

**Emergency Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb**

**August 28, 2021**

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Javier Montemayor, Jr., President, - PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Aliza Flores-Oliveros, Vice-President – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Parliamentarian – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Ramiro Veliz, III, Member – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Ricardo Molina, Sr., Member – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

An Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Monday, August 28, 2021, beginning at 10:00 AM in the USD Boardroom, 201 Lindenwood Drive, Laredo, Texas 78045.11

**BOARD MEMBERS MAY PARTICIPATE VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to the ongoing health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 coronavirus, this meeting will be conducted by video conference or telephone calls as permitted by Governor Abbott's March 16, 2020, temporary suspension of certain open meetings requirements. At least a quorum will be participating by videoconference or telephone call in accordance with the provisions of Section 551.125 or 551.127 of the Texas Government Code that have not been suspended by the order of the governor.

Two way communication to the Board meeting can be accessed by clicking on the following zoom link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573036129?pwd=NjNKQ1BqOCTuampHa3NlbnpSTE0UT09>

Meeting ID: 825 7303 6129

Passcode: 806609

If you would like to view a live-stream of the meeting, please click on the following Youtube link:  
<https://youtu.be/oM37DmTebgU>

Public Comments may be submitted to: Gloria Rendon at [grendon@uisd.net](mailto:grendon@uisd.net) prior to the Board Meeting. Public comments must pertain to agenda items only.

**I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**

**II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.**

Mr. Javier Montemayor calls this meeting to order and establishes quorum at **10:00 AM**.

**IV. Public Comments**

***Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except Non-English speakers who require a translator are limited to six (6) minutes. The presiding officer may waive or modify these time limits as appropriated. The speaker will be informed when he or she has one (1) minute remaining. Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees, or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, public officials, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.***

Laura Rodriguez (parent)- I am against Col. Santos elementary quarantine. Why is my child being treated as if he is ill? What does he do at home while I have to take time off from my job for 10 days with no one actually being sick. He did not respond well last year to virtual learning. I do not want a repeat of last year. These are his foundation years and they will be unrecoverable if some type "a" virtual learning is implemented. Virtual learning has shown to "not be" effective for young children. We need to all move forward. As we already know, this virus will never be eradicated. Please do not allow the city to make fundamental decisions for our students. I am against an unnecessary quarantine for my child. Respectfully, Laura Rodriguez.

End of Public Comments

**V. Discussion and Information Regarding Action by the Laredo Local Health Authority Affecting the Operations of the District Including the Quarantine of Campuses**

David Gonzalez – (After greeting the audience and board members), Mr. Gonzalez make the public aware that the district did receive notice from the City about quarantine by the local health authority for the following campuses; Freedom, Col. Santos Benavides, Ruiz, Bonnie Garcia, Nye, Prada, Trautmann, Veterans Memorial elementary schools, Los Obispos, United South middle, Alexander high school main, Lyndon B. Johnson high school main, United high school-9<sup>th</sup> and United high school main campus, United South high school main campus and United South high school 9<sup>th</sup> grade campus. He informs the board that the district is working collaboratively with LISD and that a letter was sent out addressed to Dr. Treviño. Mr. David Gonzalez reads out the letter sent out that focuses on the ongoing mitigation procedures set in place by both districts following CDC guidelines to ensure student safety and recommending face to face instruction as the best option for all students.

Mr. Juan Cruz introduces TEA Deputy Commissioner – Jeff Catrell (joining via zoom). Jeff was invited to give the audience (in general) his point of view regarding the covid intake numbers that UISD in comparison to the state numbers. "Mr. Catrell understands the variance and the numbers out there", says Mr. Cruz.

Mrs. Gloria Rendon addresses the audience to provide live data on the covid numbers (while Mr. Catrell gets connected to the meeting). UISD at this time has 111 active cases. "This is the information that we had asked Dr. Treviño to review because these numbers also shows when the quarantine period ends for a particular student." Mrs. Rendon provides a chart on the 14 impacted schools. She goes on to explain that the active case numbers include the quarantine days and that at one campus for example 3 out of the 5 cases will be back to school (due to quarantine period completion), thus having a minimal number of active cases at this campus and no additional growth based on live data. She continues to compare data for secondary level campuses and makes a

notation that the threshold is inadequate for a campus of 600 students to that of 6000 at a high school for example.

Ramiro Veliz – Did Dr. Treviño get this information, Mrs. Rendon.

Gloria Rendon – He did this information but he did not see this summary.

Ramiro Veliz – He understands that the students are not in the campuses. He knows that, right. Or is he believing that they are still there.

Gloria Rendon- The concern (without putting words in his mouth) is the close contact.

Mr. Ricardo Molina has joined the meeting at (14:43 minutes).

Ricardo Molina – I was having issues but I have been listening to the meeting from the start and I have a question; All this time, we are sending this information to the state, to see what they recommend (meaning TEA). We are under their guidance and I think we need to follow their rules.

Javier Montemayor – The concern is that the new delta variant is more aggressive than the regular covid that we had last year and that it spreads faster. Mr. Veliz asked a question, the exposure and the close contact. Is it spreading fast at our campuses. That is the concern that I have and some of the questions that I have gotten. What are your numbers on that. Do you trace the spread of it.

Gloria Rendon – Yes, sir. What I have seen is that the students that have had close contact, have not necessarily been positive. The ones who are close contact and they have maybe living in the same household, a brother who was positive and guess what, the sister is positive this week. And that child had already been quarantined since the brother's illness because it was an exposure. That is 111 cases sir. For 36,000 students who are on campus right now. It is a very small percentage. And I know that Dr. Treviño's concern and it is everybody's concern sir with regards to any student on our watch getting out and of course that is concerning problems we all have the same mindset. That we are here for the safety and well-being of our students and our employees, however when I look at percentage-wise, 111 on campus cases, I do not have the number on employees.

Ramiro Veliz – I think it is .003% with regards to the percentage of the students who are ill at our campuses. I just want to clarify that we were told that it would be maybe sections of a campus. It would be areas of a campus. But, as of yesterday we were told that it was a shutdown of all the campus. So, when I read the order, we are closed. My point to this is, my enrollment when I compare elementary size (Prada, Trautmann, Veterans) to a campus size and the threshold of a four, my high schools may never clear. Because I do have so many more students percentage-wise in that sense. Task in itself. We wanted some clarity also on decisions as to the shut-down. If that today is SAT testing at the high schools.

Ramiro Veliz – The order Mrs. Rendon it reads is a complete shut-down. In that second page it states the control measures that he is looking at, restricting all individuals. Once they are positive they are out of the campus. The disinfection is something that is no question that has been going on at every campus. The contact tracing we do that as well. It leaves quarantine aspect of it. But it seems that at the end it is going to be his determination. His discretion if we are going to open or not. I am not sure to talk to him and getting some clarity because the order is complete shut-down. I am not sure that going forward is something that perhaps, one week he might say you know what you need to close these other schools. And it is going to be a never ending issue for us closing and opening up campuses soon.

Javier Montemayor – Mr. Cruz, along with Mr. Veliz, the interpretation of the order. How valid is that order. As far as the local health authority.

Juan Cruz – Well, basically the order, if it is discarded and if both districts decide not to adhere to it. The next step is for him to take it to a law enforcement authority. i.e. the sheriff's department can, if they want to enforce the order, is basically send deputies to our school campuses and turn families and children away. Whether or not the sheriff's department will effectuate that order, I think is highly, highly questionable in my opinion. Considering that the numbers and validation that we do have for continuing the live instruction. That is basically from the school district that should the school district decide you know, we are not going this order just does not make any sense. His next step is then to take his order to a law enforcement authority and try to basically enforce the order upon us. And/or go get somebody from the city attorney's office to go to court and get an order from the court to do that. It is not certainly that Mr. Gonzalez, the superintendent, and that is pretty much the discussion that we have been having. To continue instruction because the order just does not make sense. Then both school districts do that, then the ball is back in Dr. Treviño's court. To see what he feels he needs to do with his order that does not make any sense at this point. Considering the fact that you also have to remember the CDC and the pediatric association that says live instruction and TEA, very repeatedly have said, live instruction, in-person instruction is fundamental. Not just for intellectual but for social responsibility for our kids.

Ricardo Molina: Last time, when the epidemic started the first wave, I think the city sent a letter to us, we sent it to the state. The state came back saying, they do not have jurisdiction with the school district at all, plain and simple. They pretty much said you take care of the city, TEA will take care of the district. That is my point. They are getting involved too much, and I understand that there is a lot of concern from everybody, but we are our own. I never see Pete Saenz (city mayor) come and tell us what do you think about this (or city council or whatever). They are trying to get too involved with United and trying to run it. United runs itself, with TEA and the ruling and with you (addressing Mr. Juan Cruz) and all the seven board members.

Francisco Castillo: Mr. Cruz, I guess we have been promoting, arguing that we are following the science, following the health recommended by CDC, by all these other groups, particularly also the health authority and it has been helpful to have his (Dr. Treviño's) particular view on the wearing a mask. I am concerned that we do not follow the order, that we will not have an argument anymore.

To say that we are actually looking out for the health and safety of our children if we disavow or ignore a physician telling us this is the way to do it. Do you have any opinion on that Mr. Cruz.

Juan Cruz: That is an excellent question and I think I guess all orders that he has been...that Dr. Treviño and the dialogue that we have been having with him has been very cooperative. And, I do agree that we should follow the medical opinions out there and there is a lot as anybody may know any doctor will have his or her own opinion about the reasonable measure that should be taken. However, in this case when you have the numbers just basically as Ms. Rendon sated maybe one student, then you know is it really a measured response to the variant and what we see out there. Is this order kind of a reasonable one. I just do not think that any third person. I think that you need to be a medical doctor to kind of find issue with this order that just does not make any sense. In other school districts as you know Mr. Castillo, you know our firm represents 19 other school districts. We have seen a lot of other higher numbers than UISD and Laredo ISD all together and that is something that Jeff can share input on. But he can pop in and explain to you that the numbers that you have here are very, very good. And because of not just the mask wearing but because of all the other control measures that UISD has been doing you know, the cafeteria and all sorts of other stuff. I think that, that is a little bit of concern and I thinks it is a reasonable concern about not following the doctor's order but, It is not a reasonable one that, that seems to be..

Francisco Castillo: Would it impact, the emergency hearing for next Thursday. Do you see that being used for or against us, if we follow or not follow the order.

Juan Cruz: I do not think so, especially because the attorney general's office is not in line. Their position is kind of, I think Mr. Molina alluded to it a bit earlier. About the authority of the health authorities to be able to shut down school districts. That was a little bit different that opinion that Mr. Molina was referring to that is when the health authority director across the state of Texas, they were shutting down complete school districts. And there they said, "no" you cannot do that, what you can do is shut down per campus if you have reasonable evidence. So, that is where Dr. Treviño is getting his authority from. From you know, what is reasonable evidence. Reasonable evidence could mean you know, two cases, three cases, four cases, But, so that is where that opinion that the AG (attorney general) has issued earlier kind of works in UISD's favor at this point.

Javier Montemayor: Let me talk about compliance; Mr. Gonzalez, will the district be ready to go in to remote conferencing? And, would this qualify as a medical, or under the medical exemption portion. How ready are we? I think we have known in general that this perhaps is a situation where the district could be shut down again, because of the numbers and the beginning of school and the spikes and all that. How ready is the district in going into remote conferencing today, or Monday?

David Gonzalez: With everything that has happened this past year, we will be ready. We are here for our kids and we will continue to do everything, to follow safety protocols. We do have Ms. Emma Leza here present. She has been meeting with our staff and meeting with them in preparation for that endeavor itself.

Ricardo Molina: Mr. Cruz, I have a question for you. Last month when you met with the judge Lopez, he had filed an injunction against the state about two or three weeks before. So really I

think he is on our corner, or in the corner of Laredo, you know in taking care of our kids. And I do not think that city did not have any bearing on the decision of Mr. Lopez. He, as a parent or what have you, he decided we have to take care of our kids. And, I think that comes from us. From the superintendent, what we are going to do in the schools and how we are going to move like the cafeteria, they are going to eat in the gym, they are going to do this or do that. He is the one that is supposed to decide, not Dr. Treviño or anybody else. TEA can suggest and they can do more than suggest because they fund us, but not the city of Laredo.

Juan Cruz: Mr. Molina and I think that, that is a good segue maybe introduce and I know Ms. Leza, real quickly Jeff Catrell is now ready to give a few words. Jeff Catrell is from the Texas Education Agency, he is one of the deputy commissioners.

Jeff Catrell: Board president Montemayor, superintendent and members of the board I am just happy to be here with you this morning and just share with you that I wish it were under different circumstances. Nevertheless, I do just kind of want to share with you that about 4:00 pm, or shortly after, I did receive contact from, both United ISD and Laredo ISD regarding a local health authority order that came from Victor Treviño. So I and my team are fully aware that this order was shared with you suggesting (as I check my notes here) that somewhere in the neighborhood of about 14 campuses more than a dozen campuses in your school system are recommended for closure based on the concern of the local health authority.

I did have the opportunity to hear you council, Mr. Cruz shared with you that the numbers that were utilized to come to such a conclusion are interesting at best. What I will share with you is that I have worked tirelessly over the last three weeks in many different parts of the state. Coordinating with superintendents that are experiencing what I would call viral spread and/or the inability to operate a campus because of staffing concerns. With the number of staff being covid positive. Whether that is teachers inability to staff with substitutes. Whether that may be a transportation department that is ravaged by viral spread.

And so, we cannot run our buses to get our students to school. Or, in some cases we have an outbreak with students, and I want you to think about this, you have somewhere around the neighborhood of around 35,000 students in United ISD, and my understanding is that we have 103 cases within that 35,000 student body. So my initial question was there a particular campus where like these 103 cases were clustered. That would suggest that there was an outbreak at a particular campus, that would register that maybe we do need to potentially shutter that campus to ensure that the spread is not happening. What was shared with me is that I believe United high school may be the campus with the most cases. With a number of 4 student cases from what I understand. And if my numbers are wrong, please forgive me, I have been looking at them for about 16 hours now. So just bare with me on that. But I believe that these are all numbers that, are fairly accurate and represent what was shared with me from United ISD.

