



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
June 16, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

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; David O. Morales, Board Vice President; Paul Guerra, Board Secretary; Gary Gandara; Paul Garcia; Eduardo Mena; Angelica Rodriguez; 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

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

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

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING – EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

On an annual basis, the District is required to consult with parents, community, business members, and educational stakeholders on the Every Student Succeeds Acts (ESSA) federal grant entitlements and planned expenditures for the upcoming year. This public hearing is to be completed prior to the District committing any funds and prior to submitting the application to TEA on June 30, 2020. At this time the public hearing was opened for input. The public was able to provide input by dialing the following number 915-937-1633 during the duration of the hearing.

There being no public input, the Board of Trustees proceeded to the next item. No action was taken on this agenda item.

PUBLIC HEARING –PROPOSED 2020-2021 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED TAX RATE

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the development of the 2020-2021 School District Budget and the proposed tax rate, the public was invited to comment on the adoption of the budget and proposed tax rate. At this time the public hearing was opened for input. The public was able to provide input by dialing the following number 915-937-0119 during the duration of the hearing.

Tom Layne provided input regarding the proposed tax rate for 2020-21. There being no more public input, the Board of Trustees proceeded to the next item. No action was taken on this item.

MECHANIC AND MECHANIC HELPERS PAY WHEN PERFORMING BUS DRIVER DUTIES

Tommy Hill submitted an email concerning the wage and years of experience compensation while mechanics and mechanic helpers are performing duties as a bus driver.

Following a presentation by Celina Stiles, Director of Human Resources, regarding compensation for Mechanics, Mechanic Helpers, or any CDL licensed employees while performing Bus Driver duties, it was reported that Mechanic Helpers and any other CDL licensed employees who are under the Bus Driver pay rate will get paid Bus Driver rate when asked to drive a bus; however, Mechanics are already at this rate if not higher. In collaboration with Transportation and Payroll, the Human Resources Department will ensure that hours worked by Mechanic Helpers and CDL licensed employees as bus drivers get compensated accordingly.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of E3a-MOU with Public Impact Opportunity Culture Residency Design Cohort and G-Adoption of Policy CDA (Local) as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- Board Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2020 Regular Board Meeting and June 2, 2020 Special Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
 - Fiscal Year 2019-2020
 - Fiscal Year 2020-2021
- Awarding of Bids
 - Concrete Redi Mix – RFP No. E2055
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations the ability to purchase concrete redi mix as needed district wide. (Maximum \$200,000)
 - Electrical Installation and Services – RFP No. E2040
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations the ability to purchase electrical installation and services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$535,000)
 - Garbage Disposal Services – RFP No. E2046
Solicitation to procure garbage disposal services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$350,000-General Fund Budget and National School Lunch Program)
 - Request for Increase – Gifted and Talented Materials, Supplies, and Services, RFP No. E1956
Increase the total annual awarded amount by \$100,000 for a new total amount of \$275,000 for this current term and any remaining extended terms. Administration is pleased with the service awarded to multiple vendors and unanticipated usage resulted for the requested increase. (Maximum \$275,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
 - Tele-Medicine Services – RFP No. E2058
Solicitation is to provide tele-medicine services to help expand a comprehensive Health Care Program for our SISD students as needed district wide.
- Contracts
 - Agreement/s – Education Service Center Region 19
 - OnDataSuite – software provides LEA administrators and staff the ability to collect, analyze, and share TSDS/PEIMS academic performance data. Student enrollment as of October, 2019: 47,575 x \$.55 for a total of \$26,166.25 includes hosting and unlimited data, 9/1/2020-8/31/2021.
 - Texas Student Data Systems (TSDS) PEIMS Support Cooperative – statewide system

that modernizes and improves the quality of data collection, management and reporting in Texas education. ESC Region 19 will provide training to the LEA's TSDS stewards on all modules necessary. Membership Fee is \$1,000 for four (4) LEA attendees, 2020-2021 school year.

- Lease Rider – Region 19 Education Service Center and United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

The revisions state that the Federal Grant is being used for Health Start Program at H.D. Hilley Elementary School located at 693 N. Rio Vista, Socorro TX 79927.

- Memorandum of Understanding – ESC Region 19 (Authorized Provider) Reading Academies TEA Grant Project

To set forth the participation between ESC 19-Authorized Provider and Socorro ISD in conducting Reading Academies as required by House Bill 3 (2019) (Reading Academies). The provisions of Reading Academies are being regulated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) with the cooperation of Region 11 Education Service Center to accomplish the outcome of every Kindergarten through Third Grade teacher and principal receiving Reading Academy training. (Maximum \$75,000-General and State Funds)

- Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Workforce Integration Initiative and Ysleta ISD, Fiscal Agent

This grant award period is from May 15, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for a total award of \$70,656. The Socorro ISD's Community Education Department as the lead organization for this grant proposes to use the Ysleta ISD's Division of Finance to act as Grant recipient and Fiscal Agent under the Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Workforce Integration Initiative for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). SISD has committed to continue working with YISD in its efforts to implement a regional consortium that coordinates the delivery of adult education activities.

