



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

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Angelica Rodriguez, Board President

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Board Vice-President Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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

BOARD HONORS

- Americas and Eastlake Winter Guard Teams were recognized for advancing to compete at the 2016 National/International Championships.
- An Americas High School golfer was recognized for winning the 2016 District Championship.
- SISD students were honored for earning recognition in the 2016 El Paso Do the Write Thing Writing Challenge.
- An Eastlake High School student was recognized for winning the SUBIENDO Academy Scholarship through the McCombs School of Business at UT Austin.
- Four SISD high school mariachi groups were recognized for advancing to the 2016 UIL State Mariachi Competition.
- SISD boys and girls soccer teams were recognized for winning 2015-2016 championships.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- The SISD Special Education Department presented in honor of Autism Awareness Month.
- Horizon Heights Elementary School Parent Liaison Bonnie Najera was recognized for being nominated by the National Education Association for the White House School Support Professional Champion of Change Award for Teachers.
- An El Dorado High School art teacher was recognized for earning a special visit from Chelsea Clinton as the winner of the Get Going Day Project.
- The Child Nutrition Services Department was recognized for earning an Excellent Rating in the 2015-16 Administrative Review from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

RECESS

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to take a five (5) minute recess. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting reconvened at 7:21 p.m.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY, MAY 11, 2016

Following a presentation by Rebecca Madrid, Nurse Manager, regarding the Proclamation recognizing the accomplishments of the Socorro ISD school nurses in meeting the needs of today's students by improving the effective delivery of health care in our schools, a motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the Proclamation for National School Nurse Day, May 11, 2016 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Veronica Hernandez, Socorro AFT President, informed and invited Superintendent and Board of Trustees to several book giveaway events commencing April 22nd through May 4th.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS UPDATE

George Thomas, Director of Career and Technical Education, provided an update on the status of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs being offered at the high schools and middle schools. No action was taken on this agenda item.

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond program HVAC upgrade projects at Sanchez, Slider and Socorro Middle Schools; Options High School Daycare Facility; and football fields lighting and bleacher upgrades at Americas, El Dorado and Montwood High Schools. Discussion followed regarding estimated time of completion for these projects. 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 9E4-Bid: Socorro High School HVAC Systems Upgrades RFP No. 199-0321-1675; 9E8c-Bid: Request for Increase of Refrigeration & Air Conditioning & Repair RFP No. 199-0129-E1549; 9G1-Submission of Grant: Body Worn Camera Grant from U.S. Department of Justice; and 9H: Statement(s) of Impact from Harmony Science Academy-El Paso, Harmony School Science-Houston, and School of Science and Technology-Main. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2016 Regular Board Meeting and March 29, 2016 Board Workshop
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Advanced Soccer Academy for the use of Pebble Hills High School Gymnasium and Fields (May 7, 2016)
 - Champion Dance Studio for the use of Socorro High School Theater (Jun 3-5, 2016)
 - Dig Deep Basketball for the use of Pebble Hill High School Gymnasium (Jun 7-9, 2016)
 - Impulse Dance Studio for the use of El Dorado High School Theater (May 27-28 & Jun 17-18, 2016)
 - LAT Studios for the use of Socorro High School Theater (May 14-15, 2016)

- National Cheerleaders Association for the use of Eastlake High School Gymnasium (Jun 24-26, 2016)
- Pebble Hills High School Basketball Program for the use of Pebble Hills High School Gymnasium (May 30-Jun 3, 2016)
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
 - Backflow Preventers – RFP No. 199-0401-E1643
Solicitation to purchase backflow preventers as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$90,000)
 - Calculators – RFP No. 199-0331-E1665
Solicitation to purchase calculators as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$175,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
 - Science and Laboratory Equipment – RFP No. 199-0331-E1664
Solicitation to purchase science and laboratory equipment as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$150,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
 - Tires – RFP No. 199-0401-E1674
Solicitation to purchase tires as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$160,000)
 - Request for Increase – District Radio and Infrastructure Project RFP No. 199-052-E1597
Increase in the total amount of \$250,000, awarded to R.T.C., Inc. The Board of Trustees approved the solicitation at the June 23, 2015 regular board meeting for an annual amount of \$550,000. The new awarded amount will be \$800,000 per year. This increase will supplement the radio project to enhance radio communications to meet long range goals. The remaining balance will be used to purchase any additional radios or supplies through the remaining term of the contract ending June 23, 2017. (Maximum \$255,000-Committed Funds)
 - Request for Increase – Video Security Equipment, Materials and Installation RFP No. 199-0227-E1551
Increase in the total amount of \$500,000, awarded to Laser Tech and Plan B Networks, Inc. The Board of Trustees approved the solicitation at the March 24, 2015 regular board meeting for an annual amount of \$700,000. The new awarded amount will be \$1,200,000 per year. This increase will cover the cost of cameras and software storage for Special Education classrooms as required by HB507. The remaining balance will be used to purchase any additional equipment, material and installations needed throughout the district for the remaining term of the contract ending March 27, 2017. (Maximum \$500,000-Committed Funds)
 - Request for Increase – SISD Bids for Committed Fund Projects
Increase for committed fund projects in the total amount of \$675,765 awarded to several vendors of the following awarded bids. (Maximum \$675,765-Committed Funds)
 - Energy Management Control-OEM – RFP No. 199-0827-E15108 (Increase from \$435,000 to \$629,650)
 - Energy Management Control-OEM RB – RFP No. 199-0129-E1549 (Increase from \$600,000 to \$680,000)
 - Pump & Motor Services and Repair – RFP No. 199-0227-E1578 (Increase from \$100,000 to \$182,186)
 - Annual PM Program and Mechanical Water Treatment Systems – RFP No. 199-0160-E1640 (Increase from \$75,000 to \$95,000)
- Contracts
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – El Paso Symphony Orchestra’s Tocando Community Music Project

