



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
July 26, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eduardo Mena, Board President; Pablo Barrera, Board Vice President; David O. Morales, Board Secretary; Ricardo O. Castellano; 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 6:00 p.m. by Board President Eduardo Mena. 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 Pebble Hills High School NJROTC Academi Team was recognized for competing in the JROTC Leadership and Academic Bowl National Championships in Washington D.C.

OPEN FORUM

The following individuals signed up to address the Board of Trustees and Superintendent:

1. Maggie Ronquillo regarding library cards from El Paso Public Library for students
2. Jennifer DeGraaf regarding prioritizing mental health/SEL for all stakeholders
3. Tommy Hill regarding compensation
4. Jaime Martinez regarding safety concerns
5. Angie Soto regarding appreciation for salary increase

FACILITIES REPORT

Administration provided a presentation of the 2017 Bond Program and other construction projects. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by David Morales, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 7A-Board Meeting Minutes for June 21, 2022 Regular Board Meeting; 7G-revisions of local policy DMA; and 7I-revisions to Regulation DEAA. The motion carried unanimously.

- Employment of Personnel
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Budget Amendments
- Awarding of Bids
 - Athletic and Student Health Insurance – RFP No. E2252
Solicitation to provide insurance coverage against accidental injury or loss for district UIL and Health Services students. (Maximum \$95,000-General and Federal Funds Budget)

- Fine Arts Private Lessons and Master Class Instruction Part 2 – RFP No. E2249
Solicitation to provide fine arts private lessons and master-class instruction as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$550,000-General Fund Budget, Federal Funds, and ESSER Funds)
- Gifted & Talented Materials, Supplies, and Services – RFP No. E2303
Solicitation to purchase materials, supplies, and services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$325,000-General Fund Budget)
- Paper Supplies – RFP No. E2314
Solicitation to provide the Maintenance and Operations Department with the ability to purchase paper supplies as needed district wide. (Maximum 300,000-General Fund Budget)
- Paving Services – RFP No. E2316
Solicitation to provide the Maintenance and Operations Department with the ability to procure paving services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$200,000-General Fund Budget)
- Visual Performing Arts Supplies and Accessories – RFP No. E2305
Solicitation to purchase visual performing arts supplies and accessories as needed district wide. (Maximum \$250,000-General Fund Budget)
- Request for Increase – Coolers and Parts for Breakfast in the Classroom, RFP No. E2225
Increase the current total amount of \$126,000 by \$20,000 for a new total annual amount of \$146,000 for this current term and any remaining extended terms. The purpose is to help support the purchase of additional coolers needed at District Cafeterias.
- Requests for Extension
 - Armored Car Services – RFP No. 199-0409-E1842
Extend this bid, for an additional year, through June 30, 2023, which is the third and last possible extension. (Maximum \$125,000-General Fund Budget)
 - Automotive Parts – RFP No. E2103
Extend this bid, for an additional year, through August 31, 2023, which is the second and last possible extension. (Maximum \$800,000-Genreal Fund Budget and Special Revenue)
- Consider approval of Contracts
 - Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Purchasing – Clint ISD
School districts routinely and frequently solicit bids and proposals for goods and services which are necessary for the operation of a school district. The school district making the purchase shall bear all cost and expenses related to the purchase of goods and services.
 - Interlocal Agreement – The University of Texas at Austin OnRamps Program
UT Austin and SISD are collaborating to continue offering eligible high school students the opportunity to enroll in college courses while attending high school and receive simultaneous academic credits from UT Austin and their SISD high school. Both parties will continue hsharing the reponsibility for the OnRamps program offering distance college courses through a dual-enrollment model, as well as high school teacher training and professional learning. (Maximum \$60,000-General Fund Budget)
 - Master Clinical Placement Site Agreement – University of Arkansas College of Education and Health Professions Eleanor Mann School of Nursing
To provide nursing students of the University with teaching and practical clinical experience. Socorro ISD will provide the facility for university students to obtain appropriate clinical training and experience; the University will provide students to support the mission and efforts of Socorro ISD.
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Project Vida Health Center Behavioral Health Services
To continue the partnership to link young people and their families to counseling services through face-to-face meetings with the SISD campus to eliminate barriers such as limited access during school hours, transportation, and legal statutes.

