



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

1450 Gillette Boulevard · San Antonio, Texas 78224 · (210) 977-7000 · Fax (210) 977-7017

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees  
South San Antonio ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of South San Antonio ISD was held Wednesday, March 22, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 1450 Gillette Blvd. San Antonio, Texas 78224.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Trustee	Present	Absent	Late Arrival/Departed Early
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Stacey Alderete	X (virtual)		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

Led by Michelle Martinez, Senior Executive Assistant

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- TEXAS PLEDGE
- PRAYER

Led by Alexis Castillo, Director of Communications

Mr. Flores, Board President, read board meeting rules of decorum aloud.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Dakota Rodriguez, Senior student at South San High School, addressed the Board regarding not all clubs being allowed to have cords and stoles at graduation.

Tom Cummins, AFT Representative, addressed the Board regarding voting against school closures.

Angie Olvera, community member, addressed the Board regarding voting against school closures.

Sylvia Bernal, community member, addressed the Board regarding voting against school closures.

TEA MONITOR REMARKS/REPORT

Dr. Abe Saavedra, TEA Monitor: Well good evening and I'm gonna start off with some comments in reference to last night's school board finance committee. The finance committee met last night and one of the things that came up towards the end of that meeting was a discussion about the Board not being informed concerning this deficit that we've been talking about now for several months, and not being not knowing of that deficit until January of this year when the Superintendent first recommended closure of schools. I spent about 30 minutes going back to look at previous agendas, discussions that have been held and what's on the handout on the very first page this was the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting. That was also the Board meeting where you adopted your new budget and your tax rate but the very first page is a budget amendment and if you look at the red at the bottom it identifies a 2-million-dollar deficit. Everything in red is a deficit, its 2,051,941. This is a document that every Board member at the time received. The second page is also a budget amendment but it's for the following month September 19<sup>th</sup> and as you go to the bottom you will see that in red you have a 5.7-million-dollar deficit, again a document that every Board member received and the presentation was made at that meeting. The third document is the financial report for September that gets delivered in October, Mr. Kingman does a financial report every month for the previous month so this was the October Board

meeting and reporting on September and at the very bottom, it's not in red, but it is in parenthesis, and the statement budgeted revenue over budget expenditures a negative 5.7 million. The next document is the October financial report presented to the Board in November by Mr. Kingman and this time it identifies an almost a 9.5-million-dollar deficit at the very bottom, the very last line. The next one is the November budget amendment I'm sorry financial report and presented in December and it has the same deficit 9.5-million-dollars there at the bottom. The Monitors September report that was turned in at the end of September and the Board receives a copy of it, the district receives a copy in October and I know the Superintendent sends it out to the Board right away, every Board member received it. That report talks about a 5 million dollar deficits and the remarks from the Monitor in November, it was actually the night the new Board members were sworn in, I made remarks. I spoke about a ten-million-dollar deficit that the district had to address. I also talked about the differences in enrollment and the amount of square footage this district is having to maintain. The following month in December, the Administration presented the efficiency report that talked basically about the same thing, the footprint that the district has and the lack of enrollment. There have been other times in my remarks where I've pointed out to the Board that your Interest & Sinking, Interest & Sinking tax rate is 49.9 cents. The highest in Bexar County. No other district in Bexar County has that tax rate. In addition to all of this, in the last couple years, the Board has issued 11 million dollars, 11 million dollars in maintenance notes to fix up buildings. In order to pay for those 11 million dollars, the district has budgeting 800,000 every year, over 20 years. Is that correct Mr. Kingman, is it 20? Ok, over 20 years. If you multiply the 800,000 per year times 20, you'll end up paying 19 million for those 11 million. The reason I point this out is that there's been a history of making decisions that quite frankly are not right the right decisions for the kids because let me tell you, that 11 million dollars does not put one more teacher in the classroom, does not put another counselor into a school, does not put another nurse, does not hire another police officer. Those 11 million dollars buys bricks and mortar is what it buys, and I'd like for this Board to really give some thought to how money is being spent. One of the parents stated when will South San no longer be in the low performing situation or accountability. You have 16 schools and 6 of them right now are non-rated, meaning that they are D's or F's. They are low performing, 6 of them. Y'all did a teacher pay raise on salaries this past this year but there hadn't been one since 2019 I believe. You saw the salary report provided by your HR lady and you're not competitive, and not only in teacher salaries but you're not competitive with bus drivers and the list goes on. So my I guess my challenge to you as a Board is when will a South San Board start to do the right thing. I know the decisions are hard, I know the vote is hard, and I can tell you, I'm not gonna lie to you, the last time a Board voted to close schools it was during my time and several of those Board members got voted out the very next election. I'm not telling you that that won't happen, but I am telling you you need to do what's right for kids in order for this district to get better. We have talked many times; I've heard the Board talk many times about why the district loses enrollment. All sorts of reasons quite frankly, but never have we talked about if the reason is in front of me right now. If decisions made by Board by the Board is the reason families decide to go elsewhere. It's something for y'all to think about. Thank you.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)**

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board and audience informing that the district just got back from Spring Break. He stated that we are approaching testing season. He stressed the importance of student attendance during the preparation for state assessments. He informed that it's the 100th year if the district and Mrs. Castillo will be making a presentation later in the evening on the Centennial Festival this Saturday at the athletic complex.

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)**

Homer Flores Jr., Board President, addressed the Board and audience putting a good word in for Mr. and Mrs. Carpio for all of the work that they have done. He stated that we appreciate them and that everyone looks forward to their appearance at our events and that they are a wonderful couple who are alumni.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. PAWS UP Committee

Alexis Castillo, Director of Communications, was called to recognize the Paws Up Committee for their achievements.

**PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS**

1. February 2023 Quarterly Investment Report

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

2. February 2023 Financials

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

3. SSAISD Centennial Festival Presentation

Alexis Castillo, Director of Communications, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

**CONSENT**

*Policy BE (Local) states that the consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board Member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.*

1. Approve the Board Meeting Minutes
  - A. February 9, 2023 Special Called
  - B. February 15, 2023 Regular Called
  - C. February 23, 2023 Special Called
  - D. February 27, 2023 Community Meeting
  - E. March 6, 2023 Community Meeting
  - F. March 8, 2023 Special Called
2. Approval of RFP 2023-04 SSAISD Computers, Laptops, Chromebooks, iPads, Other Related Devices, Software, Licensing, and other Related Services
3. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between San Antonio Youth For Christ and SSAISD
4. Approve the MOU Between South San Antonio ISD and RootEd
5. Approve the 2022-2023 Pay and Compensation Plan Amendment
6. Approval to use the job order contract procurement method for the Carrillo Elementary PreK for SA playground
7. Approve Amstar Inc. for the construction of a PreK 4 SA outdoor learning environment at Carrillo Elementary
8. Approve the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) MOU  
 Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the consent agenda items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 & 8 as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 7/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

**CONSENT Item pulled**

**Item #- 5**

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the consent agenda item#5 as presented, Mr. Lopez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 7/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

1. Discussion and Possible action to approve the Veterans Memorial Dedication Plaque  
 Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, Andy Rocha, Executive Director of Operations, and Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, were called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mrs. Ramirez moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 7/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained

Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		

2. Discussion and possible action to permanently close Kazen Middle School and authorize the Superintendent to, in his discretion, reassign personnel and students to neighboring campuses.
3. Discussion and possible action to permanently close Kindred Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to, in his discretion, reassign personnel and students to neighboring campuses.
4. Discussion and possible action to permanently close Athens Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to, in his discretion, reassign personnel and students to neighboring campuses.

Mrs. Ramirez asked legal counsel Mark Sanchez: on these next 3 items, can we group them or do they have to be individually? Mr. Sanchez advised: you can do either way.

Mrs. Ramirez made a motion: My motion is to group them together but I would like to make a motion to support the recommendation of the Superintendent to permanently close Kazen Middle School, Kindred Elementary, Athens Elementary and to in his discretion reassign personnel and students to neighboring campuses, seconded by Mr. Martinez

Point of order called by Mr. Arrellano to have each Trustee exercise at least two 3-minute discussion rounds, Mr. Flores advised it would be one round.

The Board of Trustees voted 5/2. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Shirley Ibarra		X	
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.		X	

**CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*NOTICE: The Board of Trustees may elect to go into Closed Meeting any time during the meeting to discuss matters listed on the Agenda when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board of Trustees elects to go into Closed Meeting regarding an Agenda Item, the Board of Trustees will hold a Closed Meeting to discuss individual personnel matters including termination, litigation and other matters the Board deems necessary. Upon completion of Closed Meeting, the Board of Trustees may, in the open session, take such action as appropriate on items discussed in a Closed Meeting. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item listed on the agenda should be held in Closed Meeting, the Board will convene in such Closed Meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code Sections 551.001 -*

*551.088. The Board members may take action in the open portion of the meeting on items discussed in the Closed Meeting but no action will be taken in closed session.*

*The Board will return to open session and take appropriate action, if any, on items discussed in closed session. No Action will be taken in closed session. Further, Board Members are reminded that all items discussed in closed session must remain confidential so as to avoid liability to the district. The Board will consider and discuss, the following items:*

**Closed Meeting pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code §§ 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, and 551.0821**

1. Discussion concerning personnel matters pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.
2. Consultation with Attorney regarding status of pending TEA investigations and matters related thereto.
3. Superintendent Summative Evaluation  
Start time: 7:20 PM.  
Trustees Abel Martinez Jr. and Shirley Ibarra exited the meeting at 7:21 PM.  
End time: 8:14 PM.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

1. Reconvene from Executive Session for action relative to items considered during Executive

Session

#1-Discussion concerning personnel matters pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I move that the South San Antonio ISD Board of Trustees approve all terms of the release and compromise settlement agreement with David Davis as presented in executive session, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		

#3-Superintendent Summative Evaluation

Mrs. Ramirez made a motion: I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Superintendent’s final Summative Evaluation as discussed in executive session, Mrs. Alderete seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		
Stacey Alderete	X		
Cynthia Ramirez	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Ramirez moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Alderete seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM.

**ATTEST**

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Homer Flores Jr., Board President

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Shirley Ibarra, Board Secretary

*NOTICE: This meeting of the Board of Trustees is authorized in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.001 - 551.146. Verification of Notice of Meeting and Agenda are on file in the Office of the Superintendent. Closed meeting, if required and if authorized by the statute, will be conducted prior to the conclusion of the meeting for any item listed on this agenda.*

*NOTICE: The Board of Trustees may elect to go into Closed Meeting any time during the meeting to discuss matters listed on the Agenda when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board of Trustees elects to go into Closed Meeting regarding an Agenda Item, the Board of Trustees will hold a Closed Meeting to discuss individual personnel matters including termination, litigation and other matters the Board deems necessary. Upon completion of Closed Meeting, the Board of Trustees may, in the open session, take such action as appropriate on items discussed in a Closed Meeting. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item listed on the agenda should be held in Closed Meeting, the Board will convene in such Closed Meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code Sections 551.001 -*

*551.088. The Board members may take action in the open portion of the meeting on items discussed in the Closed Meeting but no action will be taken in closed session.*