When we look across the state I shared with you the reasons and the rationale used to justify closing a campus from an administrative standpoint of the Texas Education Agency and ultimately the decision of local school board and superintendent. But we have seen staff cases that have

created paralysis in a community because of a school not being able to operate. I got one school system where it is a much smaller school system. Superintendent was out, they had one principal, they were out, the nurse was out, and multiple teachers that were out. The custodial staff was out. It makes it very difficult and I am thinking like, small school districts in your area that would be somewhat consistent or similar to this one would probably be Webb Consolidated so, you have got a very small school system when you lose your key staff. That are running the operational and the administrative stance of the district from anywhere from secretary to principal to administration to nurse and to your custodial staff. There is no way that they can actually keep their doors open and serve their students. And so, we worked with them and understood that it was necessary for that little school district it is not Webb Consolidated, I used that as an example of giving you a similar situation that they were not able to continue to operate. We have other school systems that are similar in size to United ISD. And those campuses that have closed, is not because we have four students out of maybe 3,000. I do not know how large the high school is so, let us just be conservative and just say it has like 1,500 or 2,000. But those numbers are so small that from an administrative stand point of what we are seeing across the state I am going to plant a flag on the ground and suggest to you that your administrative team all the way through are doing a fantastic job. Your staff, teachers, maintenance and custodial staff are doing a fantastic job to keep your numbers at what they are at.

The measures that you have undertaken as a school system, have truly set your school system up for success for both a safe and strong start to the school year. Provide a high quality education. That United has been known to provide to it's community and to it's students. And so to me, it is very alarming that you have a local health authority that has issued a closure order on these campuses thus depriving students of the very education that you work so hard to provide to them on a day to day basis. And so, it is so alarming to me. I am not an attorney, but I have connected your board council, along with Laredo's board council with our attorneys here at the Texas Education Agency, and if they have not already been then they will be in contact with the attorney general's office to resolve this matter.

I will share with you, if we were to use the threshold that is used, that was used, in Webb County and Laredo ISD's order and United ISD's order, I do not think we are going to have school any day this school year. If those are the numbers we are going to use. Because of what we are seeing in other parts of the state and the numbers of positivity that students and staff are experiencing. We have to have a reasonable threshold. I think that, that is what Mr. Cruz was alluding to earlier. Is that the local health authority does have, the authority to quarantine and close campuses, but that authority is derived from reasonableness. And we have to apply a reasonable threshold or reasonable matrix and decision making framework to the data that we are receiving. And so, I will tell you, I am not an attorney, I am not here to tell you that, that is an unlawful order but it sure does not strike me that when challenged that, that will stand up in a court of law. And I believe that we have connected the right parties in your school district and your neighboring school district or contiguous school district that we want your students to receive the high quality education that you work so tirelessly to provide and put together. And depriving them of that education is not what we need to be doing at this point in time. I am not saying that covid and it's impact on students and



families should not be something that we take very seriously because we should. But we also have to take a measured approach. A measured approach to set our staff and our communities in the best position possible. And, we just cannot go through a school where we are depriving our kids of receiving that high quality education. I will pause there and I know that you may have some questions. I am happy to answer any of those questions.

Ricardo Molina: I really appreciate you coming, or being via zoom and giving us all this information. But you know you said about United, and how well they are doing and it is all the superintendent, and our staff our united staff it is a team work and they have been doing a great job and I know that they are going to continue doing a good job. But we have to let them do their job. Not that somebody will come from the outside and tell you what to do. And like, I say again, council, superintendent, everything is running great because of their job, thank you.

Javier Montemayor: Thank you. Mr. Gonzalez, you had Emma there, before Mr. Molina.

David Gonzalez: Yes, okay. So, we have been discussion how we can transition. We do have very well trained professionals that are always working toward what is best for our students.

Emma Leza: I just wanted to start by saying that, we are providing right now the remote conferencing for our students based on TEA's guidelines for eligibility of our students. So we do have a framework in place. We have also continued with the Google classroom for teachers to have everything on their google classroom. Because we knew, coming into this year that there might be a classroom, that we would need to put in a remote status depending on our numbers. And so, we are ready to get together and put everything forth for our teachers to provide any remote instruction that they may need to, depending on the orders of course that we get from our superintendent. The only thing that we are meeting today, after this meeting depending on the decision and the road that we are going to take forward. Is just making sure that our teachers have that equipment readily accessible for them. And I know of course, Mr. Hector Perez would will work magnificently so with us. To make sure that are teachers are ready to be able to provide that instruction.

Juan Cruz: Just for the record, I received information just right now that Laredo ISD will be opening up on Monday. They will be following guidance from their local leaders. The superintendent and also words of TEA. So, they will be opening up on Monday. And I believe Mr. Gonzalez, the same direction that you had shared with me earlier you wanted to proceed.

David Gonzalez: Yes sir Mr. Cruz, members of the board, with your support, I believe it is in the best interest for our students to continue to remain open at this point. We are going to continue to follow our CDC guidelines to the best of our ability. We are looking to make sure that every stakeholder within UISD is in a safe and nurturing environment at every single campus and building.

Francisco Castillo: Mr. Catrell, I; sorry..

Jeff Catrell: I would say, I have been called a lot worse! It is just fine sir (chuckling). No worries at all.

Francisco Castillo: I know that my colleagues are interested to know about funding. Do you control that funding sir for us here with remote access? Or is it someone else.

Jeff Catrell: I will say this; I specifically support schools from the state perspective on governance, so I support the superintendents and the board members. Which what that means is that well, my specific team does not operate the financial aspect of the TEA. So many other questions and so much of the support that we provide actually touches almost everything else at the agency. And so, what I will say because this is a point of concern and consideration that you should have. That, a local health authority order like this will likely strike some concern and reluctance of families to attend school in United ISD on Monday. I believe that what I shared with Laredo ISD just a moment ago, and I will reiterate that with you, is that the strongest communication that you can offer to your family and to your community indicating that, we are operating schools. And we are operating them very safely. And that we have done things to prevent viral spread in our campuses. And our schools are the safest and the very best place for our students to be successful. And have a brighter future the better off you will be. That said, I want to be clear that when you have a measure like this, there is undoubtedly going to be an adverse impact. It is going to affect your attendance in campus on Monday. Even with the very best communication and the very best trust that you would have with your families and your community. Knowing that, and knowing that you may have a decrease in the number of students that are in attendance on Monday, we will work with you all and we will be continuing just as we have in the past to make what is low attendance waiver available to your school system. So, a low attendance waiver, if you have an issue in health safety welfare that causes your attendance to drop 10% from out of what it was last year to that of what it is this year. So let's say on average day you guys have 95% attendance, if come Monday you have 84.9% attendance, that is more than a 10% delta United ISD would have at it's disposal the opportunity to register and submit a low attendance waiver to the Texas Education Agency. To have that day removed from it's consideration for funding. So that way you do not receive a decrease in the number of students that you have on that particular day. So, those waivers are in the specific scope of what my team does at the Texas Education Agency. And we will coordinate with Mr. Cruz, and then also superintendent Gonzalez to ensure that you have the very support that you need in United to ensure that those waivers are submitted in the very best fashion the position the district not to have an impact of funding.

Javier Montemayor: Mr. Catrell, your recommendation is that we, the school district continue based on, or with the numbers that you have looked at, based on what you have hear here. That we continue our in-person face-to-face instruction.

Jeff Catrell: That is correct. I do not see these numbers rising to a level that administratively we, here at the Texas Education Agency would recommend that you close your campuses. Ultimately, that decision is one that resides with you the board of trustees and making the determination that Mr. Molina pointed out. You know your schools and your community the very best and so, I would encourage you to evaluate what is necessary there locally. But the numbers that we have seen, or

that have been shared with me specific to United ISD, I will just say that I possess very grave concerns that, that is the threshold that we are using to issue these sweeping orders for campus closure thus depriving students of an education.

Mike Garza: Mr. Montemayor, if you will allow me. Mike Garza, associate superintendent for student services. Just to rest assured the board of trustees Part of the order that was provided today, United had some mitigation efforts that we needed to do on our part that we have been doing even prior to the notice. Disinfecting all our campuses making sure that we are doing that on a daily basis. But just for more comfort for our public and for our staff, we are today and tomorrow re-sanitizing those particular locations that were listed and so we will be done before the end of day tomorrow. Making sure that those schools are safe and sanitized. In addition to all of the other mitigation efforts that were recommended as well. And in some cases some of those schools have already been done multiple times this week. So, we are going above and beyond what even the mitigation efforts or the recommendations we are actually doing that above and beyond in most cases.

Juan Cruz: I do want to just jump in here real quick and just say that the city's relationship with the school district is a very good and cooperative. Dr. Treviño is not necessarily controlled or under the direction of the city of Laredo. So I want to make sure because I know that we probably have media folks here listening in. That the fact that Dr. Treviño is involved is not something that the city cannot control. The city council or the mayor cannot control Dr. Treviño's recommendations or directives. He says, he is his own separate entity. So, United ISD will continue their cooperation and good work with the city of Laredo.

Javier Montemayor: I am going to add Mr. Cruz and members of the board that, I think we have a good program in place as far as our contact tracing, our looking at the numbers and dealing with the issues themselves as they come about in a day-to-day basis. I think Ms. Rendon and Mr. Garza have done an outstanding job. At this point right now, I have reviewed the order that Dr. Treviño has issued and I think it needs a little nit more teeth to it. I think there is information out there that he has not looked at. Based on that, my personal thought is that we continue with the recommendation of TEA and the superintendent at this point.

Ricardo Molina: I agree

Ricardo Rodriguez: I agree on it also. If there is going to be a motion I would act and agree on that.

Javier Montemayor: I do not think we have action to take. Just want to give my vote of confidence right now lies with the superintendent's recommendation.

Ricardo Rodriguez: I agree also.

Ricardo Molina: I had a question; I think personally, United needs to stay focused. Like they are right now, and continue doing the great job, and not letting anybody from the outside come in and interfere with the business of United and I feel that from my heart. I do not know how everyone else

feels. But, we have enough problems at our schools and we are trying to take care of them and they should let us do what is right for our kids.

Javier Montemayor: I am concerned about the numbers, I am concerned about the safety of our students. I mean this pandemic, the delta variant is very aggressive. All the doctors have indicated that is the medical information that we have received and the science backs it up. We have gone as far as mandating masks. We have developed programs to, protocols and programs to trace this virus at our campuses. We are evolving every day. I think we are doing a good job in controlling it and managing it. I just don't, or I am not ready to shut down our campuses today. That's just my feeling.

Aliza Oliveros: Mr. Montemayor, I agree with you on that and I know Dr. Treviño, his thinking or medical view point is in the right place. And I have nothing to say against him other than I think we need to do what we need to do in this particular case. But I do not want to negate in any way his professionalism and his knowledge in regards to this recommendation I feel that is kind of an insult to him. So, whatever we do today on my part, is in no way an insult to his recommendation because his heart is in the right place. He is just trying to save lives, and I respect that.

Javier Montemayor: I agree.

Juan Roberto Ramirez: I agree with her.

Francisco Castillo: I think he cleared something up, when he met with us virtually that his role as a state officer is to give that opinion. I respect it, I respect his opinion but like we said we have to consider the totality of the picture, what is in our best interest as a school district. And I am pretty confident that Dr. Treviño does realize that it is not something that we are trying to do. Against him but it is just we like to think that we have our responsibility. Just like he has his, we have our responsibility to the children and students and staff of our district.

Ramiro Veliz: Mr. Gonzalez can I ask also that after we, although it is not a voting item but we are putting forward our vote of confidence on your recommendation but, can someone reach out to Dr. Treviño. To advise, and just reiterate that we have been doing the contact tracing, doing the disinfection, we are doing disinfection over this weekend in the schools, but we feel that the numbers that we have, have been limited to a certain extent. And that is based on the amount of individuals that we have in our different campuses. And there being a lack of quarantine or reduced capacity in other businesses in our community in other locations, it just seems that this is something that is, at least to me it is being targeted to our district and maybe to the neighboring district. Because talk or any reduced capacity to businesses, at the mall (overlapping talk).

David Gonzalez: Just for the record I know everybody is listening, at no time are we going to neglect any life. I know that we had a conversation with Dr. Treviño and the city of Laredo. Along with Dr. Rios from LISD. And we made it very clear, we are here for students. We are here for educating as best as we can and we are going to continue to do, following all protocols that are humanly possible. By the same time token, looking at other avenues to promote the safety of students. We are going to continue to do that as a district. I want to appreciate Jeff, from TEA. For

coming in and joining us this morning with his recommendation as well. To give this an overview and not only on how well we are doing but on how the state is doing as well. We only compare ourselves but, when we compare ourselves to how other districts are doing, rest assured we are going to continue doing a great job that we can because of the people that we have at United ISD. I would like to also, extend my appreciation to every board member that is here, for your support. We are making a decision that is united decision. What we feel is the best. Not only for our students but for every stakeholder within UISD.

**NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS TIME.**

**VI. Adjournment**

**Motion: So Move**  
**Moved By: Ricardo Moilna**  
**Seconded By: Juan Roberto Ramirez**  
**Any Discussion: NONE**

**All In Favor: Unanimous**

**MOTION PASSES**

*There being no further business of the UISD Board of Trustees, this Emergency meeting of August 28, 2021 is adjourned at 10:56 AM.*

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Javier Montemayor, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

*These Minutes were completed by Griselda Rodriguez, and submitted for approval by the UISD Board of Trustees at the April 2022 Regular Board Meeting.*

Emergency Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb

September 29, 2021

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez  
Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Javier Montemayor, President – PRESENT  
Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – PRESENT  
Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – ABSENT  
Francisco "Frank" Castillo, Parliamentarian – PRESENT  
Ricardo Molina, Sr., Member – PRESENT  
Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT  
Ramiro Veliz, III, Member – PRESENT

An Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, September 29, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the SAC, Room #2, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

- I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order
  
- II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order **at 6:20 p.m.** The record showed that a quorum of Board Members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.
  
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
  - A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to Thee, Texas, one State under God, one and indivisible.
  
- IV. Public Comments: Comments shall be limited to current Board Agenda Items, student recognitions or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except those non-English

speakers requiring a translator, are limited to six minutes. The presiding Board officer may modify or waive these time limits as appropriate. Public comments shall not be used for personal attacks or use of insulting, profane, threatening or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the president Board Officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding individual District employees, students, or parents must be resolved via appropriate complaint process, as stated in Board Policy BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific information.

