



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
December 13, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Gary Gandara, Board President; Paul Guerra, Board Vice President; Cynthia A. Najera, Board Secretary; Hector F. Gonzalez who arrived at 6:12 pm; Michael A. Najera who arrived at 6:07 pm; Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub; Angelica Rodriguez; and Dr. José Espinoza, Superintendent of Schools

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Board President Gary Gandara. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS**

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

**BOARD HONORS**

- SISD students were recognized for receiving awards in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual El Paso Community College K-12 Art Contest.
- SISD students were recognized for winning the 2016 SISD Winter Holiday Art Contest.
- SISD students were recognized for placing in the 2016 SISD Celebrate Freedom Week Contest.
- The Americas High School varsity football team was recognized for winning a 2016 bi-district championship.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- The SISD Purchasing Department was recognized for earning the Texas Association of School Business Officials Award of Merit with Recognized Status for the sixth year in a row.
- The SISD Community Education Department was recognized for receiving the Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Performance Quality Improvement Award.

**OPEN FORUM**

Veronica Hernandez, from Socorro AFT, signed up to address the Board of Trustees and Superintendent regarding Health Insurance proposal.

The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent regarding Desert Wind School: Sara M. Juarez, Juan Ibarra, Noe Velarde, Chris Navarro, Christian Rivera, Elsa Soto, Leticia Rueda, Ericka Velarde, Viviana Maese, Sonia Rivera, Janet Cramer, Alejandra Castillo, Ivette R. Navarro, Elva Argumedo and Valeria Lerma.

The following individual, Leticia Favela de Quezada, signed up to address the Board of Trustees and Superintendent; however, when her name was called to approach the podium, she was a no show.

## **REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD MEMBER CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT HOURS**

As required by the *Texas Administrative Code* Chapter 61.1(j), Board President Gary Gandara, announced the completed, deficient and exceeding Board training continuing education hours for each Trustee. No action was taken on this agenda item.

All Board Members met requirements in Tier II, Teamwork; met and exceeded requirements in Tier III, discretionary continuing education credit hours. *Congratulations Board of Trustees!*

## **FACILITIES REPORT**

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond Program and other district-wide construction 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 Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2016 Board Training; November 15, 2016 Board Workshop; and November 15, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel  
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
  - Association of Texas Small School Bands for the use of Eastlake High School Theater
  - Boy Scout Troop 378 for the use of District Service Center Meeting Rooms C and D
  - Eastside Texans for the use of Pebble Hills High School Gymnasium
  - El Paso Police Basketball League for the use of Ensor Middle School Gymnasium
  - Just for You Daycare for the use of Sun Ridge Middle School Cafeteria
  - Horizon Lions Club for the use of Ensor Middle School and Horizon Heights Elementary School Parking Lots
  - Sun Bowl Association for the use of the Student Activities Complex (SAC) and El Dorado High School Football Fields
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
  - Health Insurance Audit Services (Medical & Pharmacy) – RFP No. 199-1028-E1734  
Solicitation for health insurance audit services for the health insurance program to include operational, medical and pharmacy. (Maximum \$100,000)
  - Real Estate Agent/Brokerage Services – RFQ No. 199-1202-E1739  
Solicitation to procure Real Estate Agent/Brokerage services as needed district-wide. (Cost to be determined)
  - Request for Increase – District Technology Computer RFP No. 199-0227-E1552  
Based on prior year's expenditures during the first quarter, Administration anticipates an increase in purchases and is therefore recommending approval of an increase in the total award amount of \$700,000 awarded to multiple vendors. The new amount for this award would be \$5,700,000 per year, which will expire March 2, 2017.

- **Contracts**
  - **Master of Rehabilitation Counseling Program and Educational Experience Affiliation Agreement – University of Texas at El Paso (No cost to the District)**  
The University and SISD will provide students enrolled in University’s College of Health Science with educational experience. This program prepares individuals to provide employment, counseling and support for students with disabilities. (No cost to the District)
  - **Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech Language Pathology Program Agreement and Educational Experience Affiliation Agreement – University of Texas at El Paso**  
The University and SISD will provide students enrolled in University’s College of Health Science with educational experience in the occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech language pathology programs. (No cost to the District)
  - **Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson LLP – Property Value Appeal Services Agreement Renewal**  
The purpose of the contract is for the administrative appeal and any judicial appeal of the property value study finding as conducted by the Comptroller’s Office as of January 1, 2016 for the school year of 2017-2018. (Cost to be determined)
  - **Purchasing Cooperative – Texas DIR Contract Dell servers and services**  
This lease will replace the database servers for the Financial/HR and Student Information Systems. The current systems will be out of the manufacturer’s five year warranty on March 31, 2017. The replacement database servers will be built and configured to increase capacity, higher data resiliency, and improved disaster recovery capabilities for the next five years. These critical systems are being replaced based on the proposed Technology Capital Improvement Plan. (Maximum \$130,356+Interest)
- **Impact Aid Indian Policies and Procedures Resolution for the 2016-2017 School Year**  
The Impact Aid Program regulations require an annual review of Indian Policies and Procedures (IPPs). The following modification has been added as the last procedure “the Socorro Independent School District will respond in writing to comments or concerns from students of Native American parents or tribal officials, as needed.”

#### **TASB UPDATE 105 AND LOCAL POLICY**

Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the revisions to policies from TASB Update 105: BQ, EHBD, FDC and Local Policy FFAC and FDB as presented. The motion carried with a 5-2 vote. Voted against: Hector Gonzalez and Tony Ayub

#### **DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 313 S. RIO VISTA ROAD, FORMER COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER**

Following a presentation by Mr. Eyeington regarding the demolition proposal, the Board of Trustees instructed Administration to seek proposals for this project. No action was taken on this agenda item.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 7:53 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel; for discussion regarding parent Level III Grievance complaint filed by R.M. and status of litigation between ESD No. 1 and SISD; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Assistant Principals at Purple Heart Elementary School, James P. Butler Elementary School and Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

**PARENT LEVEL III GRIEVANCE COMPLAINT FILED BY R.M.**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to uphold the Hearing Officer's recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.

**LITIGATION BETWEEN ESD NO. 1 AND SISD**

Legal Counsel reported that the item would be brought back in January for the Board's consideration. No action was taken on this agenda item.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Phyllis Sully to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Purple Heart Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Yvonne Romero to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of James P. Butler Elementary School. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Administration pulled recommendation for Assistant Principal at Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School. No action was taken on this item.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON JANUARY 17, 2017.**