



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
January 16, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Board President Paul Guerra. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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

BOARD HONORS

- The El Dorado and Eastlake varsity football teams were recognized for winning 2017-2018 championships.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- The SISD Board of Trustees were recognized in honor of School Board Recognition Month.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR’S WEEK PROCLAMATION

Following a presentation by Tammi Mackeben, Director of Guidance and Counseling, regarding National School Counselor’s Week being held February 5-9, 2018, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Marcy Sparks and Lisa Hernandez addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent regarding Community Library Services and summer reading success from 2017.

Angelica Soto recognized the Board of Trustees in honor of School Board Recognition Month.

PUBLIC HEARING – ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT TARP 2016-2017

In accordance with BR Legal, the Annual Performance Report, based on the 2016-2017 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) provided by TEA, was presented.

For the fourth consecutive year, SISD surpassed the state average in all 17 STAAR exams in grades 3 through 8. In addition, Team SISD and all rated schools once again earned the Met Standard status in the 2017 Texas Education Agency accountability ratings systems. The district received a total of 144

Distinction Designations by the TEA for its student performance and three schools earned a Distinction Designation in every possible category.

At this time, the public was invited to make comments relative to the Annual Performance Report TAPR 2016-2017. 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2017 Regular Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Conscious Minds Production for the use of Americas High School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Contracts
 - Contract – Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson LLP – Property Value Appeal Services Agreement Renewal
For the administrative appeal and any judicial appeal of the property value study finding as conducted by the Comptroller’s Office. (Cost to District-TBD)
 - Amendment Two – Communities In Schools of El Paso (CIS) – Choices Program
To add a program coordinator at Purple Heart Elementary School. (Maximum \$17,500 Increase-General Fund/Title I)
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – El Paso Credit Union HOAP, Inc. Volunteer Tax Preparation Services
To provide community service opportunities for Socorro ISD High School students through the El Paso Credit Union HOAP, Inc. program to assist community members and constituents of Socorro ISD with the preparation of basic income tax returns and basic forms for tax preparation purposes. (No cost to the District)
 - Purchasing Cooperative(s) – Furniture for New Elementary (#29)
Furniture to outfit the new elementary school (#29) Phase I; classroom furniture to include teacher desk and chair, student desk and chair, file cabinets, bookcases, computer stations and chairs, activity tables, cubbies, easels, rocking chairs, art caddies, carpets, listening centers, kitchen/cafeteria tables and other items as needed. (Maximum \$500,000-Bond Funds)
 1. The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS/TAPS)
 2. Region 19 Educational Service Ceeter
 3. BuyBoard
 4. TCPN/National I.P.A.
 5. U.S. Communities
- New Job Description – Special Education/AI Teacher
- Mid-Year Salary Adjustment for two (2) Non-Certified Contract Staff Members
 1. Chief Communications Officer
 2. Chief Technology Officer

- **TEA Low Attendance Waiver**

The Texas Education Agency allows school districts that have experienced a significant drop in attendance to apply for a waiver application for low attendance days. This will allow the district to request that campuses that have attendance at least ten (10) percentage points below the last school year's average attendance due to safety issues be excluded from ADA calculations for the current year. Due to the safety-related issue that occurred at Montwood High School on November 2, 2017 and November 3, 2017; the District qualifies for this waiver.

2018-2019 AND 2019-2020 SOCORRO ISD STUDENT CALENDARS

Following a brief presentation by Lucia Borrego, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, concerning the development of the calendars, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CHARTER AND APPLICATION FOR THE BOND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

Following a presentation by Daniel Escobar, Chief Communications Officer, regarding the Charter and membership application of the Bond Accountability Committee, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

FY2018-2019 BUDGET PRIORITIES AND CALENDAR

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the inclusion of the listed priorities in the FY2018-2019 General Fund Budget, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED SOCORRO ISD BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, regarding the proposed Elementary School #29 boundary recommendations, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

LOCAL POLICY

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the revisions to local policy FC as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS) FOR SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION

The Administrative Review Committee evaluated firms for Professional Services (Architects/ Engineers) pertaining to Socorro High School Reconstruction project. Administration provided their recommendations in order of preference: VLK Architects, Inc.; Mijares-Mora Architects, Inc.; MNK Architects, Inc./DLR Group; Carl Daniel Architects; and PSRBB Architects/LPA, Inc. for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS) FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL (EASTLAKE)

The Administration Review Committee evaluated firms for Professional Services (Architects/Engineers) pertaining to the new middle school (Eastlake) project. Administration provided their recommendations in order of preference: Mijares-Mora Architects, Inc.; MNK Architects, Inc./DLR Group; PSRBB Architects/LPA, Inc.; and VLK Architects, Inc. for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS) FOR THE NEW SAC II

The Administrative Review Committee evaluated firms for Professional Services (Architects/ Engineers) pertaining to the new SAC II project. Administration provided their recommendations in order of preference: HKS; MNK Architects, Inc./DLR Group; PSRBB Architects/LPA, Inc.; and VLK Architects, Inc. for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION

The Administrative Review Committee evaluated firms for Construction Management at Risk pertaining to Socorro High School Reconstruction project. Administration provided their recommendations in order of preference: Buford•Thompson Company; Banes General Contractors, Inc.; and Jordan/Forster Construction, LLC for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Tony Ayub abstained.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL (EASTLAKE)

The Administrative Review Committee evaluated firms for Construction Management at Risk pertaining to a new middle school (Eastlake) project. Administration provided their recommendations in order of preference: Banes General Contractors, Inc.; Dantex Construction, LLC; Buford•Thompson Company; and Jordan/foster Construction, LLC for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RFQ FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND RFP FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR PHASE II OF THE 2017 BOND PROGRAM

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to publish solicitation requests for RFQ and RFP for Construction Management at Risk for Phase II of the 2017 Bond Program as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EL PASO CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to reappoint SISD Trustees Gary Gandara and Michael Najera for the 2018/2019 EPCAD Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 8:04 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel regarding status and employment of G. Saucedo to include recommendation of final action on suspension without pay and termination of employment for good cause; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Principal position at Hueco Elementary School, Assistant Principal positions at James P. Butler Elementary School, O'Shea Keleher Elementary School, Spec. Rafael Hernando School and Sun Ridge Middle School, Special Education Physical Therapist; 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 9:30 p.m.

EMPLOYMENT OF G. SAUCEDO AND RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE FINAL ACTION ON SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT FOR GOOD CAUSE

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

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Espinoza recommended Myrna Lopez-Patti to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of Hueco Elementary School. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation for Assistant Principal position at James P. Butler Elementary School was pulled. No action was taken.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Martha Santana-Garcia to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of O'Shea Keleher Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Raul Nava to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Spec. Rafael Hernando School. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Ashley Adcox to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Sun Ridge Middle School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Nicole Alvillar to assume all roles and responsibilities as Special Education Physical Therapist. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2018.