### **No Public Comments**

- V. Discussion Regarding Cause No. 21-0836, styled *in re: Greg Abbot, in His Official Capacity as Governor of Texas*, on Petition for Writ of Mandamus before the Supreme Court of Texas, and Matters Incident Thereto

*Jaime Garcia – on this item I'll give you a little background very briefly. As you know, you all instituted a mask mandate resolution about six weeks ago. That went to litigation for the 49<sup>th</sup> District Court. There was a temporary restraining order granted, a temporary injunction granted by the 49<sup>th</sup> District Court that prohibited the Governor from enforcing his executive order 38 and prohibited government entities from establishing mask requirements. That was appealed by the Governor to the Fourth Court of Appeals. There was a motion filed by the governor to suspend that order by the District Court that was unsuccessful. The Governor then appealed that decision to the Supreme Court of Texas. Within 24 hours there was a motion being filed, we were asked to file a response. Within 24 hours of our response being filed, the Supreme Court issued an order suspending Judge Lopez's order. So long story short on that, there is no legal order in effect, right now locally, that would prohibit the Governor from enforcing GA-38 against the district for its mask resolution which is the reason legal counsel asked for this Emergency Meeting to be held so we can discuss this with you.*

*Javier Montemayor – So in other words we have no authority to make masks or masks won't be worn at any school or district facility mandatory?*

*Jaime Garcia – Correct, there is no legal protection. The Governor would argue that the district never had the authority because of his order but at the very least you had the 49<sup>th</sup> District Court injunction in effect. As you know, for members of the public who are listening, there are many incidents across the state right now, the Governor is being sued, the Governor is suing several districts. The AG just filed lawsuits against 14 districts last week seeking temporary restraining orders against their mask orders. It's a mess around the state but there is a couple of cases that are more intense than others and those are going to decide, basically who's right and who's wrong and does the Governor have the authority to do this or do the districts have the authority to do this? Those cases are already set for the Supreme Court, they are set for briefing but unfortunately while those cases are pending, we do have a Supreme Court order that is directly specified to tighten UISD's face mask resolution.*

*Ricardo Molina – what is the time limit that we have? They have to bring it back, right?*

*Jaime Garcia – you mean the appeal?*

*Ricardo Molina – yes, when can we fight it, because the city is the city and UISD is under TEA so can we get more time?*

*Jaime Garcia – that question is being mitigated right now in the appeals court and the supreme court.*

*Ricardo Molina – I know that TEA was mitigating with the government*

*Jaime Garcia – the TEA is not a party to the lawsuits. The City of Laredo's mask requirement or their order from the health authority was not a city-wide order, it was to allow districts to mandate the use of masks within the district facilities so it applied to Laredo ISD and United ISD. We also at United have a face mask requirement in place and we're going with the city's lawsuit against the governor trying to restrain the governor's order. But to answer your question, Mr. Molina, I think litigation may take another couple of months before we get a solid answer. And of course, if the Supreme Court rules in the district's favor, we'll immediately have legal grounds to reinstate the mask requirement.*

*Frank Castillo – the order that was issued by the supreme court of the state of Texas, does that also include the City of Laredo?*

*Jaime Garcia – the City of Laredo's order was only to require the use of masks in the district. It's not a city-wide order.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – but that order still stands with the city?*

*Jaime Garcia – my understanding is that the city has their meeting on Monday.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – so they might pull it out? But up to right now, it still stands right?*

*Jaime Garcia – as of right now, yes, correct. It would have to be an official city council item.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – if we were to take a vote, I think if we were to rescind our vote, would the city order still stay in place for us?*

*Jaime Garcia – I'm not sure but I'm using a hypothetical, if the district no longer had a mask resolution in place, and the city still had theirs in place it would technically apply to UISD.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – but neither entity has any legal protection at this point*

*Jaime Garcia – that's the main thing, that's why we wanted this item to be presented to you tonight. You don't have the injunction in place because of the supreme court.*

*Aliza Oliveros – we have no other legal avenue to pursue this other than to wait for pending mitigation on the right of the governor.*

*Jaime Garcia – correct, there's more advanced litigation pending right now that is going to be resolved before UISD...*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – and I think our numbers in the district have proven that our mask mandate has worked. Students and teachers are in the practice of wearing a mask. Our community that I'm very proud to be a part of this community. You go into stores that don't mandate a mask to be used and*



everybody's wearing one. You go to other cities and people are not wearing masks, but in our community, we've been very proactive. Our numbers city wide have been improving in light of the fact that we no longer have any legal recourse to continue with our mask mandate. I would like to make a motion to rescind.

Javier Montemayor – I don't think we need to...we're not on that. I think procedurally, number one, what does UISD do next? I think that given the Supreme Court order, I think we have no choice but we cannot mandate masks anywhere on UISD facilities or schools so that's a given. I would ask the Superintendent and his staff to initiate a campaign to encourage and urge all students, all teachers and staff and parents, just like we do all these other campaigns across the district, to wear masks. Just like we do the vaccination, I think masks are also important. I think the numbers are really low at United ISD, contrary to what Dr. Trevino had predicted prior to school starting. I think our numbers have been somewhat controlled so I would ask that the campaign be sent out, made public and hammered home just like the vaccinations are being hammered across the city and across the nation. Make it a really strong message that we urge them to do it. So procedurally, I don't think we need to rescind the order, I just think that the board just needs to recognize the Supreme Court's order and just issue a directive that we cannot make masks mandatory.

Aliza F. Oliveros – and legally is that the route to go?

Jaime Garcia – I think legally, that's an option but I think the risk from a legal perspective, the risky run there is that the attorney general could still argue that you do have a mask mandate in place and to that point. Midway ISD was one of the 14 districts that the attorney general sued last week and they claimed in their filing that they never had a mask requirement in place.

Ricardo Rodriguez – I second the motion

Stephen Trautmann – that's the next agenda item. While it is a prediction, I do think it would be likely that if there was not a rescission of the mask mandate, even if we stated that we were not going to enforce it, at the end of the day, there still would be a resolution in place December 31<sup>st</sup> and I find it highly likely considering the litigious nature of the governor and attorney general that they would come after us. I think we made twitter news yesterday so it's not some secret.

Javier Montemayor – I would think it would dissolve. But that is fine if the board wishes to rescind.

Ramiro Veliz, III – I think we're at a point that the most that we can push back against our state government without any major ramifications coming our way, we're at a point that the Supreme Court has already specifically ruled on the local order that we've had before here with some protection.

Frank Castillo – I think we do have to be careful with the wording and I think rescind is the proper and right way to go because we actually did make a resolution and it's not been found that it's in contrary with the Supreme Court of Texas one, but I would also be very careful about what we instruct administration. I don't think it's necessary to encourage or discourage. Preferably encourage to make any policy to go against what the order is telling us. I'd be careful with what we tell the administration.

Stephen Trautmann – based on the order and if there was a rescission put in place, we would not be able to discipline students and or employees based on the rescission of the face mask.

*Javier Montemayor – I think there's an issue with regard to doing it. It's like local businesses are doing it even though the governor has clearly stated that we're not to mandate masks anywhere. I just think it continues to provide protection for our students. Without saying it's required, without saying it's mandatory, I don't think there's any issue with the district urging parents and students.*

*Ramiro Veliz, III – the hard facts are there, it has helped that we, being such a large district, absolutely so many students and staff at our campuses, it certainly has helped control the numbers.*

*Jaime Garcia – I think it has definitely helped. I do want to make one point for members of the public. We're not admitting to any liability or any lawfulness or unlawfulness of the previous resolution. That question is going to be answered eventually. There's a lot of companies and districts that are out there. They were ahead of the game, fighting it. All we are saying here is that the temporary injunction that the district had in place, specifically prohibiting the government from suing you, is no longer effective because of the Supreme Court's order directly applied to you.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – correct, and in line with that I'd like to say that what we did was a success. We've seen that in our numbers so mission accomplished. It's time to do what we need to do legally and we'll wait for pending litigation.*

*Javier Montemayor – along the lines of the governor saying talk to the families too and if their children want to wear it, they can ask their children. We ask the families to continue to encourage their children to wear it, so I'll move on to agenda item number six.*

## VI. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding USD's Face Covering Resolution

*Aliza F. Oliveros – motion to rescind our mask mandate if that's the correct wording*

*Jaime Garcia – face cover resolution*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Aliza F. Oliveros

Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Discussion: None

Abstain: Ricardo Molina

In Favor: Ramiro Veliz, III, Javier Montemayor, Frank Castillo, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ricardo Rodriguez

### MOTION PASSES

*David Gonzalez – Mr. Montemayor, we will strongly encourage the wearing of a mask. Obviously, we have that data show that it has helped us as far as our Covid numbers and will do everything in our power to make sure that we encourage our students and we will be working with ITV as far as coming up with a video to show our students as well. Thank you for your support.*

VII. Adjournment

*Mr. Javier Montemayor adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.*

**There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Emergency Meeting of September 29, 2021 was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.**

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Javier Montemayor, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

Minutes submitted by: *Alejandra Salinas*, Secretary to Deputy Superintendent

Board Workshop  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb

October 12, 2021

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez  
Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Javier Montemayor, President – Present  
Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – Absent  
Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – Present  
Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Parliamentarian – Absent  
Ricardo Molina, Sr., Member – Present  
Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – Present  
Ramiro Veliz, III, Member – Absent

A Board Workshop of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, in the United ISD – Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Room #2, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

- I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order
- II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order at **6:10 p.m.** The record shows that a quorum of Board Members is present, that the meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551
- III. Workshop:
  - A. Presentation and Discussion re: 2013 Bond Program Update

Mr. Enrique Rangel – stated that Administration wanted him to present to the board an update on where we are on the Bond Program, go over some of the projects that are still on-going, a time-line as to when everything will be completed and whenever the remaining projects will be started. He proceeded with the presentation. (Presentation available upon request).

Some board members had some questions and concerns regarding the bond program. Ms. Laida Benavides invited the board to attend the next Bond Oversight Committee meeting to discuss some of their questions and concerns with the Bond Committee members.

No Action necessary on this item.

IV. Adjournment

Motion: So Move  
Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

**There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Board Workshop of October 12, 2021 was adjourned at 6:46 PM**

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Javier Montemayor, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

Minutes submitted by: *Alejandra Salinas*, Deputy Superintendent's Secretary

Regular Board Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb

October 20, 2021

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Javier Montemayor, President – PRESENT  
Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – ABSENT  
Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – PRESENT  
Francisco "Frank" Castillo, Parliamentarian – PRESENT  
Ricardo Molina, Sr., Member – PRESENT  
Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT  
Ramiro Veliz, III, Member – PRESENT (arrived at 6:23 p.m.)

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, in the United ISD – Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Auditorium, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

- I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order
  
- II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order at **6:06 p.m.** The record shows that a quorum of Board Members is present, that the meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551
  
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
  - A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one State under God, one and indivisible.
  
- IV. Public Comments: Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except that non-English speakers requiring a translator are limited to six minutes. The presiding Board officer may modify or waive these time limits as appropriate. Public comments shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks or use insulting, profane, threatening or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding Board officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding individual District employees, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in Board Policy BED (Local). Pursuant to Section 551.042 of the Texas

Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific information.

*Ernest Davila – I am here to talk about I am in opposition of and want to advocate against Agenda Item V-B Approval of Budget Amendments. You are being asked to move \$750,000 from Payroll to Capital Improvements. You shouldn't be moving any money from Payroll. You should, on the contrary, be making a budget amendment in to Payroll. I respectfully ask that one of you take it off the Consent Agenda so you can have a conversation. I know you have linked the agenda and maybe today is not the right day but gone is the administration where the employees got a zero dollar raise and the superintendent got \$25,000. I had a conversation with Dr. Nelson back then, may he rest in peace. And I asked him "are you going to get a raise?" and he looked at me straight in the face and said, "if my employees don't get a raise, I won't get a raise." That's integrity. These employees have had their salaries frozen for three years and that is way too long. It's time to have a conversation about doing a budget amendment. The students who were not attending, 3,400 is now down to 2,600. We are getting some funding for virtual, but that needs to change a little bit and I've been talking to Sam about that. In closing, let me just give you a specific example of the damage done by the salary freeze. For a 30-year teacher and the principle applies to all employees, except the dollars will vary. For a 30-year teacher it would take a raise of \$2,300 today to make what that teacher was making three years ago. This is not acceptable. I hope that we can have a conversation sometime so that we can compensate these employees. Thank you.*

*David Perez – I am here to speak about Item VII-C-1, the Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument. Mr. David Gonzalez has been Superintendent for a little over three months. In that time, Mr. Gonzalez has done an outstanding job. He's very visible. I have personally witnessed him at our campus during staff development. I've seen him on the UISD Website, visiting campuses, on social media visiting campuses. The district is going in a positive direction under Mr. Gonzalez. Therefore, I am at a loss to understand why the Board is looking at reviewing his evaluation instrument at this time. Is this being done to evaluate him or to set parameters for a future evaluation? I respectfully ask that the Board delay any evaluation at this time and give Mr. Gonzalez a chance to prove himself. Thank you for your time.*

*Rene De la Viña – I just want to mention that I have a message here from your school employees, teachers, administration and paraprofessionals. Number one, I know that you all gave them a \$3,500 stipend, which is good and they're very appreciative of that but LISD gave them a \$5,000 stipend also. Plus, Laredo ISD gave them a pay increase on a pay step, which means they're going to get retirement every year it accumulates versus a stipend, which only goes to retirement one time. Having said that, we are asking you to look into maybe giving them a pay step increase or a pay raise or something. Also, I want to mention, as far as your superintendent, Mr. Gonzalez, I think he's doing a fantastic job, I think you all should give him a 10-year contract. He's doing an excellent job and I usually don't compliment superintendents but he is doing a great job, he's very user friendly. Whenever I have a problem or concern, right away, I just give him a call and we don't always have to agree on everything, but usually he's able to fix it. So having said that, please keep him here for a very long time. He's an excellent, fantastic superintendent. Also wanted to mention that a United ISD first year teacher makes \$1,000 less than a Laredo ISD first year teacher. You may want to look into that. I think you all are a great Board but, again, let's look into giving your employees a salary increase instead of spending \$150,000 on a Fellowship Program from TAMIU. I think it's nice but employees come first, in my opinion. Thank you very much. God bless you.*

*Jose Ovando – I am here to speak in regards to recalling the contract of the superintendent or that you want to re-visit the contract again. I don't agree with that. The most important thing for me, or the school district, should be the education of our children, and their education is intrinsically related to the success of the superintendent. I say that we should back him completely up and give him all the tools to succeed because my children depend on his success. I say we give him a chance. Up until now, I have been surprised. The other day I asked for an*

appointment to talk to the superintendent and he actually answered the phone and I kept insisting I needed an appointment to see him and he said "you are talking to him" and I couldn't believe I was actually talking to the superintendent. That has never happened to me in all the years that my children have been in school. I agree with Mr. De la Viña. He is a good superintendent and I say we give him an opportunity. This is politics, it shouldn't be happening. If you want to re-visit a contract, the contract that you should re-visit is the one for Juan Cruz, the attorney for the school district. You have put at stake your personal reputation to protect Juan Cruz. And, not only that, but you are also spending money to protect Juan Cruz. I was noticing here the possible action of retention of additional counsel to handle possible third-party subpoenas and we know what these subpoenas are for. Why are you spending more money to protect this attorney? I really don't understand that. I have to follow what Mr. De la Viña on this fellowship program. This to me is like a political favor. This is the dumbest thing that I have seen here. Why create this? I prefer that you give this money to the teachers. I agree with Mr. De la Viña on this one. Give it to the bus drivers, give it to the lunch ladies. Why? Because they are there with my kids, at school, every day. They are the ones who deserve this. To close this, let me remind you that the existence of the school district is simply for my children. For the education of our children, not to be protecting Juan Cruz. Thank you.

