



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
May 18, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cynthia A. Najera, Board President; David O. Morales, Board Vice President; Paul Guerra, Board Secretary; Eduardo Mena; Ricardo O. Castellano; Pablo Barrera; and Michael A. Najera

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

BOARD HONORS

SISD students and employees were recognized for recent achievements and championships.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUSINESS

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

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to nominate David Morales as 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 David Morales, to nominate Ricardo Castellano as Board Vice President. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A motion was made by David Morales, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to nominate Eduardo Mena as Board Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees during open forum:

1. Melissa Melendez regarding transportation summer pay rate.
2. Rosie Perez regarding extended recess/lunch for teachers and students.
3. Tommy Hill regarding open compensation for next school year.
4. Rodolfo Laureano III regarding starting pay for bus drivers (part-time).
5. Dr. Katherine Kuykendall regarding virtual academy, human interaction in school instead of students on devices, and effective communication.
6. Regent Payne regarding improved healthcare advisement team for 2021-2022 school year.
7. Mathew Palawski regarding upcoming school year.
8. Michael Palawski regarding upcoming school year.
9. Joe Palawski regarding upcoming school year.

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.

SOCORRO ISD's 2021-2022 BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

Administration is currently in the planning stages of the SISD's 2021-2022 Back to School Plan. For transparency and to elicit SISD stakeholders input and feedback, an implementation timeline was presented. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Pablo Barrera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 7A-Board Meeting Minutes and 7E2-Agreement with National Math and Science Initiative College Readiness Program. The motion carried unanimously.

- Employment of Personnel
- Budget Amendments
- Awarding of Bids
 - CTE Curriculum, Equipment, Supplies & Services - RFP No. E2122
Solicitation to purchase career and technical curriculum, equipment, supplies and services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$1,500,000-General Fund Budget and Special Revenue)
 - Depository for District Funds – RFP No. E2124
Solicitation to provide depository company to assist with the banking function of the district. (Maximum \$70,000-General Fund Budget and Special Revenue)
 - Underwriter Services – RFQ No. E2136
Solicitation for bond underwriter services in dealing with the issuance and/or refunding of bonds by the District.
- Contracts
 - Affiliation Agreement – Texas Tech University School Student Clinical Training
To provide clinical and educational experiences to designated students enrolled in School Psychology at the University.
 - Communities In Schools of El Paso (CIS) Program
To provide supportive guidance, educational enhancement, health and human services, parental involvement, employment/pre-employment enrichment for the students at Socorro ISD for the 2021-2022 school year. (Maximum \$1,245,000-General Fund Budget/Title I)
 - Interlocal Agreement – El Paso Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (El Paso Independent School District Fiscal Agent)
For services provided to SISD students who attend the El Paso Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (RDSPD) in El Paso ISD.
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Lamar University Student Internship
To establish a mutually beneficial educational and pedagogical relationship for the benefit of students and faculty of their respective educational institutions for the placement of student interns for various academic programs such as preservice administrator internships.
 - Purchasing Cooperative – Vehicles for Maintenance and Operations Department
For the acquisition of 4 vehicles (2 trucks and 2 cargo vans) for the Maintenance and Operations Department. (Maximum \$112,000-General Fund Budget)
- TEKS Certification Form
School districts and charter schools are required to certify annually to the State Board of Education and the commissioner that, for each subject in the required curriculum other than physical education, students have access to instructional materials that cover all the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). It is important to note that districts and charters will be unable to order 2020-21 instructional materials through EMAT until the certification has been received by the Texas Education Agenda (TEA).

BOARD MEETING MEETINGS FOR APRIL 20, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING; APRIL 26, 2021, MAY 4, 2021, AND MAY 12, 2021 SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for separate consideration. A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Michael Najera abstained.

AGREEMENT – NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM AT EL DORADO HIGH SCHOOL

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

NEW MEMBER(S) TO FILL TWO VACANCIES ON THE SISD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Ricardo Castellano, to approve Esther McCarthy and Lawrence ‘Larry’ R. Price to fill the vacancies on the SISD Foundation Board of Directors as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2021-2022 HAZARDOUS ROUTES FOR THE SOCORRO ISD

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:38 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider selection and appointment of Interim Superintendent and establish terms of employment under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT, AND ESTABLISH TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

A motion was made by Pablo Barrera, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to authorize Board President David Morales to contact a short list of individuals who were identified as discussed in closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON JUNE 15, 2021.