- Purchasing #2248 – Imagine Learning
Utilization of Bid Contract #2248 for the purchase of a software license in the amount of \$998,000 for a three-year contract to be invoiced on a 3-year schedule for the credit recovery suite program. (Maximum \$998,000-General and ESSER Funds)
- Purchasing Cooperative Region 19 Allied States Cooperative #21-7394 – Rethink Autism Inc.
Utilization of R19 Contract #21-7394 for the purchase of Rethink SEL & Mental Licenses for all students, educators, and counselors. Rethink Education is a comprehensive multi-tiered K-12 SEL and mental health curriculum promoting well-being, connectedness, and success by focusing on the entire community and promoting healthy and confident students and adults. (Maximum \$307,450-ESSER Funds)
- Texas Education Agency 2022 Innovative Courses
These courses would be used in support of instruction, linking to identical college courses, and for transcription of like courses for those students who enroll in SISD from out of state or out of country. Innovative courses may only be used to meet state elective credit and are not approved to meet any other requirement for graduation. There may be a release of additional courses by the state through the release of the new Texas Education Data Standards Code Table CO22.
- Resolution to Appoint Investment Officers
Resolution to appoint investment officers for the Socorro Independent School District.
- 2022-2023 Professional Development Plan
This plan details the annual professional development plan as outlined by the professional development clearinghouse State Board of Certification and guided by the Texas Association of School Board’s School District Training Chart.
- Title III Instructional/LPAC Specialist title change
The position is being reclassified from “Aide” to “Specialist” to fulfill the 48-hour college semester hours requirement.
- TPESS Calendar and Appraisers
In accordance with Policy DNB (LEGAL), each school district shall establish a calendar for the appraisal of principal 19 TAC 150.1023(b)(e). The principal appraisal process requires at least one certified appraiser, 19 TAC 150.1024.
- TTESS Calendar and Appraisers
In accordance with Policy DNA (LEGAL), the school district shall establish a calendar for teacher appraisals 19 TAC 150.1003(d). The school district shall be responsible for documenting that appraisers have met training criteria established by the district 19 TAC 2443.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 21, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Ricardo Castellano for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding compensation plan, salary scale, and stipends, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to table the item for further review and possible update. The motion carried unanimously.

REVISIONS TO LOCAL POLICY DMA

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Cynthia Najera for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding the removal of language from the policy, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to move forward with the revisions to local policy DMA with the exclusion of the sentence: “The Board shall annually review the professional development clearinghouse published by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC)” as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

REVISIONS TO REGULATION DEAA

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Cynthia Najera for discussion. Following a discussion regarding the request to approve the revisions to regulation pertaining to the compensation plan for incentives and stipends, a motion was made by Ricardo Castellano, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to table the item for further review. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:14 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel regarding *L. Hernandez v. SISD*; Cause No. 2020-DCV3887 to include options for mediation and possible settlement; to discuss employment and duties of personnel, including an employee incident report and the duties and responsibilities of an officer toward employees; to discuss acquisition of real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Principal positions at Americas High School and Bill Sybert School PK-8; Assistant Principal positions at Hueco Elementary School, H.D. Hilley Elementary School, Purple Heart Elementary School, Sgt. Jose F. Carrasco Elementary School, Desert Wind School, Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School, Socorro Middle School, SSG Manuel R. Puentes Middle School, Sun Ridge Middle School, and El Dorado High School; and Dean of Instruction for El Dorado High School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

L. HERNANDEZ V. SISD; CAUSE NO. 2020-DCV3887 TO INCLUDE OPTIONS FOR MEDIATION AND POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to authorize legal counsel to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Carman recommended Nancy Torres to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of Americas High School. A motion was made by Ricardo Castellano, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Principal position at Bill Sybert School PK-8 was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Assistant Principal position of Hueco Elementary School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman recommended Samuel Saucedo to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of H.D. Hilley Elementary School. A motion was made by David Morales, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman recommended Elizabeth Marquez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Purple Heart Elementary School. A motion was made by David Morales, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman recommended Brenda Mendoza to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Sgt. Jose F. Carrasco Elementary School. A motion was made by David Morales, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Desert Wind School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Socorro Middle School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman recommended Bianca Becerro to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of SSG Manuel R. Puentes Middle School. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by David Morales, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Sun Ridge Middle School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Dr. Carman recommended Robert Norton to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of El Dorado High School. A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by David Morales, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Carman reported that the recommendation for Dean of Instruction position at El Dorado High School was being pulled. No action was taken on this agenda item.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON AUGUST 16, 2022.