Javier Montemayor – for the record, we do not have evaluation of the superintendent on the agenda tonight. The agenda item reads "Approval of Evaluation Instrument" which, by law, the board has to approve before the evaluation sometime in the future but thank you for your public comments.

Paz Biggs – I am here to advocate for our UISD children. Children have been my passion for many years. I was an employee for thirty-some years, have been retired for five and I have really enjoyed it. Please board members, support Mr. David Gonzalez, whom you voted in as superintendent, and do what is best for our children. Please, UISD employees here present, do what is best for our children and I will repeat this over and over again, do what is best for our children. This is all I have to say for right now but please remember UISD has a new superintendent and he is Mr. David Gonzalez. I support Mr. Gonzalez. He helped me in a situation when he was a principal at Washington Middle and I will never forget it Mr. Gonzalez. Just like I have met you and known you, Mr. Castillo, I know you from Nye Elementary, Javier, for many years, Ricardo, Roberto, Ricky and I respect you and I really appreciate what you're doing and please do what you need to do for our children; not for anybody, not for you, not for me, not for the superintendent. Let us support him, so he can help the teachers and other people who will do the best for our children. Thank you very much.

Victor Vazquez – I want to talk about something that has been bothering me for a couple of months now. It's the case that you guys want to hire another law firm and I don't agree that we keep Juan Cruz on our payroll. We know he's going through a situation that he has to fix before we keep him in our budget. It would be easy to cancel his contract and hire a new firm to deal with UISD. Second of all, the superintendent's evaluation. I know he's been on the job for I guess three or four months and it's kind of weird that I see that on the agenda. You say it's not, but I saw it on the agenda. What I am thinking about is all the money you will be wasting and I think if he signed a contract the way it was, the evaluation is supposed to be, and now I think, going back to the contract, it would be breaching the contract. I know you're a lawyer and you understand what I'm saying and this can lead to a lawsuit. We cannot get to paying lawsuit money when we'll be losing all the cases too. I also see that you guys want to implement or continue the management of a fellowship program. I think that is a waste of money right now. We don't have the money like I hear. They said that the teachers need a pay raise. The students need more better place to study. Other things, I also read about that you have 7.7million dollars for the covid in the schools so I know that you guys are spending a lot of money. The thing that draws my attention the most is I see a lot of the cases on the agenda is a closed session. Is there any way you guys can avoid to have so many closed sessions so we can come and participate? I know there's only a few people that come here to the board but we need to address this more and encourage people to come because they come here and it's a waste of time just because you guys want to do closed session most of the time. Thank you.



V. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval of Budget Amendments
- C. Approval of End of Year Outstanding Encumbrances
- D. Approval of Competitive Sealed Proposal (CSP) as the Method of Procurement for Construction of a New Food Production Center Facility for the Child Nutrition Department
- E. Approval of Competitive Sealed Proposal (CSP) as the Method of Procurement for the District Wide Supply & Installation of UV-C Germicidal Lamps for Air Conditioning Equipment
- F. Approval of Update Tabulation for RFP 013-2021 Online Student Engagement Program that includes the training component. This RFP was approved on August 18, 2021, at the Regular Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- H. Approval of Low Attendance Waiver for United South High School for the following days: September 22, 23, and 24

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I make a motion to approve Items A thru H*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: *Francisco Castillo – I also have questions regarding what this gentleman mentioned. We never really get to understand the reasoning behind each consent agenda and where it's going. I don't know if it's proper and I'm supposed to know since I am the parliamentarian, but at this stage, I'm not sure if we ever bring any of these for discussion. Is there a formality on how to do this to be able to discuss things? Because the consent agenda to me can be a field of things that we don't even know what they are. That's my comment.*

*Ricardo Molina – I think that's why there's an agenda made. There's an instruction and a business. If you all have any business questions, when it comes out on the business agenda you can see it on the business committee and ask any questions you have. For instruction, they have an instruction meeting and they went through all the instruction stuff. If you have any questions....*

*Francisco Castillo – All of the items here, under consent would be business-related? Is that what it is?*

*Ricardo Molina – Before we used to finish the board meetings at 12:00 at night. They did the business and instruction committees where everybody is welcome to come to the meetings and if they have any questions, you ask and if you want an answer, there's the superintendent.*

*David Gonzalez – If I may, Mr. Molina is correct. The focus of having instruction and business meetings is to present information and gives the ability for the people on the committees to ask questions and so forth. And it also gives the board of trustees and our audience and our public a week to go through the items and if they want to come back if they want to have public comments and we can discuss further.*

*Ricardo Molina – We have lee-way on the business and instruction...(inaudible)*

*Francisco Castillo – Can we ever remove some of the agenda items? Can we move some of those?*

*Stephen Trautmann – An agenda item that is on the consent agenda, can be removed for individual consideration but there would have to be a motion from the board.*

*Javier Montemayor – The district has a format where we have the business and instructional committee meetings a week before our regular scheduled board meetings. At these meetings, the business and instructional committee meetings, are where the information is presented, where the contracts or requests for qualifications are reviewed, the discussions are had, and there being no questions or no comments will then be placed for consent agenda. If a board member wants to remove an item from the consent agenda for individual consideration, he can make a motion and it will be up to the board to remove that item and to be discussed for individual consideration or tabled or whatever the motion may be.*

*Francisco Castillo – Would it be done at the committee meeting level or here?*

*Javier Montemayor – It could be done here. That process has been in place for some time. Perhaps we can re-visit that for the next meeting so all board members can have all the information on what's on the consent agenda. Not all of us sit on the business committee, not all of us sit on the instructional committee so perhaps we can get all that information out to the board members.*

*Stephen Trautmann – With that being said, all board members are entitled to attend the committee meetings as an audience member.*

*Javier Montemayor – So I have a motion and a second to approve items A through H, is there any further discussion on these items?*

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

VI. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Approval of Donations

Mr. David Gonzalez read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$100,665.00

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Molina  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

B. Approval of Additional Appraisers for the 2021-2022 School Year

*Mr. David Canales announced two additional administrators to be approved for T-TESS evaluations*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

C. Approval of Board Minutes for the Months of June and July 2021

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Francisco Castillo  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

D. Approval of Board Travel to the Fall TASB Legal Seminar in Austin, Texas, November 5, 2021

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Molina  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

E. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Appointment of Board Officers

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I would like to make a change on the officers. I would like to put Mr. Veliz as the President, Ms. Oliveros as the Vice-President, Mr. Ramirez as the Secretary and Mr. Molina as the Parliamentarian.*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: Francisco Castillo – Why? Why make a motion like this?

Ricardo Rodriguez – It's a decision that I want to make.

Francisco Castillo – I respect Mr. Veliz very much but he was there already as the board president.

Ricardo Molina – He was board president already.

Javier Montemayor – Mr. Ramirez, do you have anything to say on that?

Juan Roberto Ramirez – No, I'm ok.

Francisco Castillo – I'm just asking why.

Ricardo Molina – You were saying he was president. He was president twice already.

Francisco Castillo – When I came in, it was Mr. Veliz and he's done a good job. I'm not going to take that away from him.

Ricardo Molina – First it was him, then Aliza,

Javier Montemayor – Aliza, and then Mr. Veliz again, actually Judd Gilpin.

Ricardo Molina – That's another story, let's go on.

Javier Montemayor – So, all those in favor signify by saying "aye"

In Favor: Ricardo Rodriguez, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Ricardo Molina, Ramiro Veliz, III

Against: Francisco Castillo, Javier Montemayor

MOTION PASSES

F. Discussion and Possible Action to Revisit the Creation of and Establish United Independent School District Management Fellowship Program

*Francisco Castillo – Who brought that item? What is the basis of this?*

*Ricardo Molina – I did. It is obvious that everybody that was here that they didn't get a raise, that teachers didn't get a raise. They got \$3,500.00 but they didn't get a raise but we're going to hire people to send them*

to get a master's for three years then bring them back and hire them, when we already have all these people on staff. I don't see no sense; this is my opinion. There are seven opinions. I don't know what your opinion is.

Javier Montemayor – What's your opinion sir?

Francisco Castillo – If I can be recognized Mr. President.

Javier Montemayor – Go ahead.

Francisco Castillo – A Management Fellowship Program, and I'm disappointed the gentlemen from the Teachers Union are not here, doesn't take away anything from teachers. If anything, it complements the district. It sets us up to be a vibrant community, leader in educating but we're not...let me re-phrase that. In helping graduates who completed their education to come and give them an introduction to the business side, the operations side of the school district. It won't interfere with teachers. And honestly, we had voted on this before and we all saw the need and the purpose behind having highly qualified individuals who have a master's in public education. They can come from any part of the state not just TAMU as I heard. It would not take anything from teachers. Teachers, I have been a proponent of raises for teachers and all employees since I got here. I have been proposing...yet we found things to do with our money that has always been a question to me. Why do certain employees get a raise? I'm against that. I want everybody to get a raise. Why do certain employees feel that they, that to have a position to be operating in our department? That is not the basis. That is not something that I want to see affect the operation of the administration of our school district. I thought I had explained this to our fellow board members, that it would just bring, let me think of the correct term I wanted to mention. I believe this is an investment and people who want to come and work for us, they are going to be hired, just like everybody else. They have to meet the same criteria; they're going to have to do the same thing any regular employee does. Drug test, background checks, all the like. There's nothing here to take away from teaching because they're not going to be teachers, they're going to be operations people. People that we can hopefully bring in and these people are highly qualified because they're going to be going through the academic standards of ethics and they're already going to be completed. It's an investment in our future and lastly, we want an educated workforce. I'm finding it hard to believe that one of the main sources of educating the public is against people who have an education to come and work for us. That is the way I see it. I see it really ingenuous that we bring this up now when we have already made plans to bring the first applicants in January. To try to explain to them that we need their expertise, how to operate government and I have told people before, we are government. We are our own government. And one of the last things I'll mention sir, people say a lot that there's three branches of government, right? The judiciary, the legislative, the executive. I'll tell you a fourth one. All these people out here, staff, the bureaucracy, they're another form of government. We rely on them to tell us the information, to tell us what is going on in their departments. We have to rely on them. I'm just saying, let's complement them with the people who are trained in public administration, who have no other interest but to help run our school district better, more effectively and more efficiently. And so, I stand on bringing this and abling this and if I may ask the three people who submitted this, I really don't appreciate it. Thank you.

Ricardo Molina – How much is it going to cost, this program?

Francisco Castillo – I'm not sure but we gave contracts out.

Ricardo Molina – You're going to hire three people? We already have administrators.

Javier Montemayor – Let's not talk over each other...go ahead.

*Ricardo Molina – I think we already have administrators, we have everybody we need to run a program already. We don't need to go out in the world and get everybody and spend more money. I'm just concerned about spending money that we don't have and we can't give to our employees, period. That's my final comment.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I kind of like your item, but I think it's not the time and it's not feasible time to do it and to implement it at this point in time. We are going through some tough crisis as we speak. I heard some of the public comments that were made and I just don't feel that it's time. Maybe for the future I would agree for it but right now I would have to stick with Mr. Molina so I second my motion on that.*

*Francisco Castillo – I think the question again is that it is going to cost money. I haven't seen anything yet that hasn't cost money. I can go on a list of things that we've done to spend our tax payer's money but this is an investment in the future of our administration. An investment in students who have graduated with the correct degree to come and work for us. And I say that firmly, with the correct degree to come and operate our program. I think that's where some people are having a hard time understanding it. They're thinking that they're teachers and no they're not. They're administrators. That's why they went to school and got their masters in public administration. I know we actually have staff, maybe one or two who actually have that MPA program. And you ask them if they would've had an opportunity to go work for the school district right after getting their master's in public administration, if they would not have jumped on the opportunity. This is not to take anybody's job away. This is an opportunity to complement what we have. And of course, it has to have the right culture to come and invest in the district and I know that it has to be something that, again, our administration and I'll call it the bureaucracy because that is the correct academic term. If they're going to feel comfortable and they have to buy into it but if we're not sure about that direction here, that's not my fault. But I am telling you that is what our future looks like. It's going to get there eventually. And if they want to table it or put it for a later date, this is actually something that we need now more than ever because of our financial crisis. That is what we need right now. People who are learned in government, in finances, in ethics, and things of that matter. That's what we need right now. Thank you.*

*Javier Montemayor – I think we need to be a little more organized as a board before we approve these items and then come back and have to rescind and then claim there's no money to do that. If that's the case, I think we have to do that across the board for everything. This board gave the discretionary authority to reclassify through December to our superintendent and that's cost us some money too. If we're going to be talking about holding the strings back, and we're going to say, "hey we're going to save some money and give it to the teachers and let's give it to employees", I'm in full agreement. Since I've been on the board since 2010, all but two years have we given either raises or bonuses to our employees. All but two years, and those two years were financial crisis that we didn't know what the state was going to do or our values went down. And so, if we're going to be creating positions, if we're going to be dividing executive directorships, and paying the same salary to the new executive director at the same time then it applies equally to everyone. Let's not claim we're going to save money because we are going to rescind this item because we want to save money, we should have done ...inaudible... I agree. I think that we need to really sit down, get together, and see where we're going to move as far as creating new positions, as far as approving the expenditures of money across the board. I don't completely disagree with Mr. Castillo. I think there is some benefit to that program, bringing in some people, experts in their field to help mentor our teachers or help mentor our kids, I think there's value in that. It may not be the right time. As far as I understood it, it was approved, it hasn't been funded. Am I correct?*

*David Gonzalez – There's been a discussion with Human Resources, Mr. Castillo*

*Javier Montemayor – Today, it's not been funded and there is no job description yet that I understand has been approved by the board either.*

*David Gonzalez – Mr. Castillo has been working with Mr. Garcia and H.R. on that.*

