



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
November 19, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cynthia A. Najera, Board President; Angelica Rodriguez arrived at 7:15pm, Board Vice President; Paul Guerra, Board Secretary; Gary Gandara arrived at 6:11pm; Paul Garcia; Eduardo Mena; David O. Morales; and Jose Espinoza, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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**

- SISD high school students were recognized for being a 2019 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar and a 2019 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist.
- SISD students were recognized for competing at the UIL State Cross Country Meet.
- The Americas High School Boys Cross Country Team was recognized for winning the UIL 1-6A District Championship and Competing at the State Competition.
- The Eastlake, El Dorado and Montwood High School Varsity Volleyball Teams were recognized for winning UIL Championships.
- The Eastlake High School Marching Band was recognized for competing at the UIL 5A State Competition.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- The SISD Elementary Teacher of the Year was recognized for being a finalist in the Texas Teacher of the Year Program.
- A Capt. Walter E. Clarke Middle School teacher was recognized for winning the 2019 Chalk the Block Best Showcase Award.
- SISD Counseling Teams were recognized for being 2019-2020 Lone Star State School Counselor Association Award Recipients.
- SISD employees were recognized for their 25+ Years of Service.
- The El Paso Central Appraisal District recognized Board Trustee Gary Gandara for his service on the EPCAD Board of Directors.

**OPEN FORUM**

The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent:

- Monique Hernandez, Martha Martinez and Cindy Hernandez regarding Sanchez Middle School concerns.

**PUBLIC HEARING - FINANCIAL INTEGRITY RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS (FIRST)**

Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the District attained a Superior Achievement performance for the 2018-2019 financial rating under the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST). This report covers 2018 data. Also, in the Financial Services website, information relative to the Superintendent's contract and Board of Trustees' reimbursements are posted for the public's review. No action was taken on this agenda item.

The public was invited to provide input regarding the FIRST Rating. No one came forward. The Board proceeded to the next item.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of items G1-Job Description revisions to Teacher on Special Assignment/Dyslexia Service Provider; G2-New Job Description, GO Center Advisory; and H-Options High School, TEA Targeted Improvement Plan for Comprehensive Support Campus Label. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2019 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
  - Aspire Dance Company for the use of El Dorado High School
  - Basketball Shots for the use of Eastlake High School
  - El Paso County Sheriff's Office Region VIII Training Academy for the use of Pebble Hills High School
  - El Paso Winds for the use of Pebble Hills High School
  - Elite Academy of Dance for the use of Pebble Hills High School
  - Horizon Falcons Youth Sports Organization for the use of Americas High School
  - New World Montessori School for the use of Americas High School
  - Protégé Dance Company for the use of Pebble Hills High School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids
  - District Awards – RFP No. E2019  
Solicitation to purchase awards to include medals, ribbons, trophies, plaques, certificates, and frames as needed district wide. (Maximum \$175,000)
  - Filters and Accessories – RFP No. E2020  
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations with the ability to purchase filters and accessories as needed district wide. (Maximum \$150,000)
  - Fuel – RFP No. E2009  
Solicitation to provide the Department of Transportation with the ability to purchase fuel as needed district wide. (Maximum \$2,500,000)
  - Intrusion Alarm Upgrades and Maintenance – RFP No. E2014  
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations with the ability to purchase intrusion alarm upgrades and maintenance as needed district wide. (Maximum \$250,000)
- Contracts
  - Agreement(s)
    - a. Affiliation Agreement – Eastern New Mexico University Speech and Hearing Rehabilitation Outreach Center

To establish a clinical experience to its students through the application of knowledge and skills in client-centered situations and settings. Parties agree to jointly participate in a Clinical Education Program and desire to establish and maintain a reciprocally beneficial working relationship.

- b. Agency Affiliation Agreement – El Paso Community College Health Career & Technical Education, Math and Science Division  
For students enrolled in the Health Career Education Programs at the District, to be provided the benefit of educational facilities and resources at the affiliate El Paso Community College (EPCC) such use of classrooms, libraries and teaching aids as may be necessary for the implementation, training, and education of the students during the clinical phase of the program/course at no cost to SISD.
- c. Letter of Agreement – Workforce Solutions Borderplex (Youth Job Skills Grant)  
To establish a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the parties and to set forth the relative responsibilities of the parties insofar as they relate to providing recruitment, educational mentoring and career navigation services for youth.
- o Memorandum(s) of Agreement
  - a. Department of the Army First Armed Division (1AD) - #MOA-W6CLAA-F50  
This agreement is designed to facilitate the mutual development of reciprocal practices, conduits for information between systems about requirements, and accelerate the exchange of emerging opportunities. In conjunction with the surrounding school districts, for the sake of the child, this MOA is adopted by all signatories in a way that models and exemplifies partnership, flexibility, inclusiveness, and information-sharing for all schools that serve high-school-age military-connected students and continue to address transition problems identified in the United States Army’s Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS) data. Signatory leaders commit to continue developing and implementing best and promising practices that will assist the transitioning military-connected student.
  - b. Fort Hays State University Undergraduate Observation  
The parties desire to promote mutual understanding and cooperative effort in providing valuable professional experiences in off campus field experiences. FHSU agrees to provide the appointed representative of SISD with information about the internship candidate(s). The appointed representative shall act as a liaison between FHSU and SISD for problem solving, communication and all other needed matters and to provide classroom assignment that assures appropriate content experience for the candidates’ licensure eligibility upon completion of the student teaching field experience.
- o Memorandum(s) of Understanding
  - a. El Paso Community College (AHA Training Courses)  
This MOU is to continue the agreement with EPCC to support SISD to conduct training courses as approved by the American Heart Association using the AHA educational curricula. EPCC is an approved American Heart Association (AHA) Training Center and is authorized to provide AHA Courses and Training Center Services.
  - b. Pathways Youth and Family Services Pilot Program  
PYFS (HomeSAFE) a Family-Based Safety Services Provider (FBSSP) is an agency that is authorized by DPFS to provide Family-Based Safety Services in the DPFS region covering schools in SISD. To facilitate the provision of such services to families with children who attend SISD schools, FBSSP seeks access to schools and students.
- o Purchasing Cooperative(s)
  - a. Texas DIR Contract #DIR-TSO-4167, Network Wireless License  
For the acquisition of 3,279 Meraki Enterprise Cloud Controller Subscription Licenses for five years in the amount of \$516,442.50 with Advance Network Management (ANM).

