

**AT A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATION BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M., AUGUST 8, 2023, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

**Present:**

Delma Abalos  
Dr. Steve Brown  
Tammy Hawkins  
Dawn Miller  
Christopher Stanley  
Robert Thayer  
Wayne Woodall

**Absent:**

**School Officials:** Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Dr. Lilia Náñez, Deborah Ottmers, Dr. Keeley Boyer, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks

**Others:** Tatiana Dennis, Chelsea Reyes, Julia Willett-Weekly, Jaime Miller, Aaron Hawley, Julie Marshall, Ryan Merritt, Betsabe Salcido, Amy Hosick, Mark Gabrylczyk, Sar Moore, Kevin Searcy, Sierra Searcy, Kyle Van Syoc, Priscilla Hernandez, Nat Armendarez, Andrew Bradford, Tracey Borchardt, Lisa Wills, Jessica Gore, Andrea Hewitt, Mauricio Marquez, Florinda Armendarez, Ruth Campbell, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

**26378** **Meeting Called to Order:** Christopher Stanley, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**26379** **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law – this is to certify that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with the public notice of this meeting:** Board President Christopher Stanley, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

**26380** **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In Dr. Muri's opening remarks, he reminded Trustees that school starts tomorrow morning, so it will be a busy, busy day for the employees and students of ECISD. He also announced the District had received a perfect score on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) report for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. He congratulated ECISD's Finance Division on this achievement.

**26381** **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

In public comment, Ravi Shakamuri talked about attending a ceremony earlier in the day where two recent Career & Technical Education graduates signed

letters of commitment to work for Odessa Regional Medical Center as Certified Nursing Assistants. He then spoke about the positive impact a successful bond could have on students, and asked the community join hands and resolve their differences on this topic.

Dallas Kennedy, ECISD teacher and member of the bond committee, said he has been closely involved in this process and is in support of the bond, adding he has never voted for a tax increase before. He said these are our community's buildings and they need to be fixed.

### **Report/Discussion Items**

**26382** **Bond Discussion:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Scott Muri presented this item for discussion. Trustees solidified plans for a November school bond. Each school board member offered their impressions of the four Town Hall meetings held during the previous week, and spoke of the comments and questions they received. Overall, they were pleased with the positive responses. Next, Dr. Muri walked through results from surveys (called Thought Exchanges) that were done in conjunction with the Town Hall meetings, as well as during a series of meetings with teachers during back-to-school sessions. The comments offered in these forums were overwhelmingly positive about the bond projects.

District leaders have had regular conversations with the financial advisor and bond counsel, and in order to comply with Texas school bond law, Trustees would need to propose at least 3 bond packages, for example:

**Prop A** – New Career & Technical Education Center, new middle school, Priority 1 and Priority 2 maintenance and repairs, Transportation Department needs, Fine Arts Department needs, Technology needs, Transition Learning Center needs, and Agriculture Farm needs, plus land for new MS and CTE center

**Prop B** – Ratliff Stadium and Ratliff Stadium Complex items; this would include any Priority 1 and Priority 2 maintenance needs at the stadium complex identified in Facilities Assessment report

**Prop C** – Odessa High School indoor practice facility and Permian High School indoor turf replacement.

According to the law, the athletics projects are either not on school property and/or not attached to an academic school building and, therefore, must be separate bond proposals for voters to consider. Trustees could also decide to offer more than 3 propositions.

The district does not own property for the CTE Center nor the middle school, but land purchase can be added to a bond proposal. ECISD could add the cost of land purchase to a final bond proposal and still move forward without increasing the tax rate. About 40 acres will be needed for each site;

Trustees are focused on building the middle school in west Ector County, and the CTE Center in south Odessa. Trustees will consider officially calling for the bond packages at next week's meeting.

No action required.

**26383** **Discussion of TASB Board Policy Update 121:** Associate Superintendent of Athletics, Human Capital and Operations Dr. Anthony Sorola presented this item for discussion. This is a series of recommendations from the Texas Association of School Boards to bring local school board policies in line with changes made in legal policy at the state level. They will hold off on DEC(LOCAL) for further review. These policies will be presented for a second reading and vote at the August 15, 2023 Regular Board meeting.

No action required.

**26384** **Presentation and Discussion of ECISD Bullying Reporting and Investigation Process:** Director of Administrative Services Maribel Aranda presented Trustees with the district's bullying reporting and investigation process. Texas Education Code defines both bullying and cyberbullying. Students or adults can report bullying anonymously through Crime Stoppers, using forms available in the office and on the ECISD website, or in-person to someone at the school. Once reported, school leaders assess the situation for immediate safety concerns, contact parents of the students involved, investigate, take appropriate action and provide solutions, and monitor those involved. ECISD complies with all Texas Education Agency standards for bullying prevention, including the new requirement to form campus bullying prevention committees that include parents and students. Trustees asked that district administrators be diligent in investigating and documenting all reports of bullying in order to keep schools safe for all students.

No action required.

**26385** **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code - [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee of the District or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.] Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board's Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:**

There was no closed session.

**26386** **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

**26387** **Adjournment:** Christopher Stanley Board President, adjourned the Board meeting at 7:28 p.m.

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**Board President**  
*Christopher Stanley*

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**Board Secretary**  
*Tammy Hawkins*