



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
April 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David O. Morales, Board President; Ricardo O. Castellano, Board Vice President; Eduardo Mena, Board Secretary; Pablo Barrera; Paul Guerra; Cynthia A. Najera; Michael A. Najera; and Nate Carman, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Board President David O. Morales. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Carman reported on personnel and district initiatives/events.

BOARD HONORS

- The SISD Special Education Department presented in honor of Autism Awareness Month.
- SISD students were recognized for advancing to state in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event Competition.
- SISD students were recognized for advancing to and competing at the 2022 Texas Science and Engineering Fair.
- SISD Varsity Soccer Teams were recognized for winning 2021-2022 UIL Championships.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- The Sgt. Robert Ituarte and Chester E. Jordan Elementary Schools counseling programs were recognized for earning the 2021-2022 Recognized ASCA Model Program School Award from the American School Counselor Association.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY, MAY 11, 2022

A motion was made by Ricardo Castellano, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RENAMING JOHN DRUGAN SCHOOL GYMNASIUM AFTER SUSAN COOK

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RENAMING SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINING FACILITY AFTER MARCI STRUTZ

A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD MEMBER CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT HOURS

As required by the *Texas Administrative Code* Chapter 61.1(j), Board President David Morales announced the completed, deficient and exceeded Continuing Education Credits for each of our Trustees. The following information is required to be reflected in the minutes of tonight's meeting and will be available for local media.

- David Morales has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Ricardo Castellano has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Eduardo Mena has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Pablo Barrera has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Paul Guerra has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Cynthia Najera has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has exceeded his credit hours in Topic 3.
- Michael Najera has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 1, scheduled to participate in the Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes training on April 23, 2022, has completed the required continuing education hours in Topic 2, and has completed his credit hours in Topic 3.

OPEN FORUM

The following individual(s) addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent of Schools:

1. Veronica Hernandez regarding salaries.
2. Maria Nieto regarding salaries.
3. Tommy Hill regarding budget and compensation.
4. Lee Ann Wells regarding the request for the use of Socorro HS cafeteria for the M. Strutz Memorial Foundation.

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2017 Bond Program and other construction projects. Discussion followed regarding shelves at Socorro HS and parking at SAC. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- Board Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2022 Regular Board Meeting; April 5, 2022, and April 12, 2022 Special Board Meetings
- Employment of Personnel
- Budget Amendments
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Angelo State Football for the use of Americas HS Gym and Field
 - Aspire Dance Company for the use of Montwood HS Theater
 - Baker Dance Studio for the use of Montwood HS Auditorium
 - LAT Studio for the use of Montwood HS Auditorium
 - TCG Battleground for the use of Montwood HS Gym and Field
 - M. Strutz Memorial Foundation for the use of Socorro HS Cafeteria
- Awarding of Bids
 - Special Education Instructional Materials and Services – RFP No. E2245
Solicitation to purchase instructional materials, equipment supplies, and service for special education as needed district wide. (Maximum \$350,000-General Fund Budget and Federal Funds)
- Contracts
 - Interlocal Agreement – El Paso Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (El Paso Independent School Year Fiscal Agent)
The purpose is to continue with a cooperative arrangement whereby the Member Districts may provide for the efficient delivery of legally required special education and related services to eligible students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing for the parties referenced herein. It is agreed and understood that any student who has a hearing loss which severely impairs processing linguistic information through hearing, even with recommended amplification, and which adversely affects educational performance shall be eligible for consideration for the El Paso RDSPD, subject to the ARD committee recommendations.
- New Job Descriptions
 - The primary purpose is to provide primary leadership and assume responsibility for the planning, operation, supervision, and evaluation of the departments. Serves as the District advisor on the development and maintenance of the annual budget and long-range financial projections, planning and analysis of current programs, support systems, technical assistance and provides support to schools and departments. Adhere to federal/state laws and regulations as well as district policies, regulations, and procedures.
 - Deputy Superintendent of Human Resources, Administrative Services, Curriculum and Instruction, and Assistant Superintendent of Schools
 - Deputy Superintendent of Operations, Finance, and Technology
- State Board of Education issued Proclamation 2022 to call for review of health and physical education instructional materials.
The adopted materials are scheduled to go into the classrooms in the 2022-2023 school year.
- 2022-2023 Allotment and TEKS Certification Form

ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR (TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS, NURSES, COUNSELORS, SPEECH THERAPISTS AND EDUCATIONAL DIAGNOSTICIANS)

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE EXISTING SCHOOL ZONES WITH CROSSWALKS FOR EASTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PLACEMENT OF COUNTY APPROVED SCHOOL ZONES WITH CROSSWALKS FOR BEN NARBUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PLACEMENT OF SCHOOL FLASHERS FOR CACTUS TRAILS (\$295,217) AND SGT. JOSE CARRASCO (\$291,540) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TASB UPDATE 118 AND LOCAL POLICY

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve the revisions to the following policies from TASB Update 118: CFD, CQB, DFE, EHAA, FDE, FEC, and FFLG; and local policy: CVA, CVB, CR, DC and EIC. The motion carried unanimously.

REVISION AND AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED COMPENSATION PLAN AND STIPEND LIST TO INCLUDE NEW AND AMENDED UIL STIPENDS AND THE READING ACADEMY STIPEND

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY AND SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COLLEGE ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT INITIATIVE

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE PAY GRADE SCALE

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

NOTICE TO BICKERSTAFF HEATH DELGADO ACOSTA, LLP TO END ENGAGEMENT OF REDISTRICTING SERVICES AND SELECT ALTERNATE PROVIDER TO COMPLETE THE REDISTRICTING SERVICES BASED ON THE 2020 CENSUS

A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to provide the notice and contract Thompson & Horton LLP. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 8:05 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel regarding personal action concerning N.M., Assistant Principal on Special Assignment at District Service Center; for discussion

regarding personal action concerning P.C., Counselor at Sgt. Jose F. Carrasco Elementary School; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Assistant Principal position at Benito Martinez Elementary School and Lujan-Chavez Elementary School; and Dean of Instruction position at Americas High School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:41 p.m.

NEW EMPLOYMENT TERMS AND CONTRACT FOR N.M., ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AT DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER

A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Paul Guerra abstained.

REQUEST BY P.C., COUNSELOR AT SGT. JOSE F. CARRASCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO RESCIND HER SUBMITTED VOLUNTARY RESIGNATION

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Caman recommended Rosa Irene Rojas to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Benito Martinez Elementary School. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman recommended Dulce Aleman to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Lujan-Chavez Elementary School. A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman recommended Marybelle Gonzales to assume all roles and responsibilities as Dean of Instruction of Americas High School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MAY 17, 2022.