



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
May 19, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

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This meeting was held by teleconference. The teleconference was accessed via audio and through an audio feed. Any member of the public wishing to comment on an agenda item was able to send an email; these comments were read accordingly.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cynthia A. Najera, Board President; Angelica Rodriguez, Board Vice President; Paul Guerra, Board Secretary; Gary Gandara; 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. All members were present and a quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Ms. Najera opened the floor for nominations for Board President.

A motion was made by Angelia Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to nominate Cynthia Najera for Board President. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Najera opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice President.

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Garcia, to nominate David Morales for Board Vice President. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Najera opened the floor for nominations for Board Secretary.

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Gary Gandara, to nominate Paul Guerra for Board Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

**FACILITIES REPORT**

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

**COST ASSOCIATED WITH DISTRICT CLOSURE**

Tom Layne provided a comment to this agenda item regarding Texas school district budgets.

Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, provided a presentation illustrating the expenditures associated with the district closure as of May 14, 2020 and to support the Board resolution approved on April 11, 2020 to end premium pay as of May 30, 2020. No action was taken on this agenda item.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Tommy Hill provided a comment to this agenda item regarding years of service for employees.

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Garcia to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 3b-Texas Tech University for Principal Residency Grant Program and I-revisions to local policy CDA as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- Board Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting and May 5, 2020 Board Workshop
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)  
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids
  - Dairy Products – RFP No. E2045  
Solicitation to purchase dairy products as needed district wide. (Maximum \$1,700,000-National School Lunch Program)
- Contracts
  - Contract – Communities In Schools of El Paso (CIS)  
Ongoing agreement to provide supportive guidance, educational enhancement, health and human services, parental involvement, employment/pre-employment for the students at Socorro ISD for the 2020-2021 school year; the total cost is for the 35 participating campuses. (Maximum \$1,315,000-Federal Funds)
  - Maintenance Agreement – Tyler Technologies  
Ongoing maintenance agreement for the 2020-2021 school year. (Maximum \$466,424.05)
  - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Amarillo College  
The agreement is to participate in the 2020 Texas Peer Mentor (TX-PMN) adult education publication. It consists of writing assigned article/s for agreed-upon best practice/s for the Community Education Services Department. Each article accepted by the TX-PMN shall be paid in the amount of \$175 regardless of whether the article is published or not.
  - Region 19 CO-OP Contract #15-7144, Frontline Education (ESPED)  
To continue services using the CO-OP contract #15-7144 Web-based program for Federal, State and Local compliance for students with disabilities, Americans with Disabilities Act and 504 Students and Students at Risk. (Maximum \$124,527.76-General and Federal Funds)
  - Purchasing Cooperative(s)
    - ESC Region 19 Allied State Bid #19-7352, Segovia’s Distributing Inc.  
For the acquisition of produce for school cafeterias for the 2020-2021 school year issuing purchase orders quarterly. (Maximum \$1,000,000-CNS Federal Funds)
    - HGACBuy Contract #VE11-18, Lake Country Chevrolet  
For the acquisition of seven (7) 12 passenger vans (Chevrolet Express 3500) for the Department of Transportation. (Maximum \$199,974)
    - Texas DIR Contracts  
For the acquisition of technology equipment and accessories related to desktop computers, laptops, tablets, servers, software and network appliances through June 30, 2021. (Maximum \$12,400,000-General and Federal Funds)
- TEA CPR Instruction Requirements Waiver  
TEA allows school districts that have closed due to Covid-19 to apply for this waiver as per Texas Education Code, §28.0023 and applicable rules in 19 Texas Administrative Code, §74.38. SISD officially closed Monday, March 16, 2020. The instructional period of closure for the 2019-2020 school year is from Tuesday, March 24 through Thursday, May 28, 2020.

- **TEA Missed School Day Waiver/Instructional Continuity Attestation While Closed**  
TEA allows school district that have closed due to Covid-19 and continue to provide instruction at home to apply for this waiver as per Texas Education code, §25.081. SISD emergency closure began Monday, March 16, 2020. The instructional period in which instruction transitioned to remote learning for the 2019-2020 school year is from Tuesday, March 24, 2020 through Thursday, May 28, 2020. SISD attests that parents/guardians are being provided with the educational resources and implementation assistance necessary to support the remote learning instructional program provided off campus/at home to students due to the emergency school closure.
- **HB3 Board Goals**  
Goals are required to be adopted by the Board of Trustees under House Bill 3 in the areas of Early Childhood Literacy, Early Childhood Math and College, Career and Military Readiness.

**CONTRACT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) – TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY FOR PRINCIPAL RESIDENCY GRANT PROGRAM**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Administration for discussion. Following a brief presentation regarding the grant program, a motion as made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by David Morales, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**REVISIONS TO LOCAL POLICY CDA – INVESTMENT**

This item was pulled from Consent Agenda by Administration for discussion. Following a brief presentation regarding the revisions being recommended by TASB Update 114, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the revisions and adding portfolio yearly reports language as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

**SISD FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES - VACANCY**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the recommendation of the appointment of Daniela Avila on the SISD Foundation Board of Directors as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by David Morales, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

A motion as made by Paul Garcia, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**2020-2021 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PLAN**

The following individuals provided a comment by email regarding this agenda item: Tommy Hill, Veronica Hernandez, and Angie Soto.

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve a 2% increase off the mid-point inclusive of the step for Teachers, Librarians, Nurses and Counselors; a 2% increase off the mid-point for Paraprofessional, Auxiliary (including temporary crossing guards and temporary monitors), Technology, Temporary Instructional Aides and Administrative employees; a \$1,000 one-time lump sum

payment to be paid in two installments to all qualifying employees as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERTEK (PSI) FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING FOR AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS**

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve Intertek (PSI) Company for an estimated cost of \$163,569 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 7:06pm for consultation with legal counsel; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Principal position at Socorro High School and Special Education Occupational Therapist; and to consider Superintendent's Annual Evaluation under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:47pm.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Lucero Miranda Reid to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of Socorro High School. A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Brittany N. Alonzo to assume all roles and responsibilities as Special Education Occupational Therapist. A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL EVALUATION**

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the Superintendent's Annual Evaluation as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON JUNE 16, 2020.**