*Francisco Castillo – I thought it was funded.*

*Javier Montemayor – It's not been funded. Those positions were created, the program was approved, but the specifics of that program have not been funded and there's not been a job description that the board has looked at or approved. So, we are rescinding something that there's value in but we don't really know what it's all about at this time so until we get to that point to say this is the job description, this is what it's going to be, this is the amount of money, I say why throw away something that has good value yet we don't know what, it hasn't cost us anything at this point. When we get to that point, we can certainly go back, look at this, and talk about rescinding it or not approving it. Today there is nothing on the table that United is losing by keeping this Fellowship program, the idea of it, alive. Because today, it has not cost us any money. So, my sub-motion or my second motion on top of yours, Mr. Rodriguez, is to table this item until we have a certain request for funding and a request for a job description. Other than that, or Mr. Molina's motion, I'm sorry. Other than that, I think it's premature to just rescind it now. That is my motion. Motion to table item VI-F which is to revisit the Creation of and Establishment of the District Management Fellowship Program at this time until we have some direction from the Superintendent and his staff that it's been funded and there's a job description. We have a second from Mr. Castillo.*

Motion:            So Move

Moved by:        Javier Montemayor

Seconded by:    Francisco Castillo

Discussion:       None

In Favor:         Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

*David Gonzalez – If I may President Montemayor, just to address some of the board, obviously we have people in the audience but as Superintendent, changes that I made with the Administrative Team, we have not been in the red. I have made sure that other positions were not replaced to make sure that there is not any type of misappropriation of any funds anywhere. So, any positions that I have created, that I've made some changes, what I have done also, I have converted different positions but I have not replaced some other ones. And all this time, we are not in any red in any position that I have created, for the record. Thank you.*

*Javier Montemayor – I don't think there's been a comment that we're in the red or that there has been misappropriation of funds.*

*David Gonzalez – If I may, you did say that it costs money.*

*Javier Montemayor – I know that it has cost us money, but thank you.*

- G. Approval of Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Campuses and Departments

*Mike Garza – presented the following additional requests:*

- *John B. Alexander – requestor Mr. Sandoval, on behalf of Ms. Oliveros for \$6,000.00*
- *Cherish Center – requestor Matias Ydrogo, from Aliza Oliveros, Mr. Castillo, Mr. Veliz, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Molina, for a total of \$4,000 divided equally*
- *Elias Herrera Middle School – requestor Mr. Martinez, board members Mr. Montemayor, Mr. Castillo, \$7,500 (\$3,750 each)*
- *Clark Middle School (Amended Request) – reduction in the original request. Originally it was for \$2,000 by Mr. Montemayor. It was reduced from \$2,000 to \$1,499*
- *John B. Alexander (Amended Request) – requestor Mr. Sandoval, Mr. Rodriguez from Fine Arts from Mr. Rodriguez (board member) for a grand total of \$4,620.*
- *Juarez Lincoln Elementary – requestor Mr. Ortiz, approved by Mr. Molina, for a total of \$2,218.78*
- *Juarez Lincoln Elementary – requestor Mr. Ortiz, Mr. Molina providing the funds in the amount of \$750.*

Motion:            So Move

Moved by:        Ricardo Molina  
 Seconded by:    Juan Roberto Ramirez  
 Discussion:       None  
 In Favor:         Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

VII. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

*The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:49 p.m.*

A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board’s Attorney; Closed Meeting

1. Superintendent’s Duties and Responsibilities
2. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding potential Memorandum of Understanding with Webb County Regarding DS200 Electronic Voting Machines and Election Day Sites and Matters Incident Thereto
3. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding lawsuits styled *City of Laredo and United ISD v. Greg Abbott, In His Official Capacity as the Governor of Texas*, Cause Number 2021CVK001517D1, Pending in the 49<sup>th</sup> District Court of Webb County, Texas, and *Greg Abbott, in His Official Capacity as Governor of Texas v. City of Laredo and United ISD*, Cause Number 04-21-00386-CV, Pending in the Fourth Court of Appeals, and Matters incident Thereto
4. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding a lawsuit styled *Jose Gutierrez v. United ISD, et al.*, Cause Number 2020CVK001695D4, Pending in the 406<sup>th</sup> District Court of Webb County, Texas, and Matters Incident Thereto



5. Legal Consultation and possible action with respect to retention of additional legal counsel to handle third-party subpoena(s) and other legal issues in situations when the Board determines that it would rather utilize counsel other than the currently retained counsel to represent UISD
  6. Discussion Regarding ESSER Funds Update
- B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting
1. Discussion and Possible Action with Respect to Entering into a Purchase and a Sale Contract Regarding the Real Property Owned by L91BC Properties, LLC and Described as:  
  
The Surface only of Approximately 10.77-acre tract of land out of a 53.40-acre tract of land, Linda B. Deutsch, et al, recorded in volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas, situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas
- C. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting
1. Discussion Regarding Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument and Matters Incident Thereto
- D. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Legal Counsel; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.076 Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits; Closed Meeting
1. Student Activity Funds Audits: Elementary Schools – Borchers, Ruiz and Malakoff, Freedom, Gutierrez, Kennedy-Zapata
  2. Student Activity Funds Audits: Middle Schools – Los Obispos M, Herrera MS, United South MS, United 6<sup>th</sup> Grade MS, Gonzalez MS
  3. Student Activity Funds Audits: High Schools – United HS, JBA 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, USHS 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, United South HS
  4. Attendance Accounting – Secondary Campuses
  5. UCAN Program
  6. Employee Health Insurance Benefits
  7. Transportation Fuel Inventory
  8. Accounts Payable Process
  9. Bilingual Program Eligibility
  10. Kronos Editing and Approval Procedures
  11. Region One GEAR UP Partnership Grant

- 12. Title II, Part A Grant
- 13. Title IV, Part A Grant
- 14. Status of Ongoing Audits

E. TGC 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiation; Closed Meeting

- 1. Deliberation regarding Economic Development to discuss and deliberate commercial and financial information received from Apex Clean Energy Holdings related to the construction of a renewable energy project and possible offer of financial incentives related to an application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property under the Texas Economic Development Act, Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code

VIII. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

*The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 8:10 p.m.*

- A. Discussion and Possible Action regarding a potential Memorandum of Understanding with Webb County Regarding DS200 Electronic Voting Machines and Election Day Sites and to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and execute required documents

*Jaime Garcia – the recommendation on that item is to authorize the Superintendent in conjunction with legal counsel to negotiate and execute the required documents pertaining to the MOU with Webb County regarding the DS200 Electronic Voting Machines and Election Day sites.*

Motion:            So Move  
  
 Moved by:        Ramiro Veliz, III  
 Seconded by:     Francisco Castillo  
 Discussion:        None  
 In Favor:          Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

- B. Discussion and possible action regarding lawsuits styled *City of Laredo and United ISD v. Greg Abbott, In His Official Capacity as the Governor of Texas*, Cause Number 2021CVK001517D1, Pending in the 49<sup>th</sup> District Court of Webb County, Texas, and *Greg Abbott, in His Official Capacity as Governor of Texas v. City of Laredo and United ISD*, Cause Number 04-21-00386-CV, Pending in the Fourth Court of Appeals including authorization to legal counsel

*Jaime Garcia – the recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed session*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

- C. Discussion and possible action regarding a lawsuit styled *Jose Gutierrez v. United ISD, et al.*, Cause Number 2020CVK001695D4, Pending in the 406<sup>th</sup> District Court of Webb County, Texas, including authorization to legal counsel

*Jaime Garcia – the recommendation is No Action at this time*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Seconded by: Francisco Castillo  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

- D. Possible action with respect to retention of additional legal counsel to handle possible third-party subpoena(s) and other legal issues in situations when the Board determines that it would rather utilize counsel other than the currently retained counsel to represent UISD

*Kenny Valls – the recommendation is that United Independent School District retain the law offices of Hall and Alvarez*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Seconded by: Francisco Castillo  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

- E. Possible Action with Respect to Entering into a Purchase and a Sale Contract Regarding the Real Property Owned by L91BC Properties, LLC and Described below:

The Surface only of Approximately 10.77-acre tract of land out of a 53.40-acre tract of land, Linda B. Deutsch, et al, recorded in volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas, situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas

*Jaime Garcia – There is no action necessary at this time*

F. Action Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Francisco Castillo  
Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

- G. Consideration and Possible Action to accept for consideration one or more Applications for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property under the Texas Economic Development Act, Texas Tax Code, Chapter 313, assess an Application fee, and authorize the Superintendent to review the Application for completeness and submit such Application to the Comptroller

*Stephen Trautmann – we need some specific language so may I make a recommendation for the board please. It is recommended that the Board accept for consideration Siete Wind, LLC's application for an appraised value limitation on qualified property, set a standard application fee of \$80,000 for such application and authorize the Superintendent to acknowledge receipt of the application and application fee, review the application and upon a determination that such application is complete, work with the Underwood Law Firm to submit the application to the comptroller as set out in Chapter 313 of the Tax Code*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

- H. Consideration and possible action to retain school finance consultants Moak, Casey & Associates to assist the District in processing and evaluating the financial impact of one or more Applications for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property

*Stephen Trautmann – the recommendation is to retain the firm of Moak, Casey & Associates as school finance consultants to assist the district in processing and evaluating Siete Wind, LLC's application for appraised value limitation on qualified property and authorize the board president to sign such engagement letter with Moak, Casey & Associates to secure such services*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Francisco Castillo  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

IX. Adjournment

*Javier Montemayor, Board President stated that motion carries to adjourn the meeting.*

**There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Board Meeting of October 20, 2021 was adjourned at 8:20 PM**

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Javier Montemayor, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

Minutes submitted by: *Alejandra Salinas*, Deputy Superintendent's Secretary

Safety and Security Committee Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb

November 16, 2021

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools  
Gloria S. Rendon, Deputy Superintendent-Safety & Student Services  
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, UISD Board Member  
Javier Montemayor, UISD Board Member  
Emma Leza, Associate Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction  
Enrique Rangel, Assistant Superintendent-Facilities  
Rebecca Morales, Executive Director-Federal & State Programs  
Ray Garner, UISD Chief of Police  
Aaron Salazar, UISD Assistant Chief of Police  
David Saldivar, UISD Police Sergeant  
Ofelia Dominguez, Director of Risk Management  
Roman Garcia, UISD Safety Specialist  
Emma Cavazos, UISD Safety Officer  
Edith Landeck, Director of Grants Administration  
David Perez, UISD Parent / Teacher  
Jennifer Escamilla, UISD Parent / Teacher  
Mark Kwitowski, UISD Parent  
Irma Pompa, UISD Parent  
Benito Martinez, Laredo Police Department (Representing Claudio Treviño)  
Guillermo Heard, Laredo Fire EMS Chief  
Jaime Fierro, US Border Patrol (Representing Matthew J. Hudak)  
Kathleen Christie, US Border Patrol (Representing Matthew J. Hudak)  
Steve Landin, Webb County Emergency Management Coordinator  
Victor Sotelo, Texas DPS Captain  
Mireyda Y. Barrera, US Border Patrol  
Isaac Fortanez, US Border Patrol

A Safety and Security Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, beginning at 11:00 AM in the SAC Room #2, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

I. Call Meeting to Order

*Mr. David Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.*

*Mr. Gonzalez thanked everybody for attending the meeting and for everything they do for the community.*

## II. Public Comments on Agenda Items

*No Public Comments*

## III. Introduction of Committee Members Roles/Expectations

### A. Texas Education Code 37.109

*Ricardo Rangel – explained that the Superintendent has to select a specific amount of people to be in the committee to represent the community as a whole. He explained what their role in the committee is and said the most important part is that they work together to establish a multi-hazard emergency operations plan and to make sure that our plans align with standards of the State of Texas and surrounding agencies so that we can work together and in the case that we do have an emergency, that our plans are aligned and most importantly that we do have a plan if an emergency were to arise. He encouraged the committee members to go through the Texas Education Code 37.109 and thanked them for serving on the committee. He proceeded to introduce the committee members present.*

*Gloria Rendon – welcomed everybody to the first Safety Committee meeting and explained that we are required to have at least three meetings minimum for the entire school year. She thanked them for serving on the committee and stressed the importance of the committee. She stated it is imperative that they meet and know what our plans are. She added that we will be planning a Reunification mock that we want to have with students at the arena. She spoke about the Arlington shooting that happened about a month ago and added that we try to be as proactive as possible and wants the committee to know our process, our procedures that we have in place and what we are doing because the committee members have that law enforcement background and our police department is present and they are willing to listen to your suggestions. She added that Chief Garner will work collaboratively and has great partnerships and great communication with them. Ms. Rendon added that this is about keeping everyone in our over 54 sites that we have, 40,000 students and 6,500 employees safe and expressed her gratitude.*

*Javier Montemayor – introduced himself and thanked them on behalf of the Board of Trustees. He said the important thing is communication and added that we have had a lot of situations on campus. He added that these situations may not rise to the level of an active shooter or situations where we have to call in law enforcement or emergency services but UISD has a plan and we partner with agencies like yourselves to get our plan to work. He added that we don't want to get to the point where we have an active shooter but if it does happen we want to be prepared and read to address the situation; not only us but how it will be communicated out to the public, how administrators are going to deal with this, how teachers are going to deal with this and how students are going to react to this. Mr. Montemayor added that their participation in this is always beneficial to how we are going to be ready for our reaction to to any type of emergency situation. He stated we train our administrators and employees and students how to react to these situations. He thanked the committee for attending, for their insight and cooperation and said he hopes to learn a lot from their input.*

#### IV. District Report

##### A. State of the District

*David Gonzalez – went over a few items about the district. He stated we have over 39,000 students enrolled at UISD and of those 39,000 about 2,000 are doing remote instruction. He added we have House Bill 45 going on and also the social/emotional curriculum has started and is solely for the betterment of our students. He stated we have been having multiple cases with our students as far as social and emotional state coming back face to face. He added that last year, 99% of our students were doing remote instruction and said it is a big change for our students, for our teachers and for everyone. Mr. Gonzalez said with this being a transition year, it is being multiplied as far as how many more issues we have and right now we are looking at our safety. He mentioned we are having drills at the campuses and all departments and we will continue to do for the safety of not only our students, but also for the safety of our employees. He thanked the committee for being here.*

##### B. COVID-19 Protocols

*Gloria S. Rendon – stated she will not be going into detail on the protocols and mentioned that this week we have nine active cases out of 40,000 students and three employee active cases and added that we are doing good. She mentioned we are expecting a surge after the holiday period so we are encouraging mask wearing even though we can't enforce it, we will continue to recommend that. She added that we continue to partner with the City of Laredo, with Vara for vaccines for the 5-11 year olds and said that the demand for that vaccine has surpassed the supply. She explained that we were expecting 6,000 vaccines but we only have about 1,500 and that we continue to promote the booster vaccines for our community and employees as well. Ms. Rendon went over some of the items we are doing at the campuses in regards to covid and also went over the protocols and funding information. (presentation available upon request) She added that Mr. Rangel, our Safety Manager is also reviewing Senate Bill 11.*