- Renewal of MOU with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra’s Tocando Community Music Project for after-school programming during school year. (Maximum \$12,500)
- Pharmacy Technician Externship Training Agreement
Pharmacy Technician Externship Training with CVS Health and its subsidiaries and affiliates CVS/Pharmacy, CVS/Caremark, L.L.C., CVS/Minute Clinic, L.L.C. to establish, as part of the requirement leading to the completion of the Pharmacy Technician Program, an institutional externship training at the option of the district’s student. (No cost to the District)
- Purchasing Cooperative Utilization – BuyBoard Contract #463-14, Ramtech Building Systems
For the acquisition of ten (10) double-wide portable classrooms. Four (4) will be placed at Desert Wind, three (3) at Col. John O. Ensor Middle School and the remaining three (3) at Mission Ridge Elementary School. (Maximum \$599,750)
- Purchasing Cooperative Utilization – Region XIX Contract #15-7130, PC Automated Controls, Inc.
For the acquisition of services to remove and replace existing controllers on the water source heat pump modular at Montwood High School. (Maximum \$126,240-Committed Funds)
- Purchasing Cooperative Utilization – BuyBoard Contract #430-13, Silsbee Ford
For the acquisition of four (4) 2016 Ford Interceptor Sedans and one (1) 2016 Ford Focus vehicle for Police Services Department. (Maximum \$148,612)
- Resolution – Rio Grande Council of Governments
Resolution authorizes the filing of grant application with the Rio Grande Council of Governments for a regional Solid Waste Grants Program. If project is funded, Socorro ISD will comply with the grant requirements. (No cost to the District)
- Submission of Grants
 - Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) FY2016 Grant Competition
Seeks to improve student achievement and ease the challenges military dependent students have due to transitions and deployments. Duration of grant is five (5) years, for a total of \$1,500,000.
- Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification
District and open-enrollment charter schools are required to certified annually to the State Board of Education and the commissioner that for each subject in the required curriculum students have access to the instructional materials that cover all of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

BID: SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL HVAC SYSTEMS UPGRADES – RFP NO. 199-0331-E1664

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra for separate consideration. This solicitation is to purchase and install HVAC Systems Upgrades at Socorro High School at a maximum amount of \$282,642 using committed funds. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Paul Guerra abstained.

REQUEST FOR INCREASE – BID: REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING & REPAIR – RFP NO. 199-0129-E1549

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra for separate consideration. The increase is to address committed fund projects. This bid will increase from \$600,000 to \$680,000. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Paul Guerra abstained.

SUBMISSION OF GRANT: BODY WORN CAMERA GRANT-U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for discussion. Following a discussion regarding storage system capacity of these devices, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the submission of grant to obtain body worn cameras for the licensed peace officers at the SISD Police Department; to establish a record management system; to provide a data storage system; and training for all users. There is a dollar for dollar match required for a maximum of \$20,000. The motion carried unanimously.

STATEMENT(S) OF IMPACT – HARMONY SCIENCE ACADEMY-EL PASO; HARMONY SCHOOL OF SCIENCE-HOUSTON; AND SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-MAIN

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for discussion. Following a discussion regarding financial impact, a motion was made by Michael Najera to deny the request; after further discussion, Michael Najera rescinded his motion. A new motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to postpone the item for further review. The motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the 2016-2017 Professional Certified Contract Recommendations for Teachers, Librarians, Nurses, Counselors, Speech Therapists and Educational Diagnosticians as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

FINE ARTS TASK FORCE PLAN

Following a presentation by Don Rominsky, regarding the development of the plan, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Gary Gandara stepped out of the meeting; wasn't available to vote.

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE DISTRICT'S UNLIMITED TAX REFUNDING BONDS

Following a presentation by Tony Reza and *First Southwest*-District's Financial Advisors, regarding the adoption of an order authorizing the issuance and sale of Socorro ISD Unlimited Tax School Refunding Bonds establishing parameters and delegating certain matters to an authorized official of the District related to the issuance and sale of such bonds, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Gary Gandara stepped out of the meeting; wasn't available to vote.

TASB UPDATE 103 AND LOCAL POLICY

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the revisions to policies under TASB Update 103: DBD, DH and DIA; and local policy EIF as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Gary Gandara stepped out of the meeting; wasn't available to vote.

DELL CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT – DONATION OF RETIRED PROPERTY

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the request as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Gary Gandara stepped out of the meeting; wasn't available to vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 9:07 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel regarding status of litigation with ESD #1 and possible mediation; parent grievance filed by C.C.; to hear recommendation of non-renewal of term contract teacher at Americas High School; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider administrative recommendations for Director of Human Resources/Support Personnel, Assistant Director of Athletics, Assistant Director of Fine Arts, Principal at William D. Slider Middle School, and Assistant Principal at Paso Del Norte School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 10:44 p.m.

ESD #1 AND POSSIBLE MEDIATION

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to authorize legal counsel to continue negotiation and bring back a recommendation as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

PARENT GRIEVANCE FILED BY C.C.

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to uphold the Hearing Officer Level III recommendation and deny grievance. The motion carried unanimously.

NON-RENEWAL OF TERM CONTACT TEACHER P.M.

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the recommendation as presented in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Espinoza recommended Celina Stiles to assume all roles and responsibilities as Director of Human Resources/Support Personnel. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Rummie Gray to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Director of Athletics. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Ronald Pingor to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Director of Fine Arts. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Enrique Herrera to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of William D. Slider Middle School. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Diana Mooy to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Paso Del Norte. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MAY 17, 2016.

Regular Meeting – Board of Trustees
District Service Center
April 19, 2016
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