



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
January 19, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Angelica Rodriguez, Board President; Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub, Board Vice President; Gary Gandara, Board Secretary; Hector F. Gonzalez; Cynthia A. Najera; Paul Guerra; and Dr. José Espinoza, Superintendent of Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael A. Najera

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Board President Angelica Rodriguez. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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

BOARD HONORS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- Americas High School and El Dorado High School varsity football teams were recognized for winning 2015 championships
- Eighteen SISD school counseling teams were recognized for earning the 2015-2016 Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for students in Texas Award
- SISD Board of Trustees were recognized in honor of School Board Recognition Month

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR WEEK PROCLAMATION

Following a presentation by Tammi Mackeben, Director of Guidance and Counseling, regarding this year’s National School Counselor Week being held February 1-5, 2016, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the Proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

SISD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Following a presentation by Susan Hill, SISD Foundation Board President, regarding new member recommendations, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve Raul Marquez and Blanca Topete to fill the current vacancies on the SISD Foundation Board of Directors as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

None

PUBLIC HEARING – 2014-2015 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

In accordance with BR Legal, the Annual Performance Report, based on the 2014-2015 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) provided by TEA, was presented. Data revealed the outstanding progress of more than 45,000 students and more than 6,000 employees. For the second consecutive year, SISD in

2014-2015 surpassed the state passing rates in all STAAR exams for grades three through eight; SISD improved its student passing rates during the four years of the rigorous STAAR exam by 94 percentage points while the state has seen a 21 percentage point increase. The district and all campuses met standard in the state's 2014-2015 accountability rating. In addition, our campuses earned 120 academic distinction designations with five campuses earning recognition in every category possible.

At this time, the public was invited to make comments relative to the Annual Performance Report TAPR 2014-2015. No one came forward.

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond program on the following construction projects: Pebble Hills HS and on the three (3) HVAC upgrades at Sanchez, Slider and Socorro Middle Schools. No action was taken on this agenda item.

GRANTS REPORT

Ann Darnell, Grant Writer, provided an update on active discretionary grants for the District. No action was taken on this agenda item.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Hector Reyna, Chief Technology Officer, provided an update on technology services focusing on the security initiative and cameras on the bus. Discussion took place concerning citations that have been issued to date. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of E3-Network Cabling and Components RFP No. 199-0106-E1657 and F1-Dual Credit Partnership Agreement with El Paso Community College (EPCC). The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Americas High School Band and Color Guard Boosters for the use of Americas High School Gymnasiums
 - Desert Eagle Productions for the use of Socorro High School Theater
 - Rapid Fire Volleyball Club for the use of Eastlake High School Gymnasiums
 - Socorro Youth Sports Association for the use of Socorro Middle School Gymnasium
 - St. Mark Church Night of Columbus for the use of Montwood Middle School Cafeteria
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
 - Local Telecommunication Services – RFP No. 199-1216-E1653
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure local telecommunication services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding from the School and Libraries Division. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds for these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$700,000)

- Long Distance Services – RFP No. 199-1216-E1654
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure long distance services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding from the School and Libraries Division. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds for these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$65,000)
- Contracts
 - Ground/Facility Lease Agreement – ESC Region 19 Head Start Program
The purpose is to lease the property located at H.D. Hilley Elementary School, 693 N. Rio Vista, Socorro TX 79927 – Socorro Head Start Center (Land) and adding Options High School, 12380 Pine Springs Dr., El Paso, TX 79928 – Options Head Start Center (Facilities) to provide the Socorro Head Start program. (Maximum \$125,000)
 - Interlocal Agreement – ESC Region 19 Head Start Program
The purpose is to provide special education services to children with disabilities enrolled in the Head Start Program who reside within the District. (No cost to the District)
- Submission of Grants
 - T-STEM Career Pathway Development Initiative
Provide funding to support the research, planning, implementation and all activities directly related to the development and launch of a high-quality Career Pathway for the start of the 2016-17 school year.

BID: NETWORK CABLING AND COMPONENTS RFP NO. 199-0106-E1657

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for discussion. Discussion followed regarding the amount being requested and projects being considered. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve \$1.2M to procure network cabling and components as needed district-wide. The motion carried unanimously.

DUAL CREDIT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE (EPCC)

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for separate consideration. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the Dual Credit Partnership Agreement with El Paso Community College for the purpose of facilitating dual credit college courses to SISD qualified students as permitted by Section 19 of the TAC Chapter 4, with a Texas Public College at a maximum cost of \$150,000. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Tony Ayub abstained.

FACILITY ASSESSMENT, LAND ANALYSIS AND DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY FEES

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve a fee of \$295,000 with VLK Architects for the facility assessment, land analysis and demographic study as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

FY2016-17 BUDGET PRIORITIES AND CALENDAR

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the FY2016-17 Budget Priority items and Calendar, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TASB UPDATE 103 AND LOCAL POLICY

Following a presentation by Cory Craft, Academic Compliance Officer, regarding the proposed policy revisions, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the revisions to

policies BF, CKE, FEA and GRA from TASB Update 103 and local policies EIC and BBG as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2015-2016 STUDENT CALENDAR – PROPOSED REVISIONS

City and county support resources will be depleted in support of the Papal visit scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2016 causing unprecedented security coverage. In addition, a large number of students and staff is anticipated to be absent. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve District Closure on February 17, 2016 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:53 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel regarding status of litigation with ESD #1; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider administrative recommendations for Assistant Principal(s) at Americas High School and Hurshel Antwine School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:41 p.m.

LITIGATION WITH ESD #1

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to authorize legal counsel to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Assistant Principal of Americas High School – Administration pulled this item from the agenda. No action was taken.

Assistant Principal of Hurshel Antwine School – Administration pulled this item from the agenda. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON FEBRUARY 16, 2016.