



MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
May 10, 2022 – 5:30 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 5:32 p.m. by Board President David O. Morales. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD HONORS

- SISD Middle School Students were recognized for placing in the Citywide Junior Visual Arts Scholastic Event.
- The Helen Ball Elementary Student Council was recognized for being the only Elementary School in the District IX El Paso area to earn the Texas Association of Student Councils Outstanding Student Council and Sweepstakes Awards.
- Three SISD High School Student Councils were recognized for earning the 2022 National Council of Excellence Award.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

1. Brandon Parrott regarding agenda item on synthetic artificial turf.

FY2022-2023 REVENUE ESTIMATES AND PRELIMINARY BUDGET

A presentation on FY2022-2023 revenue estimates and preliminary budget was provided for the Board of Trustees. No action was taken on this agenda item.

REDISTRICTING OF SISD MEMBER DISTRICTS

A presentation on the legal overview of redistricting requirements, process, timeline, and criteria was provided for the Board of Trustees by Thompson & Horton LLP. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda were pulled for discussion and separate consideration. No action was taken on the Consent Agenda.

NEW JOB DESCRIPTION – ESSER DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION COMPLIANCE

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Trustee Ricardo Castellano for discussion. Following a brief presentation regarding the need of this position, compliance of systems and educational purposes. A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-1 vote. Aye: Pablo Barrera, Eduardo Mena, David Morales, Paul Guerra, Cynthia Najera and Michael Najera. Nay: Ricardo Castellano.

NEW JOB DESCRIPTION – ESSER DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MANAGEMENT AND PUPIL SERVICES

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Trustee Ricardo Castellano for discussion. Following a brief presentation regarding the primary purpose of this position, compliance of systems, district discipline and management needs. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-1 vote. Aye: Cynthia Najera, Michael Najera, Paul Guerra, David Morales, Eduardo Mena and Pablo Barrera. Nay: Ricardo Castellano.

SYNTHETIC/ARTIFICIAL TURF UPGRADES – CSP NO. E2256 (AMERICAS, EL DORADO, MONTWOOD AND SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOLS)

Administration recommended Hellas Construction, Inc. to be awarded this solicitation in the amount of \$3,719,115.00 as it offers the best value for what the district needs for this particular project. Discussion followed regarding the information provided for the project, material, student safety concerns and construction timeline. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 5-2 vote. Aye: Michael Najera, Pablo Barrera, Eduardo Mena, David Morales and Ricardo Castellano. Nay: Cynthia Najera and Paul Guerra.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:05 p.m. to receive advise from legal counsel regarding the currently approved EPSL Resolution and recent opinion from the Texas Attorney General; and to consider administrative recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

CURRENTLY APPROVED EPSL RESOLUTION

No action was taken on this agenda item.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Dr. Caman recommended Jennifer Gomez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School. A motion was made by Ricardo Castellano, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RFQ FOR LEGAL SERVICES – LAW FIRM PRESENTATIONS

The following law firms provided a 15-minute presentation of their services and were offered the opportunity for a 10-minute Q&A session with the Board of Trustees.

1. Blanco Ordoñez Mata & Wechsler, P.C.
2. Escamilla Poneck Attorneys & Counselors
3. Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan, P.C.
4. O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, P.C.
5. Walsh Gallegos Treviño Kyle & Robinson, P.C.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

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