##### C. Overview of Senate Bill 11

*Ricardo Rangel – explained information about Senate Bill 11 and stated that it was introduced soon after an incident that happened in Santa Fe which states that we should look into our safety procedures and what we are doing right and what we are doing wrong that needs to be fixed. He went over some other important information on Senate Bill 11 (presentation attached and available upon request).*

V. Closed Session: The Committee will adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code and 37.109 of the Texas Education Code:

*The committee adjourned into Closed Session at 11:23 a.m.*

##### A. Safe and Supportive School Teams (BTA)

1. District Team Rearrangement
2. Review of TEA Survey Due November 30, 2021



- B. Social-Emotional Learning Overview
- C. Update on Senate Bill 500 Grant
- D. SRP Overview
- E. Safety and Security Audits Overview
- F. Reunification Drill Overview and Proposed Date
- G. Active Attack Incident Response

1. [https://alerrt.org/course\\_types/AAIR](https://alerrt.org/course_types/AAIR)

VI. Reconvened from Closed Session

*The Committee reconvened from Closed Session at 12:17 p.m.*

VII. Announcements:

A. Meeting Dates:

1. March 7, 2022
2. August 8, 2022

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business the Safety & Security Committee Meeting of November 16, 2021 was adjourned at 12:17 PM

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Ricardo Rangel, Safety/Crisis Manager  
Facilitator, Safety & Security Committee

UNITED ISD



1961 - 2021

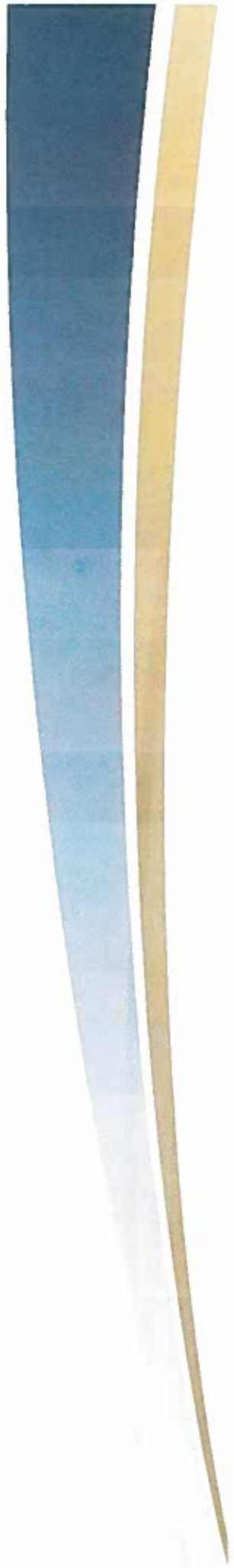




United Independent School District

# School Safety & Security Committee

November 16, 2021



# I. Call Meeting to Order



## III. Public Comments on Agenda Items



### III. Introduction of Committee Members Roles/Expectations

- a. Texas Education Code 37.109
  - i. <https://texas.public.law/statutes/tex.educ.code.section.37.109>



United Independent School District  
2021-22 School Safety and Security Committee

11:00 a.m. November 16, 2021

First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Address	Phone Number	Prof. Title	Last Name	Chief	Phone Number
Rumilo	WELLS III	rumilow@uhsd.net	United ISD Board President	4410 Fulsom Drive Laredo, TX 78040	956-723-7118				NO
Ricardo Rick	Rodriguez	rickr@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	302 Bob Bullock Loop Laredo, TX 78040	956-401-4310				NO
Roy	Garnet	royg@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	101 E. Del Mar Blvd Laredo, TX 78041	956-473-0902				NO
Aaron	Safazar	asafazar@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	101 E. Del Mar Blvd Laredo, TX 78041	956-473-0337				NO
David	Saldívar	dsaldiva@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	101 E. Del Mar Blvd Laredo, TX 78041	956-473-0621				NO
Ofelia	Dominguez	odomingu@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-0300				NO
Roman	Garcia	rgarcia@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-0611				NO
Emma	Cavazos	ecavazo@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-6454				NO
Samuel D.	Flores	sflores@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-1227				NO
Dr. Edith	Landeck	elandeck@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-6402				NO
Rebecca	Coss-Morales	rcoss@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	201 Linderoood Drive Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-6456				NO
David	Perez	dperez@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	2011 United Ave Laredo, TX 78045	956-473-6200				NO
Jennifer	Escamilla	jescamil@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	5011 Sand Loop Blvd Laredo, TX 78255	956-473-1500				NO
Mark	Kwitowski	markk@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	1607 Graywood Laredo, TX 78045	(956) 794-0543				NO
Irina	Pompa	irina@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	344 Cedar Falls Dr Laredo, TX 78041	(956) 235-0483				NO
Claudio	Treviño	ctrevino@uhsd.net	United ISD Board Member	1712 Alamo Ave Laredo, TX 78041	956-705-2800				NO
Guillermo	Heard	gheard@uhsd.net	City of Laredo Police Chief	1111 Del Mar Blvd Laredo, TX 78045	956-718-4000				NO
Martin	Cuellar	mcuellar@uhsd.net	City of Laredo Fire/EMS Chief/EMC	102 Victoria St Laredo, TX 78040	956-523-1200				NO
Matthew J.	Hudak	mhudak@uhsd.net	Webb County Sheriff	207 W. Del Mar Blvd Laredo, TX 78041	(956) 794-1300				NO
Steve	Landin	slandin@uhsd.net	U.S. Border Patrol - Laredo Sector Chief/Patrol Agent	1000 Houston Street Laredo, TX 78040	956-523-4009				NO
Victor	Sotelo	vsotelo@uhsd.net	Webb County Emergency Management Coordinator	1501 Bob Bullock Loop Laredo, TX 78045	956-729-2701				NO
John	Palacios	jpalacio@uhsd.net	Texas DPS Captain	1110 Hobbs Blvd Laredo, TX 78045	956-718-1087				NO
Rodolfo Rudy	Rodriguez, Jr.	rrodrigu@uhsd.net	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Captain	1110 Victoria St #107 Laredo, TX 78040	956-523-4315				NO
Miguel Mike	Villarreal	mvillarrea@uhsd.net	Webb County Constable Precinct 1	401 S. Metro Ave Laredo, TX 78043	956-523-4783				NO
Harold	Devalby	hdevalby@uhsd.net	Webb County Constable Precinct 2	1401 Marquette St Laredo, TX 78045	956-523-6100				NO
Eduardo	Leal	eal@uhsd.net	Webb Constable Precinct 4	105 Sherman St Laredo, TX 78045	956-723-8321				NO
Jose A.	Hernandez-Cifre	jhernandez@uhsd.net	Webb Constable Precinct 3	105 Sherman St Laredo, TX 78045	956-723-1021				NO

Committee Leads

Superintendent	David H	Conzalez	Co-Chairperson
Deputy Superintendent	Glenn S	Rendon	Co-Chairperson
Safety and Crisis Response Manager	Ricardo	Rangel	Facilitator

## IV. District Report

- a. State of the District - David H. Gonzalez - Superintendent
- b. COVID-19 Protocols - Gloria S. Rendon - Deputy Superintendent *- former MCRV*
- c. Overview of Senate Bill 11 - Ricardo Rangel - Safety and Crisis Response Manager





## C. Overview of Senate Bill 11

SB 11 focuses on expanding mental health initiatives, strengthens safety and emergency protocols, and provides funding to districts to increase safety and security on campuses. TEA will work closely with the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) in implementing SB 11, as well as with other statewide entities, including the regional education service centers (ESCs) and the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). TEA's roles include:



## C. Overview of Senate Bill 11

- Coordinating with ESCs to identify mental health resources throughout the state and develop a statewide plan to ensure all students have access to mental health resources;
- Ensuring local education agencies implement policies integrating trauma-informed practices in each school environment;
- Working with the TxSSC to ensure all school districts create and implement substantive multihazard emergency operations plans that focus on prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery;
- Establishing a comprehensive safe and supportive school program that incorporates research-based best practices and develop model policies and procedures for training districts' threat assessment teams;
- Establishing school safety facilities standards, and
- Administering a \$100M school safety grant (funded through SB500) to provide funding for facility hardening and an allotment to fund school facility improvements, school safety personnel, safety training and planning.



V.Closed Session: The Committee will adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code and 37.109 of the Texas Education Code:



## VI. Reconvened from Closed Session



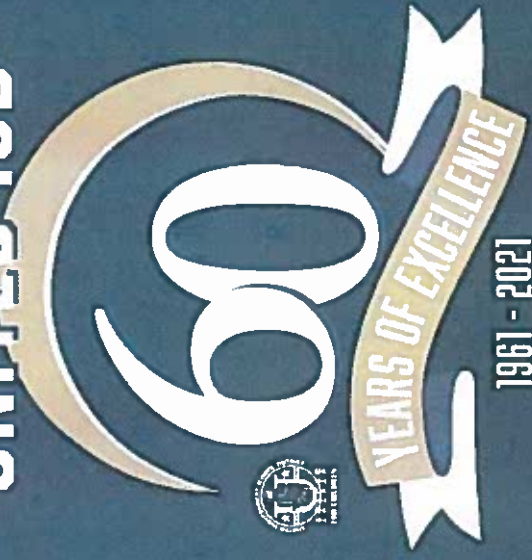
## VII. Announcements:

### VII.A. Meeting Dates:

1. March 7, 2022
2. August 8, 2022



UNITED ISD



Regular Board Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb

November 17, 2021

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Ramiro Veliz, III, President – ABSENT

Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – PRESENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Parliamentarian – PRESENT

Ricardo Molina, Sr., Member – PRESENT

Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT

Javier Montemayor, Member – PRESENT

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, beginning at 6:00 PM in the United ISD - Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Auditorium, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order at **6:01 p.m.** The record shows that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551

III. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

IV. Public Comments: Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except that non-English speakers requiring a translator are limited to six minutes. The presiding Board officer may modify or waive these time limits as appropriate. Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks or use insulting, profane, threatening or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding Board officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding individual District employees, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in Board Policy BED (Local). Pursuant to section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.

*Victor M. Vazquez – I want to talk about section number VII-A Monthly Disbursements. It was brought to my attention that you still have business with Mr. Juan Cruz and it is unacceptable. A lawyer or firm that has been accused of abuse, sexual of a minor should not be working for UISD or should not have any business with UISD. I am here today not to see you guys' reaction, I want action. I want you guys to vote. I want to see everybody voting, whoever doesn't come to vote is a coward. It has to happen soon. Thank you.*

## V. Recognitions

- A. United ISD's School Psychologists - Region One 2021 Recipients of Outstanding Delivery of Psychological Services
- B. Lyndon B. Johnson High School Cross Country Varsity Team - District Champs 30-6A
- C. Alexander High School - Texas Association of Bilingual Educators (TABE) Top 3 High School ESL Teacher
- D. A. Gonzalez Middle School - U.S. News & World Report "Best Schools Report" Recipient

## VI. Items for Information Only

- A. Report of Emergency purchase of Disposable Food Trays from an Unapproved Vendor, Performance Food Service in Accordance with CH (LOCAL)

*Cordy Jackson – due to supply chain issues, our Food Service Department had to make an emergency purchase for disposable food trays. The vendor we used was Performance Food Service and the amount of the purchase was \$49,999.57.*

- B. Presentation from Texas Department of Public Safety Regarding Border Fence Proposal

*Sgt. Nicolas Camano & Major Mike - Good Evening, I'm Sgt. Nicolas Camano from the Texas Department of Public Safety. I'm a highway patrol sergeant stationed here in Laredo, Texas. My name is Major Mike from the Texas Military Department, Operation Border Star Engineering. We are here to talk about a border fence. In particular a property that UISD has on the river banks in South Laredo. It's in relation to Operation Lone Star so I'll try to make it as quick as possible. Some of you received contracts with my business card and the powerpoint was only able to be put on three of the laptops.*

*A powerpoint presentation was presented to the board (presentation available upon request).*

*Sgt. Camano - I am proposing a meeting with all of you. I have been speaking with the attorney for UISD about an actual meeting with myself, my captain and my major and other engineers who will be constructing this fence. This fence is free, it will be UISD's property and all we are asking is for a chance to explain everything on the different fence models we have. If you need a gate, we'll put a gate. We are willing to work with you. We are going to be taking care of the property as well. If there's damage, the engineers will repair it. There is a lot to this, but if you all have any questions, that is all I have right now. This meeting will probably be an hour or two. Some of you may not have questions right now but I strongly urge you to make a list, come to us and we'll schedule a meeting to answer every question you have.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – You said it was a chain link fence?*

*Sgt. Camano - Yes its constantine with barbed wire, C wire. All it is is a deterrent. It doesn't matter what we put, we can put the great wall of china there and people will always find a way. I have been patrolling this county, Zapata County, Starr County for almost ten years and I wish I could release some information but I cannot, it's law enforcement sensitive and confidential. Before I became a trooper, I didn't know there was this issue. Since I put this uniform on, I have seen things get worse. For every step we take forward, we take ten steps back. We have state troopers from Dallas helping us. We are overwhelmed and it's constant.*

*Javier Montemayor – how much area that you are looking at belongs to UISD and how long is this fence that you are asking us to consider? I haven't seen the contracts.*

*Ricardo Molina – the property is called One River Place.*



*Javier Montemayor – I know UISD owns property there. I just don't know how long ....*

*Sgt. Camano - it's a big stretch sir and the fence will go completely along the riverbanks. We are going to work with the International Water Commission to make sure there are no flood zones and we are going to do surveys to make sure there's no endangered species and other things we need to figure. In the event that we find out later on, that there was something that was in danger the Texas Military Department will step in to correct the issue.*

*Javier Montemayor – these are areas that you have identified through your investigations that UISD is an area that has a lot of activity?*

*Sgt. Camano - yes sir. I had a pursuit that ended on your property involving narcotics.*

*Ricardo Molina – the bridge was going to be built through there on One River Place, but then they decided they were going to do it on the place. It's a real bad area, you can't use it for anything.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – I notice it's just a presentation and we can't take any action on the item currently.*

*Francisco Castillo – you mentioned something that is privately funded but do you have a list of who is funding this idea and where those funds are being stored or kept?*

*Sgt. Camano - the way I was informed is that it is funded from other people. We have had people from Montana donating money and from all across the country. That money was allocated just for this. They didn't use it for anything else it is strictly for this. None of that is going into the pockets of anybody in the State of Texas.*

*Ricardo Molina – I saw in the newspaper that a billionaire paid 90% of that fence. It came out about a month ago or something like that.*

