Brownsville
Jaime R. Solis	Edinburg
Israel G. Quintanilla	Raymondville
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following Board members were absent:

Richard Fleming, MD	Mission
Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
Rebecca Villarreal	Penitas

The following staff members participated remotely:

Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.	Jeff Hembree
Marla R. Knaub	Lissa Frausto
Sonia E. Rodriguez	

#### 5. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.

The Board did not receive requests to address the Board of Directors on an agenda topic for this meeting.

#### 6. Superintendent's Update regarding preparations for the 2020-2021 school year and the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The Superintendent reported on the plans/need to start school. He reported the district will follow the board approved calendar. First day of instruction is on August 17<sup>th</sup> and for the health and safety of students and staff amid the current COVID-19 conditions, we will begin the school year delivering solely virtual instruction through the district's Flexible Learning Initiative.

#### 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Directors met on July 15, 2020 at 7:29 p.m. in 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 2020-2021 school year.
  - a. Teachers
  - b. Principal
  - c. Chief Academic Officer
  - d. Executive Director for Student Services

The Board of Directors ended the executive session at 7:50 p.m.

#### 8. 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 professional staff for the 2020-2021 school year:
  - a. Teachers
  - b. Principal

- c. Chief Academic Officer
- d. Executive Director for Student Services

Dr. Marco A. Lara, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, recommended the following staff for the 2020-2021 school year: Marcos Leonel Flores as Principal (12 month contract); Efrain Garza as Executive Director for Student Support (12 month contract); Christa Respondek, Haley Kathleen Hodge, Jess R. Castorena, Jabeth Azpetia Aranda and Agnes I. Ocampo as Teachers (10 month contract).

A motion was made by Dr. Villareal, seconded by Mr. Farias, approving the Superintendent's recommendation to hire professional staff for 2020-2021 school year as presented. The motion passed with 4 abstentions (Ramon Montalvo, Eduardo Rodriguez, Sylvia S. Lopez and Adrian Garcia).

#### 9. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. Solis, seconded by Mrs. Cuellar, adjourning the board meeting at 8:02 p.m.