

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 18, 2022
5:00 P.M.**

Present: Mr. Al Velarde, President
Mr. Daniel Call, Vice President
Ms. Leah Hanany, Secretary
Dr. Josh Acevedo, Member
Ms. Isabel Hernandez, Member
Mr. Israel Irrobali, Member
Ms. Diana Sayavedra, Superintendent

Absent: Mr. Freddy Khlayel-Avalos, Member

Others: Ms. Cezy Collins, General Counsel

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Board President Velarde.

2. Pledges of Allegiance

Board President Velarde led the Pledges of Allegiance.

3. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

4. Recognitions

A. October 2022 Student & Staff Recognitions

The Board recognized Coronado High School Student, Deena Al-Dahwi, and Franklin High School Student, Anna Dixon, as the city's only two National Merit Scholars. The Board also recognized Deena and Layla Al-Dahwi, students in the IB program at Coronado High School, for creating the "Scientists without Borders Club" at Coronado High School. Additionally, the Board recognized Ms. Sharo Dickerson, Director of Technology Integration and Learning, for being selected as one of the Microsoft Innovative Educators (MIE) Fellows - Gulf Coast Team for the 2022-23 school year.

B. School Board Recognition and Proclamation Declaring October as Principals Month

Texas Governor Greg Abbott proclaimed October 2022 as "Principals Month" in Texas. The Board recognized the District's elementary and secondary principals.

5. Public Forum

Board Secretary Hanany read the protocol to be observed during Public Forum. The following individuals requested to address the Board:

Ms. Margaret Gallardo, Special Education Resource Inclusion Teacher, addressed the Board expressing her concerns with the process of filling the current Board of Trustees vacancy.

Mr. Michael Reese, Teacher, addressed the Board requesting that teachers receive administrative rights to their District issued laptops.

Ms. Shana Long, Special Education AIM Elementary Teacher, addressed the Board expressing her concerns for the need of teaching resources for Special Education.

Mr. Ross Moore, President of El Paso American Federation of Teachers, addressed the Board sharing his concerns with the discipline of administrators as compared to that of teachers.

6. Reports

A. Overview of District Improvement Plan Timeline and Process

Ms. Marivel Macias, Chief of Organizational Transformation and Equity, alongside Ms. Kristine Ferret, Executive Director of Strategic Planning, provided an overview on the process of creating Campus and Department Improvements Plans. Ms. Ferret presented a breakdown of the actions that have taken place for the development of 2022-2023 District and Campus Improvement Plans, along with the next steps. She shared that Campus performance objectives will be presented at the Board meeting in November. Additionally, Ms. Ferret shared the District's priorities and areas of focus based on the comprehensive needs assessment.

7. Public Meeting

A. Public Meeting to Discuss the District's Rating Under the Schools Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST)

Ms. Maria Pineda, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented the District's School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report. Information included in the report covered the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year. Ms. Pineda reviewed indicators contained within the report to include critical, solvency and financial competency indicators. She shared that critical indicator number 5 was not scored due to the impact of accounting changes implemented by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Solvency indicator 10 and financial competency indicator 15 were not scored due to the impact of COVID-19 on school district revenue. Lastly, Ms. Pineda reported that the District scored 94 out of the maximum 100 points; thus, achieving a Superior Rating.

Board President Velarde opened the floor for public input. There were no speakers.

B. Public Meeting on Texas Department of State Health Services Smiles in Schools Program

Ms. Norma Luna, Director of Health Services, provided an overview of the Oral Health Improvement Program presented by the Texas Department of State Health Services. She presented the process and benefits of the program. Additionally, Ms. Luna announced that the state selects three participating schools per year, and this year they have selected Green, Powell, and Moreno Elementary Schools.

Board President Velarde opened the floor for public input. There were no speakers.

8. Action Items

A. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Disbursement of the First of Two Employee Retention Stipends (ESSER Funds - \$8,349,988.00)

Ms. Martha Aguirre, Executive Director of Budget and External Financial Management, provided an update on the employee retention stipend. She shared that a \$1,000.00 stipend will be disbursed on November 15, 2022, contingent on the District's financial capacity. Additionally, she reviewed the requirements for employees to be eligible for the stipend.

It was moved by Trustee Acevedo, seconded by Trustee Hanany, and carried unanimously, that the Board approve the distribution of the proposed \$1,000.00 Employee Retention Stipend to eligible employees in November 2022, with a budget impact to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund in the amount of \$8,349,988.00, for the 2022-2023 school year, as presented.

9. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Trustee Irrobali, seconded by Trustee Call, and carried unanimously, that the Consent Agenda items be approved as listed, including all recommended vendors, for all amounts indicated, with the exception of Item 9.B.1.