*Francisco Castillo – that's fine and that's a good question too because I was going to follow up to consider if our community is actually funding this or if the funding is coming from somebody that we don't even know what their interest is in doing this.*

*Sgt. Camano – their interest is border safety for security but from my opinion sir, if they're giving us money to help us build a fence and have more security, why would you say no? And I'm not here talking, I'm not from Houston or some other place, I was born and raised here. I went to LISD, I didn't go to UISD.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – what about wild life? You said you were going to look into that to see if it affected any wildlife having access to the water.*

*Sgt. Camano – what the Army Corps of Engineers can do is they can actually have a gate there. They can go in and out and then it can be closed and locked.*

*Ricardo Molina – if I may, they already made a study on wildlife when they came about ten years ago and they were going to keep a distance and keep the canes up. They weren't going to cut everything off. We're worried about the fence but what about all those people that the United States are bringing in or are busting in? I live in Rio Bravo and there's a bunch of tents, about 500 people there, the hotel is full of people. The illegals, they have to go thru hell and high water and I don't agree with that. That's my opinion.*

*Sgt. Camano – sir that's on the Federal Government, not on the State of Texas. And you being from Rio Bravo, I'm more than sure you have seen me pass by there. I've been there a lot. Those people that are busting in, the ones crossing the river, the Haitians, that's from Del Rio and that's because it was overflow from the Del Rio District. They bus them over here and try to separate them because that sector got overwhelmed. So all that was is trying to separate people and kind of deviate the work load.*

*Javier Montemayor – I would ask our Superintendent to forward the information to us, the contracts and pictures in the interest of time. Perhaps we can have a Zoom style meeting and if the Board wants to bring it back for any action then the Board can talk about it.*

*David Gonzalez – we'll get that to you along with the presentation.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – we would like to discuss this item as an Action Item maybe at a later meeting or do you just want another presentation?*

*Javier Montemayor – I want the information first and then we'll decide if we'll do an action.*

*Ricardo Molina – I think they had an MOU with the Federal Government for the fence quite a while ago about four or five years ago or longer. They were going to donate the leeway and everything for the fence. It had already been negotiated. They can go back and check.*

*Sgt. Camano – we're not taking any property from UISD whatsoever. The property will remain yours and the fence will be yours. We're not doing any imminent domain, we're not trying to seize any property. There's also other security measures that are in place. You set the time and place and how you want to do the meeting and I will get all the personnel from the line companies, from everyone that will be involved in border security along with myself and my chain of command. We will answer any questions you have, however long you want the meeting. If you want to go for five hours, that's fine we will do it and explain. We're all about transparency. We have nothing to hide, and we're focused on public safety.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – I like that and I think our Superintendent's office will coordinate that so that we can go into a little further detail with the presentation. And like you said, maybe we don't have questions tonight but we might have more later on. Thank you very much for your presentation. We appreciate it.*

*Sgt. Camano – Thank you very much.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – we appreciate you and everything you do for our community.*

## VII. Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements

B. Approval of Updated Tabulation for RFP 2020-002 Armored Car Services that Includes Additional Costs Due to Financial Institution Vault Relocation. This RFP was Approved for Renewal at the April 20, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

C. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications

D. Approval of a Resolution for the Election of Board of Directors for the Webb County Appraisal District

E. Approval of Low Attendance Day Waiver for John B. Alexander High School for the following day: October 19, 2021

F. Approval of Low Attendance Day Waiver for thirteen District Campuses for August 30, 2021

G. Approval of 2022-2023 Academic Calendar

H. Approval of First Reading of LOCAL Policies in Update 118

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I make a motion to approve items VII-A thru H*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous  
MOTION PASSES

#### VIII. Items for Individual Consideration

##### A. Approval of Donations

*David Gonzalez – read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$45,420.00*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Molina  
Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

##### B. Approval of Budget Amendment

*Raul Ramirez – presented the budget amendment 21-11*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

##### C. Approval of RFP 072-2021 Global Positioning and Telematics System Services for School Buses & Service Vehicles

*Cordy Jackson – presented information on RFP 072-2021*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Interlocal Agreement and MOU Between Webb County Juvenile Board and UISD for 2021-2022 School Year

*Gloria Rendon – presented the information on the MOU*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Francisco Castillo

Discussion: *Francisco Castillo – this is the JJAEP program or the detention facility school?*

*Gloria Rendon – it's the JJAEP sir*

In Favor: Ricardo Molina, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Javier Montemayor, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ricardo Rodriguez

Abstain: Francisco Castillo

MOTION PASSES

E. Senate Bill 11 - Texas Education Code 37.115 (2)(d)(e)-Safe and Supportive School Program (SSSP) / Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTA) Revision

*Gloria Rendon – I want to communicate with the board that yesterday we had our first Safety Meeting with our committee. There was about 20 individuals who were in attendance. I know that Mr. Rick Rodriguez and Mr. Montemayor were present as part of the committee members. It was a very good meeting. We went into executive session to discuss some items so that they can be aware of our procedures and our protocols at the campus level. We had representatives from multi law enforcement agencies and so we want to plan for a Reunification group or meeting that we would like to have with students at the arena in the future, probably in the Spring semester. That was on the table as a topic of discussion with this committee. It went very well. Another item that was on there is Senate Bill 11 which is the Behavioral Threat Assessment. We do have our SSSP Program so the only thing I wanted to make sure that was approved by you all is that, on page 9, the team, it is now required by the State of Texas, that we shall have the BTA team, which we have been having our sessions with the campuses and this is to monitor any student that poses a threat to him or herself or to others, whether it be a suicide outcry, a homicidal outcry, or any other type of behavior that can be a danger to himself or others. We are assessing those particular students, providing appropriate intervention for those students and in many cases, refer them to outside agencies and entities for them to get appropriate services. One of the items that is required here which we did not have in our previous plan is that the team must include four district level administrators so we are including executive directors at the particular level that may be and on all cases, the director of guidance and counseling is also part of this assessment process.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – I'm a licensed professional counselor and a licensed social worker right in line with being a crisis intervention counselor. I would like to be included in this committee if I may or is there a cap on how many board members can be in it?*

*Gloria Rendon – On the Safety Committee there is only a cap of two. The Behavioral Threat Assessment is usually in-house individuals because we review student information, the actual threats but we can certainly fill you in and find out...*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – or just to the next meeting that you have with the students.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – what I can do ma'am is I can step down and let her come in*

*Gloria S. Rendon – the meeting that she is referring to is not a meeting with students. It is the adult committee. You want to be with the student committees.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – No the adult committee is fine.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – so if I step down, she can come in and I'll still attend as law enforcement representing the Sheriffs Department.*

*Gloria S. Rendon – yes as long as we don't have a quorum*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – Mr. Rodriguez I appreciate that*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

#### F. Approval of Board Minutes for the Month of June 2021

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Molina  
Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

#### G. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding District's Community Service Hours Program

*Aliza F. Oliveros – is there a presentation on this?*

*Ricardo Molina – they presented to both committees*

*Francisco Castillo – but it wasn't in both committees. That's one of the things that I was going to mention. So we didn't get a chance to look at this. I don't know if there's a final product already prepared so I wanted to make sure that I have a chance to review it because I'm the one that brought this item to the agenda. I wanted to mention that I co-sponsored this item because of the importance of community service hours plays in out student's educational opportunities when they apply for college, either private or public. And if I can explain further, I believe without question, UISD has many talented and intelligent students who have been accepted to major universities across our United States. Today, however, the competition to get into a prestigious university, is even harder. Not only does a student have to excel in the SAT exam and attain a very high GPA, universities also require that our students be well-rounded. Among other things, our students use the community service hours in their application materials. I know for a fact because of my daughter, what she went through. To show universities that they are more than just a person with good grades. Community service hours helps them. I'd like to know a little bit more about the controls and opportunities we have in place to help students in regards to community service hours. Specifically, I'd like to know how our high school counselors are involved in assisting our students with their*

community service hours. Because they have to be collaboratively working with the school counselors to ensure that they are varied and interesting enough to garner the attention of the university admittance counselors. I would also like to know how the district ensures that community service hours are regulated, to make sure that such hours are relevant to the projected university admissions criteria. I hope that district administration can hone in on this area, at least that would satisfy my questions.

Ricardo Rodriguez – do you want to table it?

Javier Montemayor – I make a motion to table it only because I would like to study your proposal Ms. Rendon. I know some of the activities that I have had students participate in have been outlawed by the district so I make a motion to table it so I can look at your proposal.

Stephen Trautmann – there is no legal requirement that requires the board to adopt community service guidelines. As you all are aware there are numerous administrative guidelines in UISD that administration develops, amends over time due to circumstances that arise so there's no legal requirement but like Mr. Montemayor said, we can table this item and I do know administration, I think Ms. Rendon sent some revised community service guidelines last week that have been to the board as well.

Javier Montemayor – there just needs to be some parity across the board. It's always been superintendent's decision to approve or disapprove. As long as we are all on the same level, I think we are ok. I don't know what this document ....

Aliza F. Oliveros – it was in the packet for the business committee

David Gonzalez – the revisions were there. Ms. Rendon and her staff put that together

Gloria Rendon – actually I revised them after the business committee meeting

Aliza F. Oliveros – is it in our packet here?

Gloria Rendon – yes ma'am

David Gonzalez – the revisions are there

Francisco Castillo – I did not have a chance to look at it either, that's why ..

Javier Montemayor – we can table it

Aliza F. Oliveros – we can table it, we have a motion to table it, do we have a second?

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Javier Montemayor

Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Discussion: Francisco Castillo – I was just going to say to hone in on this topic. I appreciate that.  
Ricardo Molina – every year, at the community center, they would send the kids from LBJ to do hours for the graduation so it's not a new thing, it's been here for the longest time.

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

H. Approval of Resolution of the Board of Trustees Regarding Reallocation of Bond Proceeds for Certain School Facilities

*Laida Benavides – presented the resolution and information on how the bond proceeds would be used for other projects rather than build a new Salinas Elementary. In lieu of building Salinas Elementary the following projects would replace that project. The bond counsel created this resolution and makes reference to Exhibit A where there is a list of the projects that were considered. It was a fine arts facility for United South High School. A conversion of the current Band Hall to academic classrooms, welding shop renovations at United South High School, the Auto Body Trades Construction Shop renovations at United South High School, the Culinary Arts Classroom renovations, United South Middle School renovations and upgrades to Science Labs, and the Alicia Ruiz Elementary School renovations and upgrades to student restrooms and science classrooms. This is the administration's recommendation.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I make a motion to approve. I know those funds had been sitting there for quite a while and our constituents were waiting for Salinas but our numbers are not going to be there so fortunately we had to put these monies to use for these campuses and were greatly needed.*

*Francisco Castillo – I have a counter motion. I would like to table this item. I would like to see a little bit more fair distribution of this amount of monies from Salinas that we are not going to use to other district facilities.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – why would you do that sir?*

*Ricardo Molina – I call for a vote*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – before we do any discussion, we would need a second*

*Stephen Trautmann – we need a second on the motion to table*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Francisco Castillo

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: Aliza F. Oliveros – just for clarification we are voting on the tabling of the item

*Stephen Trautmann – that is correct*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – we have a motion and a second to table the item. I will do aye for purposes only of discussion because as I said in the committee meeting, I .....*

*Javier Montemayor - so the Clark Elementary GMP is being delayed until when?*

*Enrique Rangel – we are looking at approximately mid december when we can get a more detailed cost breakdown*

*Javier Montemayor – will it be ready by the next board meeting, the Clark Elementary GMP?*

*Enrique Rangel – yes sir*

*Javier Montemayor – I don't want to hold up Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Veliz's issues. I would agree to only table until I get the Clark Elementary GMP and then we can proceed with the resolution so we can have a clear picture of how all the funds are going to be allocated, how all the issues are going to be resolved. I do think their issue needs to be resolved at some point.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I think and I'm going to address Mr. Castillo, these funds, the bond money had already done you all's schools, they were taken care of with the same bond monies. This was bond money that was supposed to be utilized for our schools on our side because when we went looking for the votes for the people there, these people are waiting for us to do something for our side. You all's side got taken care of. I think Javi has a school pending but you all's schools got taken care of with some of that bond money. I don't feel right that I have to steal from my constituents, their tax monies to utilize more money in the north and we on the south are going to be short handed. So what do I tell my constituents? I don't think it's fair for the tax payers for their money to be taken away and given to the north instead of the south. Because I think those votes came from us to do something for our schools.*

*Ricardo Molina – I think you need to compare the money that they spend at Alexander for all those buildings that they didn't spend in the south and they still want more money in the north. It should be equality. I have a question for Ms. Benavides. The proposed Clark, do we have the money? Because I don't want to take anything out of fund balance. If you have the money to build it fine, if they don't have it.....*

*Laida Benavides – that is kind of why we're here. We are at the end of a \$400 Million bond program. We know that there's going to be over costs like there were in other buildings because of inflation. We know there's inflation. You saw that item that Ms. Jackson brought. Inflation is affecting everything and we've seen a lot of inflation in construction. So to answer your question Mr. Molina, we probably are going to have to as we're making these buildings. It's a two or three year process to make these buildings that we are going to have to probably find funds from other areas.*

*Ricardo Molina – to me the fund balance is safety. We have enough things going on that we need to have a strong balance.*

*Javier Montemayor – we have to understand that inflation has been going on for some time. Actually one of the projects that costs went over our estimated GMP was Molina Middle School. It cost more money than we anticipated.*

*Ricardo Molina – yes but it was proposed*

*Javier Montemayor – No it was not. That money or those budget amendments were not.....*

*Ricardo Molina – Clark you have enough \_\_\_\_\_ around it where you can build wings with the 10 million dollars that you have. You don't have to build a Clark.*

*Javier Montemayor – we promised in the bond a Clark Elementary, we promised a Molina Middle School and we promised a Juan Roberto Ramirez Middle School. If we complete Clark Elementary then we've completed 100% of the bond that we promised the voters. If we complete Clark Elementary. I don't have an issue with Mr. Rodriguez's proposed projects. Those schools do need the work just like Newman, just like Alexander. In fact, in the next couple of years, we're probably going to have to go back and look at another proposed bond to address some of the other schools that were built maybe in the 90's and later. If we do Clark then we've completed our promise and we have the money for Clark. The 20 million that's there, can complete Clark but then we also affect the other Salinas project that was not built, although we did name a school Salinas.*

*Ricardo Molina – I thought it was 10 and 10*

*Javier Montemayor – I think that was probably the best way for us to divide it because Salinas Elementary was there, Clark Elementary was here, so we had considered proposing to the administrators, let's just divide it down the middle.*



Ricardo Rodriguez – if we keep on holding off the projects, I think inflation is going to keep on going and those 10 are going to be even less and we're going to have to get more monies to build whatever we're going to do. I'm still with that motion and I'm sorry that our other board member is missing which is Mr. Veliz and I know he would be strongly for it also because we had already agreed on it. I know Mr. Ramirez wasn't present and I know Mr. Castillo wasn't present.

