

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors South Texas ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of South Texas ISD was held on Tuesday, April 28, 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 member Henry LeVrier.

3. Moment of Silence.

The Board held a moment of silence.

4. Board Meeting called to order.

The Board President called for a Roll Call. 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
Richard Fleming, MD	Mission
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
Rebecca Villarreal	Penitas
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S.	Brownsville

The following Board members were absent:

Irma Perez-Treviño	Harlingen
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The following staff members participated remotely:

Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.	Jeff Hembree
J.P. Villarreal	Marla R. Knaub
Lissa Frausto	Sonia E. Rodriguez
Amanda Odom	Ana Castro
Rigo Olivarez	Criselda R. Flores
Efrain Garza	Ann Vickman
Harry Goette	Irma Castillo, Ed.D.
Ramon Longoria	

5. Awards & Recognitions.

No awards or recognitions were presented. No board action was taken.

6. 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.

A motion was made by Mr. L. Cantu, seconded by Mr. A. Garcia, approving the consent agenda items as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Action: Review and act on March 24, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes.

Approved with the consent agenda.

8. Public Comments for Agenda Topics.

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

9. Public Audience for Non-Agenda Topics.

The Board did not receive requests to address the Board of Directors on non-agenda topics for this meeting.

10. Policy & Curriculum - Becky Villarreal & Martin Castillo, DC, Co-Chairs

Dr. Martin Castillo reported on the following committee items:

A. *Report on professional vacancies.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. Action: Review and act on revising district Policy DEA (LOCAL) Compensation and Benefits - Compensation Plan.

A motion was made by Dr. Castillo, seconded by Mr. Lerma, approving the revisions to district Policy DEA (LOCAL) Compensation and Benefits – Compensation Plan adding a new paragraph to address premium pay during disasters. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Buildings & Grounds - Robert J. Lerma & Irma Perez Trevino, Co-Chairs

Mr. Abiel J. Cantu reported on the following committee items:

A. Report: Construction Update on the 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Projects.

Mr. JP Villarreal reported on the 2019-2020 Capital Improvement Projects construction update as listed on agenda pages 19 & 20. The administration continues to work with Gignac Architects and Gomez Mendez Saenz Architects to negotiate/finalize the Owner-Architect agreements and begin working on the projects.

B. Action: Review and act on authorizing administration to go out for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSPs) for the Preparatory Academy Parking Lot Expansion project and the Science Academy CATE Building Renovation project.

A motion was made by Mr. A. Cantu, seconded by Mr. Lerma, authorizing the administration to go out for Competitive Sealed Proposals for the Preparatory

Academy Parking Lot Expansion and the Science Academy CATE Building Renovation projects as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Finance - Henry LeVrier & Eduardo R. Rodriguez, Co-Chairs

Mr. Henry LeVrier reported on the following committee items:

A. *Report on checks written since last report.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. *Report on 2019-2020 second quarter student activity accounts.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. *Action: Review and act on request to approve acting principal at Health Professions and salary adjustment.

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. Action: Review and act on the Budget Amendment #1 for the COVID-19 Summer Seamless Option for Child Nutrition Program.

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mr. A. Cantu, approving the budget amendment #1 to set up the 2019-2020 Budget for the COVID-19 CNS Summer Seamless Program as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Action: Review and act on the following donations:

1. \$100 from David & Susie Oliveira to the Child Nutrition Services
2. \$100 from Merck Pharmaceuticals to the Child Nutrition Services

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mr. A. Cantu, approving the \$100 donation from David & Susie Oliveira and the \$100 from Merck Pharmaceuticals as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Action: Review and possible action on independent auditor request for qualifications.

Mr. LeVrier reported that after much discussion and polling of the Finance Committee, the recommendation is to contract with Luis Orozco as independent auditor for one year.

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mr. Farias, approving Luis Orozco as the independent auditor for one year. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Superintendent's Report - Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.

A. *Campus Reports

1. Preparatory Academy - A. Castro
2. Rising Scholars Academy - C. R. Flores
3. World Scholars - E. Garza
4. Medical Professions - H. Goette
5. Health Professions - R. Olivarez
6. Science Academy - I. Castillo, Ed.D.

Approved with the consent agenda.

B. *Action: Review and act on amending summer 2020 office hours.

Approved with the consent agenda.

C. *Action: Review and act on board members to attend the following:

1. TASA/TASB Annual Convention, October 2-4, 2020 in Dallas, TX

Approved with the consent agenda.

D. Action: Name delegate and alternate for the TASA/TASB Convention, October 2-4, 2020 in Dallas, TX.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Lerma, naming Israel Quintanilla to serve as the delegate for the TASA/TASB Convention in October in Dallas. A motion was made by Mrs. Camargo, seconded by Mr. Lerma, naming Grace Camargo as alternate. Both motions passed unanimously.

E. Action: Review and act on Resolution regarding grading and class rank policies and granting the Superintendent certain authority related to interpretation and implementation of district policies during periods of COVID-19 school closure.

A motion was made by Mr. L. Cantu, seconded by Mr. A. Cantu, approving the Resolution regarding grading and class rank policies and granting the Superintendent certain authority related to interpretation and implementation of district policies during periods of COVID-19 school closure as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. Action: Review and act on a Resolution delegating authority to the School Superintendent to pursue any necessary and available waivers from TEA and in the event other waivers are needed authorize Superintendent to submit other waiver requests in accordance with guidance from national, state, or local authorities or agencies.

A motion was made by Mr. Farias, seconded by Mrs. Camargo, approving a Resolution delegating authority to the School Superintendent to pursue any necessary and available waivers from TEA and in the event other waivers are needed authorize Superintendent to submit other waiver requests in accordance with guidance from national, state, or local authorities or agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. Superintendent's comprehensive report on district operations as approved by Resolution to act in place of the Board of Directors during an emergency closures.

1. Report on the South Texas ISD Flexible Learning Framework Grading Guidelines during COVID-19 School Closure.

Dr. Marco Antonio Lara, Jr. provided a comprehensive report on his actions as approved by Resolution to act in place of the Board of Directors during an emergency; report on district operations and the district's Flexible Learning Framework Grading Guidelines.

14. *Correspondence.

No correspondence was received.

15. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. LeVrier, seconded by Mrs. Camargo, adjourning the board meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.