



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
March 27, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Paul Guerra, Board President; Angelica Rodriguez

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Board Vice President Cynthia Najera. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS**

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

**BOARD HONORS**

- Escontrias Elementary students were recognized for winning the Third Annual Battle of the Bluebonnets Reading Competition.
- SSG. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School students were recognized for placing in the Patriots Penn Essay Contest.
- A Montwood High School senior was recognized for winning the 2017 Congressional App Challenge.
- SISD students were recognized for advancing to state in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event Competition.
- Two Team SISD students were recognized for placing at the citywide 2018 Black History Art Contest.
- SSG. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School students were recognized for winning the SISD Robocom competition.
- The mariachi groups at Socorro, Eastlake, El Dorado and Americas High Schools were recognized for advancing to the 2018 UIL State Mariachi Festival.
- SISD boys and girls varsity basketball teams were recognized for winning 2017-2018 UIL championships.
- SISD wrestlers were recognized for advancing to the UIL state competition.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- An Eastlake High School athletic trainer was recognized for winning the Manny Pacillas Award by the Sun City Athletic Trainers’ Association.
- The SISD Financial Services Department was recognized for earning the Government Finance Officers Association GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

### **PROCLAMATION FOR MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**

Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, regarding the month of April being recognized as “Month of the Military Child” and April 13<sup>th</sup> will be “Purple-Up Day” recognizing all the sacrifices our military-connected parents and their children have made, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### **PROCLAMATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH**

Following a presentation by Marcy Sparks, Library Services Coordinator, regarding National Library Week being celebrated April 8-14, 2018, with activities to help schools and local community celebrate the essential role that strong school library programs play in transforming learning, a motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

### **OPEN FORUM**

None

### **ACADEMIC SERVICES BOARD REPORT**

Alisa Zapata-Farmer, Chief Academic Officer, provided a presentation of the Professional Development Learning Video Series for instructional practices. No action was taken on this 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 Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2018 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)  
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
  - Boys Basketball for the use of El Dorado High School
  - Congregation of Iglesia De Dios for the use of Mission Ridge Elementary School
  - Just for You Daycare Center & Preschool for the use of Montwood High School
  - P2C Athlete Prep for the use of Pebble Hills High School
  - Rural Schools Education Program and Scholarship Foundation for the use of Pebble Hills High School
  - Sierra Vista Congregation for the use of El Dorado High School
  - SISD School Nurses LVHF for the use of Americas High School
  - Street Cred Sports Inc. for the use of Pebble Hills High School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
  - Miscellaneous Professional Services District Wide – RFQ No. 199-0308-E1841  
Establish a pool of pre-qualified firms for miscellaneous professional services as needed district-wide. (Cost to be determined as needed)

