



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
August 21, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Gandara

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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

BOARD HONORS

- Americas Track-and-Field Athletes were recognized for winning the 2017-2018 UIL District 1-6A Championship.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- SISD Instructional Aides were recognized for winning the Grow Your Own Grant to complete their Teaching Certification.
- Three District Employees were inducted into SISD’s Wall of Honor.

OPEN FORUM

Michael Hradek addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent regarding district’s curriculum.

PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED 2018-19 TAX RATE

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the proposed 2018-19 Tax Rate of \$1.380594 per \$100 valuation, the public was invited to comment on the adoption of the tax rate. No one came forward to address the Board. No action was taken on this agenda item.

2018 ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS FOR SOCORRO ISD

On August 15th, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) released the state accountability ratings. Districts across Texas received a letter grade, while campuses received a Met Standard or Improvement Required Rating.

Socorro ISD received an overall score of an 88 which is scaled to a letter grade of a B. All campuses in the Socorro ISD received a Met Standard Rating. In January, the TEA will release a “what if” letter grade to campuses, of which 30% are projected to receive an A (14 campuses), 63% will receive a B (29 campuses), 2% a C (1 campus), and 4% a D (2 campuses). No action was taken on this agenda item.

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 and 2017 Bond Programs and other district-wide construction projects. No action was taken on this agenda item.

SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC) – YEARLY REPORT

SHAC is a group of individuals representing segments of the community, appointed by the school district to serve at the district level, to provide advice to the district on coordinated school health programming and its impact on student health and learning. The SHAC assists the district in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the district's health education instruction. No action was taken on this agenda item.

STUDENT OVERFLOWS AND TRANSFERS OVERVIEW

The Department of Administrative Services provided an overview of the new online student overflow process and student transfers update for the Board of Trustees. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

Administration pulled item 9C-Requests for the Use of School Facilities for discussion and item 9F6b-National IPA TCPN #R1411501 American Logistics Company, LLC (ALC) for further review. A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of items 9F3a-Memorandum of Agreement-Emergency Medical Technician Program El Paso Community College; 9F4a-Memorandum of Understanding-Dual Credit Agreements with International Business College (IBC) and Western Technical College (WTC); and 9F4b-Memorandum of Understanding-University of Maryland University College. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2018 Regular Board Meeting; and July 26, 2018 Special Board Meetings
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
 - Cafeteria Supplies – RFP No. E1906
Solicitation to provide the Child Nutrition Services Department with cafeteria supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$750,000-Federal Fund Budget)
 - District Software – RFP No. E1901
Solicitation to purchase software, subscriptions, licenses, and online programs in the areas of instructional, business and technical as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$1,500,000-General Fund Budget/Special Revenue)
 - Paper Supplies – RFP No. E1904
Solicitation to purchase paper supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$296,345)
 - Plumbing Services and Materials – RFP No. E1905
Solicitation to provide the District's Operation and Maintenance Department with plumbing services and materials as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$300,000)
 - Sheet Metal Fabrication and Installation – RFP No. E1903
Solicitation to provide the Maintenance and Operations Department with ability to fabricate and install metal as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$200,000)

- Worker’s Compensation Insurance – RFP No. E1908
Solicitation for Worker’s Compensation Insurance as needed district-wide. (Cost: TBD)
- Contracts
 - Agreements
 - a. Education Service Center Region 19 (2)
 - 1. Discovery Education Streaming – license and access, offer economy of scale for high quality video products. (Maximum \$43,401)
 - 2. TEKS Resource System – a curriculum support system for K-12. This system is designed to provide a common language, process and structure for curriculum development. (Maximum \$285,120)
 - b. Read, Write and Create, Inc. After School Learning Centers and 21st Century Grant Coordination – to provide appropriate staffing for specific after school learning center to be administered by SISD campus locations for students enrolled and participating in specific 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant funded programs and to make available better educational opportunities for SISD students. (Maximum \$124,000-21st Century Grant Funds)
 - c. YWCA El Paso del Norte Region, Inc. After School Learning Centers and 21st Century Grant Coordination – to provide appropriate staffing for specific after school learning centers to be administrated by SISD campus locations for students enrolled and participating in specific 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant funded programs and to make available better educational opportunities for SISD students. (Maximum \$664,076-21st Century Grant Funds)
 - Interlocal Agreement – Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) with Ysleta Independent School District
This is for the continuation and operation of a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP), for the students, school districts, and the juvenile board in El Paso County. This agreement is between El Paso County Juvenile Board, the Ysleta Independent School District (YISD-Fiscal Agent) and Socorro ISD. The agreement will serve to combine into one system the operational, programmatic and educational standards for the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program. (No cost to the District)
 - Memorandum of Agreement – Our Lady of the Lake University (Counselor Interns) Curriculum in counseling in which it desires the cooperation of Socorro ISD in the development and implementation of the practicum experience for school counselor interns providing a Master’s degree in School Counseling. (No cost to the District)
 - Third Party Sponsor Billing Agreement – University of Texas at El Paso
The University will allow admitted SISD teachers through a Dual Credit Scholarship Program to enroll at the University and will direct bill SISD for tuition, fees and related charges subject to the terms, conditions, and provisions of this Agreement. (Maximum \$700,000)
 - Purchasing Cooperative Utilization – Region 8 TIPS/TAPS Blackboard Inc.
To continue the services from Blackboard Inc. for Mass Notification, App Integration and Social Media Manager and Web Community Manager. (Maximum \$150,740)
- Job Descriptions (Pay Grade Change) – *Attached*