Interest rate is at 0% and the annual payments will be made to Key Government Finance, a Cisco Systems Capitol Partner in the amount of \$103,288.50 for five years.

- b. BuyBoard #476-15, Vibra-Whirl Sports, LTD  
For the acquisition of supplies, material, services and related products. The Department of Maintenance and Operations will utilize the purchasing cooperative contract to repair and resurface basketball and tennis courts and tracks in the amount up to \$500,00 as needed district wide for the 19-20 school year.
- c. BuyBoard #560-18, Pro Track and Tennis Inc.  
For the acquisition of supplies, material, services and related products. The Department of Maintenance and Operations will utilize the purchasing cooperative contract to repair and resurface basketball and tennis courts and tracks in the amount up to \$750,000 as needed district wide for the 19-20 school year.

**JOB DESCRIPTION – REVISIONS TO TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT/DYSLEXIA SERVICE PROVIDER**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Angelica Rodriguez for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding the purpose of this job description, a motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW JOB DESCRIPTION – GO CENTER ADVISOR**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding this new position, a motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**REVISIONS TO OPTIONS HIGH SCHOOL, TEA TARGETED IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT CAMPUS LABEL**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding the revisions, a motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**SISD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve Art Aguilar and Michael Najera to fill the current vacancies on the SISD Foundation Board of Directors as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-19**

Following a brief presentation by Vanessa Alarcon, the managing partner for the account firm of *Gibson, Ruddock, and Patterson LLC*, a motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PACKAGE ONE OF THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOMS (AUXILIARY GYMS) FOR BENITO MARTINEZ, ELFIDA CHAVEZ, HELEN BALL, LUJAN CHAVEZ, O'SHEA KELEHER, AND SGT. ROBERTO ITUARTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, CSP NO. 2024**

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the committee's recommendation to award the bid to Pride General Contractors, LLC including base bid, contingency, alternate 1 and 2 in the amount of \$7,791,000 for this project as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT TO ENTRY AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF EL PASO FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RICH BEEM LIGHTING PROJECT (HURSHEL ANTWINE MIDDLE SCHOOL)**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the Rich Beem Lighting Project for Hurshel Antwine Middle School as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINAL CONTRACT SUM - SGT. JOSE F. CARRASCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the final contract sum in the amount of \$25,349,483.41 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**TRAFFIC SIGNAL FLASHERS AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF EL PASO – O’SHEA KELEHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (LEROY BONSE BETWEEN MONTWOOD DRIVE AND CLEAR LAKE CIRCLE)**

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by David Morales, to approve the installation of 2 20’ double-sided mast arm type flashers at an estimated cost of \$80,540 for the installation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**LOCAL POLICY**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the revisions to local policy FM as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 8:01 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel to receive and discuss the recommendation of administration to terminate the probationary contract of A.L. teacher at Eastlake High School for good cause; for discussion regarding revised offer to acquire real property from Jose Antonio and Maria Esperanza Villanueva Perez; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to discuss Sun Bowl Association Request for the Use of School Facilities; to consider administrative recommendations for Principal positions at Hurshel Antwine School and Sun Ridge Middle School; Assistant Principal positions at Chester E. Jordan Elementary School and Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School; and Assistant Director of Athletics under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:44 p.m.

**PROBATIONARY CONTRACT – A.L. TEACHER AT EASTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL**

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**REAL PROPERTY – JOSE ANTONIO AND MARIA EZPERANZA VILLANUEVA PEREZ**

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**SUN BOWL ASSOCIATION – REQUEST FOR THE USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES TO INCLUDE POSSIBLE RENTAL OR OTHER CONSIDERATION**

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Patricia Fernandez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal at Hurshel Antwine School. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended David Herrera to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal at Sun Ridge Middle School. A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Monica Ruiz to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Chester E. Jordan Elementary School. A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Rubi Rios to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Romelia Aragon to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Director of Athletics. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON DECEMBER 17, 2019.**