- Purchasing Cooperative/s

- Region 19 #17-7243 Electrical Supplies – for acquisition of electrical supplies, materials, services and related products district wide, in the amount of up to \$300,000 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Region 19 Allied States Cooperative-USI Southwest Inc (Chubb) Cyber Liability Insurance – to procure Cyber Liability Insurance utilizing vendor USI Southwest Inc. (Chubb Ace American Insurance Company) in the annual amount of \$37,940 for a \$5,000,000 policy for the FY2020-2021.
- Region 8 TIPS/TAPS, Blackboard Inc. – to continue the services from ContentKeeper, a Web Filtering and Cyber Security Platform providing the district a comprehensive set of internet safety and security tools needed to allow safe access to valuable educational content across all browsers and devices both on campus and in support of remote learning on mobile device. This product also provides for compliance with CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act), which is mandated for institutions receiving federal E-Rate funding. Utilizing contract #180306 in the amount of \$119,857.50 from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. This purchasing cooperative has competitively bid contracts that the district can participate in on an as needed basis.

- Addendum #3 – Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Grant, Ysleta ISD Fiscal Agent

To increase the amount of the SISD Adult Education and Literacy contract by \$25,000 in federal funds from Addendum #2 award of \$822,081.70 for a new total of \$847,081.70.

- Resolution listing Current Brokers, Investment Pools and Investment Training Sources
The Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) requires the Board of Trustees to approve and adopt a list of brokers and investment pools as well as an independent source for training for the

investment officers. The brokers and investment pools that are listed have been used by the district and have met all requirements. This resolution will ensure that the district is in compliance with the Public Funds Investment Act.

CONTRACT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) – PUBLIC IMPACT OPPORTUNITY CULTURE RESIDENCY DESIGN COHORT

Administration pulled the item for further review. No action was taken on this agenda item.

ADOPTION OF POLICY CDA (LOCAL)

This item was pulled from Consent Agenda by Cynthia Najera for discussion. Following a brief discussion regarding a language revision stating that the Board will still receive an annual report, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2020-2021 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the proposed 2020-2021 school district budget, a motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the budget by Fund and Function of \$544,272,919 for the 2020-2021 school year as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF \$1,000 FOR PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve a one-time payment of \$1,000 for permanent substitute teachers to be paid in two installments of \$500 each for the 2020-2021 school year as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS, AND INSTALLATION SERVICES – RFP NO. E2056

A motion as made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the one-year bid to Contract Associates of El Paso in the amount of \$562,889.98 for the new technology building as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ALTERNATE #1 AND ALTERNATE #6 FOR AMERICAS HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by David Morales, to approve the bidding process of Alternate #1 for CTE Food Service & Classrooms and Alternate #6 for CTE equipment in the amount of \$2,164,928.70 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 001 FOR LOMA VERDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REROOFING PROJECT

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by David Morales, to approve CIM Roofing, Inc., Change Order No. 001 in the amount of \$323,400.00; the cost associated with Change Order No. 001 will be reimbursed to the SISD through the Texas Political Subdivision (Socorro ISD) insurance claim. as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2020-2021 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR AND AGENDA CYCLE

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the Board meeting calendar developed using the 3rd Tuesday of the month for the Regular Board meetings with the exception of March 2021, instead it's proposed the 4th Tuesday due to Spring Intersession as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE TASA/TASB CONVENTION DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by Gary Gandara, to nominate David Morales as Delegate and Eduardo Mena as Alternate as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:08 pm for discussion with legal counsel to receive advice and discuss the status of the TEA hearing and appeal regarding the probationary contract of A. Contreras; discussion regarding options for the possible acquisition of real property for future school site; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider administrative recommendations for Director of Transportation, Assistant Principal positions at El Dorado High School and Col. John O. Ensor Middle School, and Academic Compliance Officer under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 7:45 pm.

ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR FUTURE SCHOOL SITE

A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Espinoza recommended Jacqueline Gutierrez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Director of Transportation. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Nicole Matsuda to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at El Dorado High School. A motion was made by Paul Garcia, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Noe Cantu to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Col. John O. Ensor Middle School. A motion was made by David Morales, seconded by Paul Garcia, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was closed to discuss administrative recommendation for Academic Compliance Officer under *Texas Government Code* section 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:16 pm.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Dr. Espinoza recommended Alfredo Gomez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Academic Compliance Officer. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON JULY 21, 2020.