REQUESTS FOR THE USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Administration for discussion. Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, regarding pending fees, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the following requests as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

1. A Real Big, LLC DBA Race El Paso for the use of the Student Activities Complex (SAC) and Aquatic Center
2. Basketball El Paso for the use of Montwood High School
3. Destiny Family Christian Center for the use of Montwood High School
4. El Paso Aztecs for the use of El Dorado High School
5. El Paso Bombers for the use of Sgt. Manuel R. Puentes Middle School
6. El Paso Broncos for the use of Montwood High School
7. Horizon City Phantoms for the use of Col. John O. Ensor Middle School
8. Mariachi Craze for the use of Pebble Hills High School
9. New Heights Baptist Church for the use of Montwood High School
10. Region 19 Child Nutrition Program for the use of Eastlake High School
11. SrA Danny Ray Sanchez Foundation for the use of Montwood High School
12. Supers Athletic Organization for the use of Americas High School

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PROGRAM
EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration by Michael Najera. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented for the purpose of providing entry level courses at the high school level and the opportunity to participate as dual credit or articulated credit student at a maximum cost of \$58,774 being funded by Carl Perkins Funds. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Tony Ayub abstained.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – DUAL CREDIT AGREEMENTS WITH
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COLLEGE (IBC) AND WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE
(WTC)**

These items were pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for discussion. Following a discussion regarding a minor correction to the MOUs, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item with correction identified participating school as Options High School. The motion carried unanimously.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for discussion. Following a discussion regarding the teacher stipend for this program, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item with revision to state that the stipend will be given to the school. The motion carried unanimously.

AMENDED SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC) BYLAWS

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for discussion. Following a discussion regarding revisions previously proposed, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to postpone the item to a future meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

2018-2019 DISTRICT AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Following a brief presentation by Dr. Adam Starke, Director of State and Federal Programs, on the process involved in the development of the District and Campus Improvement Plans, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2018-2019 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX RATE

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to adopt the 2018-19 Maintenance and Operations tax rate of \$0.981640 per \$100 valuation in order to support the 2018-19 fiscal year budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2018-2019 INTEREST AND SINKING FUND TAX RATE

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Tony Ayub, to adopt the 2018-19 Interest and Sinking fund tax rate of \$0.398954 per \$100 of valuation in order to support the 2018-19 fiscal year budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION WHICH OFFICIALLY LEVIES THE TAX RATE FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the Resolution which officially levies the tax rate for the Socorro Independent School District for the 2018-19 school year as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

AMENDING TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AT&T-TX1951-ALAMEDA/SOCORRO (TX)

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Tony Ayub, to deny the item. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY OF EL PASO PROPOSAL TO WIDENING PELLICANO DRIVE

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the negotiation of Option 1 concerning the detention pond at John Drugan School as presented. The motion carried with a 5-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez voted nay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 8:23 p.m. for discussion regarding Level 3 grievance appeal filed by employee A.C. and discussion with legal counsel regarding status of pending litigation; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to conduct evaluations of Internal Auditors: Curriculum and Instruction and Finance; to consider administrative recommendations for Assistant Principal at various campuses under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

LEVEL 3 GRIEVANCE APPEAL FILED BY EMPLOYEE A.C.

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to uphold recommendation from hearing officer as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

EVALUATION OF INTERNAL AUDITORS

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to postpone this item for a future meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Espinoza recommended Jennifer Marquez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Robert R. Rojas Elementary School. A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Elizabeth Bustamante to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Desert Wind School. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Roberto Guerrero to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Desert Wind 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 Linda Alexander to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Montwood High School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2018.