



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
January 17, 2017 – 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; Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub; and Dr. José Espinoza, Superintendent of Schools

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Angelica Rodriguez

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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**

- Montwood High School and El Dorado High School varsity football teams were recognized for winning 2016 District Championships.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- SISD school counseling teams were recognized for earning the 2016-2017 Lone Star State School Counselor Association Award.
- The 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 National School Counselor Week being held February 6-10, 2017, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Following a presentation by Veronica Hernandez, AFT President, regarding a resolution to support public education in our community, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 5-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez voted nay.

**OPEN FORUM**

Wells Fargo representatives, Cesar Apodaca and Christine Gallegos, presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 for the WIN Academy.

Angelica Soto, SEA President, reported that a \$500 donation had been made to the Dr. W. Barber Scholarship in honor of Board Appreciation Month.

The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent regarding Desert Wind School: Leticia Favela D'Quezada, Bertha Alicia Alcantar, Raquel Perez, Araceli Acosta and Magdalena Ronquillo.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with BR Legal, the Annual Performance Report, based on the 2015-2016 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) provided by TEA, was presented.

For the third consecutive year, SISD surpasses the state average in all 17 STAAR exams in grades 3 through 8, and by an even larger margin this past year in spite of increased passing standards. Over the last four years SISD has jumped 136 percentage points in the grade 3-8 STAAR exams, whereas the state has only increased 13 cumulative percentage points. In addition, the district and all campuses that were rated met standard in the state's 2015-2016 accountability rating. SISD campuses earned 140 academic distinction designations with six campuses earning recognition in every category possible.

At this time, the public was invited to make comments relative to the Annual Performance Report TAPR 2015-2016. No one came forward. The Board proceeded to the next agenda item.

### **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.

### **TECHNOLOGY UPDATE**

Hector Reyna, Chief Technology Officer, provided a presentation on the District's technology services focusing on the telephone system upgrades. No action was taken on this agenda item.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of F1-Amendment-Lease Agreement with Freight Exchange of North America, LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2016 Board Workshop; and December 13, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel  
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
  - Artistic Stylz 2 Dance Studio for the use of El Dorado High School Theater
  - Lower Valley Congregation of Jehovas Witnesses for the use of Escontrias Early Childhood Center Gymnasium
  - Socorro High School Football Booster Club for the use of District Service Center Meeting Rooms C&D
  - St. Marks Church for the use of Montwood Middle School Gymnasium
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)

- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
  - Building and Carpentry Materials – RFP No. 199-1130-E1736  
Solicitation to purchase building and carpentry materials as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$450,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
  - Construction Audit Services ( New, Renovation and Additions) – RFP No. 199-1028-E1727  
Solicitation to purchase services of a firm to provide auditing services for construction projects. (Maximum \$150,000)
  - Electrical Parts and Supplies – RFP No. 199-1028-E1710  
Solicitation to purchase electrical parts and supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$200,000)
  - Irrigation Supplies – RFP No. 199-1128-E1704  
Solicitation to purchase irrigation supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$155,000)
  - Landscaping, Xeriscaping and Masonry Services – RFP No. 199-1128-E1730  
Solicitation to purchase services for landscaping, xeriscaping and masonry as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$200,000)
  - Relocation of Portables and Related Services – RFP No. 199-1128-E1723  
Solicitation to purchase services to relocate portables as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$150,000)
  - Technology Lab Equipment – RFP No. 199-1129-E1735  
Solicitation to purchase technology laboratory equipment and supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$200,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
- Contracts
  - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) – United Way Parents as Teachers Program  
The PAT program is designed to serve children age 0 through age 5 and their families. AmeriCorps members will help the parent understand parenting skills, child development, and school readiness with a goal to reduce the number of children entering school in need to special help. This program is designed as a universal support for all parents as their child's first teacher and can be adapted to the needs of diverse cultures and special populations. (No cost to the District)
  - Utilization of the ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative Bid #14-7065 Segovia's Distributing Inc. (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters)  
Segovia's Distributing, Inc., is the sole bidder with a HACCP Product Recall Program. Quality Control Program, Food Safety Program and Third Party Inspected (NSF). The Purchase Order to Segovia's Distributing Inc., is for the third and fourth quarters from 1/17/17 through 6/30/17. (Maximum \$600,000-CNS Federal Funds)

**CONTRACT – AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FREIGHT EXCHANGE OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for discussion. Following a discussion regarding the term of the amendment, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the Fifth Amendment to lease agreement for certain District property and to extend the term of the lease agreement for the period of February 1, 2017 through January 31, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION TO REPEAL A-F PUBLIC SCHOOL RATING SYSTEM**

Following a presentation by Alisa Zapata-Farmer, Chief Academic Officer, regarding the resolution to repeal the new A-F public school rating system, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**FY2017-2018 BUDGET PRIORITIES AND CALENDAR**

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the Administration's intent to ensure inclusion of the listed priorities in the FY2017-2018 General Fund Budget, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES BETWEEN SOCORRO ISD AND THE EL PASO COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS FOR MAY 17, 2017 ELECTION**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**ORDER AND NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR MAY 6, 2017 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE LAW SCHOOL INITIATIVE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ALBERT ARMENDARIZ SCHOOL OF LAW IN EL PASO, TEXAS**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 7:59 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel regarding status of L Guerra v. Socorro ISD; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Principal at O'Shea Keleher Elementary School and Licensed Specialist in School Psychology; and to hear Superintendent mid-cycle formal evaluation update under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Administration pulled the recommendation for Principal of O'Shea Keleher Elementary School. No action was taken.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Arturo Oaxaca to assume all roles and responsibilities as Licensed Specialist in School Psychology. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON FEBRUARY 21, 2017.**