- Paper Supplies – RFP No. 199-0213-E1840  
Solicitation to purchase paper supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$295,095)
- Contracts
  - Assistance Agreement – Assistance League® of El Paso  
Assistance League designed a philanthropic program through Operation School Bell® to provide clothing and shoes to elementary school age children in need, grades first through fifth. Participating students will be transported by Socorro ISD for outfitting. (No cost to the District)
  - Education Affiliation Agreement – Sul Ross State University  
The purpose of the contract is to provide appropriate clinical learning experiences to its students in the Educational Diagnostician programs and mutually desire to advance student training and education. Students subject to this agreement are assigned to Socorro ISD by Sul Ross State University for the purpose of developing the student’s clinical competence (knowledge, procedures/skills, clinical problem solving, and professional attitudes and behaviors). (No cost to the District)
  - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Project Vida Health Center (Mobile Unit)  
The purpose of this MOU is to set forth the terms and conditions of agreement between SISD and PVHC Integrated Primary Health Care Services to link young people and their families to integrated primary care services within the SISD campus to eliminate barriers such as access, transportation and legal statutes. (No cost to the District)
  - Notice of Grant Award and Amendment – Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy
    - a. Notice of Grant Award – This is to accept the TWC Local Performance Quality Improvement Award in the amount of \$30,000. This funding has been allocated accordingly to each school district to use for High School Equivalency Achievement as noted for the term of the grant. (No cost to the District)
    - b. Amendment – This is for year 3. Total funding amount will increase by \$121,648. The additional funds are being obligated to the SISD contract to expand the adult education and career pathway classes currently provided in our region. (No cost to the District)
  - Program Agreement – The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)  
This agreement was originally created to provide a program of exchange and collaboration to benefit both institutions by establishing partner schools, and the placement of UTEP students. Partner schools in SISD receives undergraduate students from UTEP for periods of study and observation. The intent is to continue the developmentally appropriate practices in early childhood, bilingual and special education at Purple Heart Elementary. In addition to, STEM, ELAR, history, social studies and special education through clinical experiences, professional opportunities and ongoing research at William D. Slider Middle School and Eastlake High School. (No cost to the District)
- Statements of Impact
  - Harmony Science Academy – El Paso  
Loss of revenue of approximately \$6,015 per student per year due to opening of the new El Paso campus affecting budget, staffing and facilities.
  - Harmony School of Science - Houston  
The new Katy Harmony School of Science is proposed to open in the Houston, Texas area.
  - IDEA Public Schools – El Paso  
Loss of revenue of approximately \$6,015 per student per year due to the opening of the new campus. The significant enrollment and financial impact will directly affect district budget, staffing and facilities.

- Title Change on Job Description: Computer Maintenance Instructional Aide
  - New Title: Computer Maintenance Clerk

**NEW SCHOOL NAME RECOMMENDATION FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 29**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the name of Sgt. Jose Carrasco Elementary School for the new elementary school being built in the Pebble Hills area. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the Administrator Certified (revised) and Non-Certified Contract Recommendations for 2018-2019 School Year as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**HEALTH PLAN DESIGN CHANGES FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR, PHASE II**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the proposed health plan design changes under Phase II as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**TASB UPDATES 108 AND 109 AND LOCAL POLICY**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve revisions to policies from TASB Update 108: EL; TASB Update 109: CNA, FEA and FFI; and local policy FL as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FEES (ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS) FOR MONTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – MNK ARCHITECTS**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve professional services fees of 7.25% of the cost of work as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FEES (ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS) FOR AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – CDA ARCHITECTS**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve professional services fees of 7.5% of the cost of work as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FEES (ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS) FOR EL DORADO HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – PSRBB COMMERCIAL GROUP, INC.**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve professional services fees of 7.375% of the cost of work as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR MONTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – BUFORD-THOMPSON COMPANY**

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve total fee of \$1,595,327 as presented. The motion carried with a 4-0-1 vote. Tony Ayub abstained.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – BANES GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC.**

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve total fee of \$1,734,932 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK FOR AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS – DANTEX GENERAL CONTRACTORS**

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve total fee of \$1,834,793 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 7:47 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel regarding the acquisition of real property from M.S. Apodaca, M. Beltran and the Manriquez family for school district needs; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider administrative recommendations for Director of Fine Arts, Assistant Principals positions at Escontrias Elementary School, James P. Butler Elementary School, John Drugan School and SSG. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School (2) under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:29 p.m.

**ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve Resolution for the acquisition of real property from M.S. Apodaca as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried with a 4-0-1 vote. Gary Gandara abstained.

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve Resolution for the acquisition of real property from M. Beltran as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried with a 4-0-1 vote. Gary Gandara abstained.

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve Resolution for the acquisition of real property from the Manriquez family as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Armando Martinez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Director of Fine Arts. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Maria Sosa to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Escontrias Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Rachel Sendek to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at James P. Butler Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Ileana Mendez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at John Drugan School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Shannon Crowley to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at SSG. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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Administration pulled the recommendation for the second Assistant Principal position at SSG. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School. No action was taken on this agenda item.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON APRIL 17, 2018.**