A. Approval of Minutes

1. September 20, 2022, Special Board of Trustees Meeting
2. September 20, 2022, Board of Trustees Meeting
3. October 5, 2022, Special Board of Trustees Meeting

- C. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Preventative Dental Services Between the Texas Department of State Health Services and El Paso Independent School District – the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding for Preventive Dental Services between the Texas Department of State Health Services and El Paso Independent School District, to afford the opportunity for students to receive preventive dental services, for the period of October 19, 2022, through August 31, 2026, as presented.
- D. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between City of El Paso and El Paso Independent School District for Foster Grandparent Program
- E. Approval of Certification of Instructional Materials and Expenditures for Proclamation 2022 State Instructional Materials Health and Physical Education (Local Funds - \$399,366.10) – the Board certified and approved the purchase of Instructional Materials recommended by the DIMAT and the SHAC for Health Education and Physical Education and approved for the District to give notice to the State Board of Education, as appropriate.
- F. Acceptance of World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Grant for El Paso ISD's Conexiones Project (Department of Defense Education Activity - \$1,500,000.00) – the Board accepted the World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Grant for El Paso Independent School District's Conexiones Project from the Department of Defense Education Activity, in the amount of \$1,500,000.00, for the award period of October 1, 2022, through May 31, 2027.
- G. Acceptance of 2022-2023 Texas Education Agency (TEA) Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth Continuation Grant (Texas Education Agency - \$102,235.00) – the Board accepted the grant amount of \$102,235.00 for the Texas Education for Homeless Children and Youth program, from the United States Department of Education, through Texas Education Agency, from September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023.
- H. Acceptance of Grant Award for U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) (U.S. Department of Justice - \$11,050.00, with a District Cost Match of \$11,050.00) – the Board accepted the grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice, Bulletproof Vest Partnership, in the amount of \$11,050.00, with a cost match of \$11,050.00, to purchase bulletproof vests for the District's sworn officers for the period of April 1, 2022, to August 31, 2024.
- I. Approval of End User License Agreement with PowerSchool for Naviance Products for College Planning and Career Readiness – the Board approved the End-User License Agreement from PowerSchool, with the understanding of the indemnification clause, in order to continue to use Naviance's services.
- J. Approval of Easement for Pipeline Right-of-Way (DACA63-2-22-0522) Within Ft. Bliss Property, for Chapin High School, Located at 7000 Dyer – the Board approved the Easement for Pipeline Right-of-Way (DACA63-2-22-0522), within Ft Bliss property, with the Department of the Army, for Chapin High School, located at 7000 Dyer, El Paso, Texas, with the understanding that the Easement document contains an indemnity clause, as presented.
- K. Facilities and Construction Quarterly Reports to Board of Trustees
- L. Internal Audit Activity Report to the Board of Trustees

M. Purchases Requiring Board Approval

1. Approval of Expenditures for Goods and Services from Vendors that Have Exceeded the \$100,000.00 Procurement Threshold (Budgeted Federal, State, Local, Bond, and Grant Funds - Not to Exceed \$265,000.00)
2. Approval of Expenditures for Software Licenses, Support Services, and Maintenance for Forecast5 Data Analytics from Frontline Technologies Group, LLC, dba Frontline Education, Utilizing ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative (ASC), RFP #17-7247, Student and Finance Systems (Budgeted Local Funds - \$55,375.96) – the Board approved the expenditures for software licenses, support services, and maintenance for Forecast5 data analytics from Frontline Technologies Group, LLC, dba Frontline Education, Utilizing ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative (ASC), RFP #17-7247, Student and Finance Systems, in the amount of \$55,375.96, for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, as presented.
3. Approval of the Sixth Amendment to Software License and Support Service Agreement for TEAMS Student and Business Systems from Frontline Technologies Group, LLC, dba Frontline Education, Utilizing Region 19 Allied States Cooperative (ASC) RFP #17-7247, Student and Finance Systems (Budgeted Local Funds - \$927,456.72) - the Board approved the Sixth Amendment to Software License and Support Services Agreement for TEAMS student and business systems, from Frontline Technologies Group, LLC, dba Frontline Education, utilizing Region 19 Allied States Cooperative (ASC) RFP #17-7247, Student and Finance Systems, in the amount of \$927,456.72, for the period of September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023, as presented.
4. Approval of Expenditures to Purchase Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment for Coach Wally Hartley PK-8, Charles Q. Murphree PK-8, and Don Haskins PK-8, from Wenger Corporation, Utilizing BuyBoard Musical Instruments, Equipment, Supplies, and Repair Contract #619-20 (Budgeted Bond Funds - \$13,802.05) – the Board approved the expenditures for orchestra instrument racks and storage units from Wenger Corporation, utilizing BuyBoard Musical Instruments, Equipment, Supplies, and Repair Contract #619-20, in the amount of \$13,802.05.
5. Approval to Award Microscrubber Custodial Equipment (ESSER), RFP #23-015 (Administration Recommendation: Spectrum Paper Co., Inc.) (Budgeted ESSER III Funds - \$441,911.00)

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE VOTE

9.B.1 Approval of Budget Amendment for Costs Associated with Testing Materials and Health Services Supplies (General Operating Fund - \$628,237.00)

Ms. Aguirre clarified that funding for the Early College, P-Tech, and Specialty Programs Budget Amendment would be distributed to all high school campuses.

It was moved by Trustee Irrobali, seconded by Trustee Hanany, and carried unanimously, that the Board approve the request and amend the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$628,237.00 to the General Operating Fund.

10. Overview of Future Board Meeting Agenda Items

A. Overview of Future Board Meeting Agenda Items

Superintendent Sayavedra provided a brief overview of tentative upcoming Board Meeting agenda items.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

President

Secretary

Date Approved: _____