Aliza F. Oliveros – I would like to further add to Mr. Montemayor's comments and this is me as United Independent School District as a whole board member because I don't play politics. This for me is school business. We were elected to conduct school business. Let's conduct school business. I don't want politics involved in these decisions. If I was not a board member, when, I know you all worked very hard to get this approved, but you promised the tax payers something and here we are, how many years later, eight years later. I do not want to lie to the voters because if we said we were going to build something in certain areas, I as I mentioned in the committee meeting, I have a problem not giving them what we told them we were going to give them. So whatever happened, our population decreased for United, but we promised those constituents money for that area. I feel bad, as a human being, that we got people to vote on this under the pretense that we were going to do something and now we're going to do it. That is wrong to me, but also, that having been said, I know that Newman needs a new parking lot and people are tripping on the pavement is very dangerous. I know there are projects, and maybe inappropriately or wrongly in the business committee meeting, I recommended that we have bond counsel present to answer some questions that we have. I believe I asked the business department if there were other avenues for money to funnel projects that were necessary. But when it comes to the bond, even though I wasn't a board member at that time, I feel I need to honor the previous person's commitment to the constituents when she sat here. I still need to honor what she promised them and that is important to me. I'm not here for politics. I'm here for school business and that is where I stand. Am I willing to postpone it till december so we can talk about some of the issues that other board members have, I'm willing to do that but as I mentioned in the committee meeting, there are time lines, prices are increasing so I agree with you Mr. Montemayor and I'll only go as far as December. I recommend also another meeting so that we meet with bond counsel and talk about this. I know legal counsel said we don't have to keep the funds in that area but ethically do we have to keep the funds in that area.

Francisco Castillo – I wanted to have an opportunity to say I understand the needs of United South and we want to do that. My only concern was as someone who is aware of the needs of District 7 and also at Alexander High School, I believe Mr. Rangel was charged with trying to contact them and determine what their needs were because they did say there were some needs, and I don't think it would take the whole amount away from anybody. But, in retrospect, these are UISD school district funds. They don't belong to me or any district here. It belongs to all of us and we need to make a wise choice about where we are going to use that amount of money. I don't know if we already approached the Blue Ribbon Committee to ask them for permission because I can say the same thing that Aliza is saying. In a few years, if we go back to a bond consideration, they might hold that against us if we didn't do what we said we were going to do. So we have to be very careful with it and I just want to bring that up that I think at least the needs that I'm aware and you mentioned one Aliza, I .....

David Gonzalez – If I may, I know we're discussing Alexander, I have a copy of the expenditures for Alexander which includes bond and from our general fund which amounts to almost 14 million. I'd like to just share with the board at this time.

Juan Roberto Ramirez – let's all be realistic. The board members are optimistic in the decisions that we make. Whatever decision was made prior to this night we need to understand that everything is being done for the kids, the education of the kids. It's not for any political bias or for any board member to gain any spot in regards to this decision. We have to study it very hard, we have to split the money the way it is. The taxpayers, whenever this bond passed, didn't say this much is going to be spent for that, so much is for this, and nobody is going to spend more. The money was already put up front and saying this is going to be equal for every school that we make.

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I think that you are right and I agree it goes for the students. Now, what you're saying. I do agree what you're saying about the schools. There is another Salinas, it still exists, they just moved it a little bit further down. But still, the money that we were going to use for the real Salinas there, that money is still there. That is why we need to relocate and allocate those monies that were supposed to be there and now we're using it to fix our schools. You all are more than welcome to come see United South to come see the Band hall to see how it affects our students. You are more than welcome to come see what it's like so that way you all can see. If we are talking about students, come see how its affecting our students. That's why it's very much needed, and it needs to start as soon as possible and if we keep on holding and holding it's going to keep up getting more expensive. And I can tell you something since I sit on the appraisal district I got to hear the taxes that are coming up and it's coming stronger and it's going to be harder than this year. Next year is going to be stronger. Value is going to be hitting us a lot more so be careful if we keep on stalling. I strongly believe that this should be approved and we can start as soon as possible.*

*Ricardo Molina – I think there is a misunderstanding about what I said about Clark. What I said is I don't want to spend any bond money. Its up to them to get the money from the bond to finish this. And I agree for the children of the north and the south and maybe it sounded wrong but I apologize.*  
*Aliza F. Oliveros – I think for clarification what you're saying is that Clark was originally in the bond, let's finish it and I agree with what you're saying, the money was designated for Salinas, it should go to that area. I also agree with Mr. Castillo that there's some other things that need attention.*

*Stephen Trautmann – you had asked me earlier regarding a bond counsel and whether we can allocate the funds to a different area, and I know Jaime Garcia from our firm talked to Dan Martinez and he said yes you could. But the way the bond is structured, this was recommended by administration and the bond oversight committee. So if we were to bring a separate resolution, one..administration would have to go through their entire process of new proposed projects , let's just say at Alexander High School, then it would have to go to the bond oversight committee for approval, and then it would have to come back to the board so I don't know how much time we're talking about but I keep hearing time is of the essence.*

*Francisco Castillo – but it is possible, correct?*

*Stephen Trautmann – yes it is possible but we would have to go through the process.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – I think we're still in discussion...Mr. Montemayor?*

*Javier Montemayor – I would propose that the motion to table be amended to reflect that we bring this back to the committee meeting which is probably the first or second week of December. We probably only have one meeting in December because of the Christmas holidays. What meeting do you think that's going to be on Mr. Gonzalez?*

*David Gonzalez – It would be the second week in December.*

*Laida Benavides – yes we are scheduled to have the business and instruction committee meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> and the Board meeting the following Wednesday.*

*Javier Montemayor – I say we do it all on December 7<sup>th</sup>*

*Laida Benavides – depending in this GMP that we can get for Clark Elementary, and kind of time it with either those two dates and in between have a bond oversight.*

*Javier Montemayor - I would ask that we do it in Executive Session.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – so is that a formal motion? Can he amend the motion at this point?*

*Stephen Trautmann – the motion is to table now to amend that motion we have to have a second on that motion and then we have to vote on that.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – who didn't vote on the motion to table? I'm confused..what do we do?*

*Stephen Trautmann – from what I saw, it was chaos, there was a motion and a second on the motion to table, so that's what we were discussing.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – can we have another sub motion to the sub motion?*

*Stephen Trautmann – yes...(inaudible)*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – go ahead Mr. Montemayor, we've done this before.*

*Stephen Trautmann – we now need a second for Mr. Montemayor's motion, if we don't get that second then we go back to the other motion.*

*Javier Montemayor – my motion is to table with just enough time to bring it back to December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and we do it in Executive Session.*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Javier Montemayor

Seconded by: Francisco Castillo

Discussion: Ricardo Rodriguez – why would it be to stall it a little bit more? I just want to start my project, that's basically it.

*Javier Montemayor – I just want to make sure that we're organized and that we all come out here...*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I think that this is organized sir, but I think, what I see is....*

*Stephen Trautmann – I also have to chime in real quick, we cannot discuss in Executive Session*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – can I say I'm going to vote this way and this is my reason for doing so?*

*Stephen Trautmann – you can give your reasons for voting*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – so we have a motion to table for December 7<sup>th</sup> and make a decision at that time in Executive Session.*

In Favor: Francisco Castillo, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Javier Montemayor

Against: Ricardo Rodriguez, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ricardo Molina

*Aliza F. Oliveros – we have a tie so nothing happens*

*Stephen Trautmann – that motion dies*

MOTION DIES

*Ricardo Rodriguez – I make a motion to approve what's on the table for United South*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Aliza F. Oliveros

Discussion: *Aliza F. Oliveros – I'm going to second that and the reason for my second is because of the interest of time. I said that at the committee meeting. I'm worried about the increase in cost and my concern is that we promised people who voted, we pushed them to vote and I was in the audience at the time, I was not a board member. I'm here to honor any board member, hopefully it's me but whatever board member it is that sits right here, again, I will honor that and for that reason I second the motion.*

*Francisco Castillo – Aliza, so what I hear you saying is we have to honor the wishes of the voters but we can't because we're not building the school.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – but keep the funds in that area.*

*Francisco Castillo – the funds belong to the school district, they don't belong to one area.*

*Aliza F. Oliveros – we had legal counsel say that we have to go through the whole process again if there is a change.*

*Ricardo Rodriguez – and we did go to the bond oversight committee*

*David Gonzalez – just for the record, administration did take it to the bond oversight committee and they did approve it as far as this going forward. As a district official, I can tell you that administration has visited every campus and Mr. Rangel's team and I have visited those campuses myself so we try to honor it by the greatest needs. I did provide to you the handout on the expenditures for Alexander. I know, Mr. Castillo, you asked about that. Mr. Rangel's office is also looking at the Magnet wing and so forth but that does take time. At this time, just for the record, we did prioritize, we did take it to the bond oversight committee with the recommendation to move forward on this item. Is time of the essence? Yes it absolutely is and obviously the board needs to vote on this.*

In Favor: Ricardo Molina, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Javier Montemayor, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ricardo Rodriguez

Against: Francisco Castillo

MOTION PASSES

#### I. Discussion and Possible Action on the Roles and Responsibilities for Board Committee Assignments

*Francisco Castillo – on the board assignments, I asked Mr. Veliz if I could go to the business committee because I saw the amount of assignments given to that committee but having said that, my only concern about the committee assignment is are we a standing committee, are these permanent committees? Because if we are then the representatives who are selected for those committees have to be present and no one else. I hear all the time that you can sit in or you can visit. I'd like to have some clarification. What it is that can or cannot be done. I've seen how we operate and yes, everything is out there in public, and sometimes I'll get a little bit hot-headed, so I*

want to be sure that we are correct meanwhile we are making those decisions and it starts with committee assignments. It starts with what we can discuss and what is the purpose? At the end of the day to have it heard, other than to benefit the staff. And do we really have a say so to say "I don't want this sent to the board" or we reconsider for later, maybe I do want it sent to the total board members. I'd like some clarification because I see us going everywhere. That's my opinion.

Stephen Trautmann – BDB (Local) which is the internal committee's policy which was adopted by the board basically states they are standing committees, both the business and instruction committee and it states that there are three board members. As far as who gets appointed to these boards, basically the board president makes those appointments unless the board decides to place an agenda item to appoint someone. If somehow these committees want to get absolved it would have to be through board action or modification of policy.

Aliza F. Oliveros – so basically it's up to the board president. If we want to do otherwise, then we put an item on the agenda.

Stephen Trautmann – yes

Aliza F. Oliveros – I am fine being on the instruction committee. I have no issue with it whatsoever. Was I correct, the last time that I attended a business committee meeting to answer a question? Would it have been appropriate to have done so from the standpoint as an audience member?

Stephen Trautmann – yes, first and foremost, we always post a committee meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act for situations like that. So there was no open meetings act violation whatsoever. And as you know we have different board members on each committee so there's a quorum there but the best practice is that we have the three committee members at the table and anyone else who wants to sit. Anyone that is not on the committee is welcome to sit in the audience.

Aliza F. Oliveros – we are not even taking any action in those committee meetings.

Stephen Trautmann – the action is not taken until we do the consent items here.

Aliza F. Oliveros – if there is something on the consent agenda items that we'd like to take out for further discussion, we can do so by way of a motion during the meeting.

Stephen Trautmann – you can do it at this meeting or even at the business committee meeting. For example, the bond issue, there was some discussion and we pulled it and said it would be for individual consideration. But if there's something that pops up between the committee meeting and the board meeting, and you want to bring it out to individual consideration, you can do so by a motion.

Aliza F. Oliveros – Mr. Castillo, you will have a discussion with the board president?

Francisco Castillo – yes and I guess the other point would be to make sure that since we just recently changed officers, that we have a fair equal distribution of members as well. If it was important to change officers, it's important to change committee assignments.

Stephen Trautmann – No action is required.

J. Approval of Board Travel for the Month of November 2021 to attend the TASB Fall Legal Seminar in South Padre Island

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Javier Montemayor  
Seconded by: Aliza F. Oliveros  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

K. Approval of Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Campuses and Departments

*Mike Garza – presented additional requests for board approval*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Aliza F. Oliveros  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

IX. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

*The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 7:10 p.m.*

A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting

1. Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities

2. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Proposed Revisions to Board Policy DC Local

B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting

1. Legal Consultation and consideration of possible action with respect to final negotiations of and execution of the Purchase and Sale Agreement regarding the purchase of a tract of land of approximately 10.77 acres out of a 53.40 acre tract of land, which itself is out of a tract of land, described in the deed recorded in Volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas. The tract is situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas, such property being in the vicinity of the intersection of Saunders Blvd. and Loop 20 in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The purchase of said acres will be from L91 BC Properties, LLC.

C. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Legal Counsel; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.076 Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits; Closed Meeting

1. Student Activity Fund Audits: Elementary Schools - Borchers, Ruiz, Malakoff, Freedom, Gutierrez, Kennedy-Zapata, Killam, Fasken, Nye and Cuellar
2. Student Activity Fund Audits: Middle Schools - Los Obispos MS, Herrera MS, United South MS, United 6th Grade, Gonzalez MS, Trautmann MS, S. Garcia MS, Washington MS, Perales MS and Clark MS
3. Student Activity Fund Audits: High Schools - United HS, United HS 9th Grade, Alexander HS, Alexander 9th Grade, United South HS, United South 9th Grade, LB Johnson HS, LB Johnson HS 9th Grade and Cherish Center
4. Attendance Accounting - Secondary Campuses
5. UCAN Program
6. Employee Health Insurance Benefits
7. Transportation Fuel Consumption
8. Accounts Payable Cycle
9. Bilingual Program Eligibility
10. Kronos System (Upgraded Workforce Ready 12/2020)
11. Region One GEAR UP Partnership Grant
12. Title II, Part A Grant
13. Title IV, Part A Grant
14. Health Services - CPR Training Compliance
15. Status of Ongoing Audits

D. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development; Closed Meeting

1. Deliberation regarding Economic Development to discuss and deliberate commercial and financial information received from renewable energy project developers related to the construction of one or more renewable energy project(s) and possible offer of financial incentives related to one or more applications for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property under the Texas Economic Development Act, Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code

X. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

*The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 8:08 p.m.*

A. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding First and Final Reading of Board Policy DC Local

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Javier Montemayor

Discussion: *Javier Montemayor – the only question I ask is before the superintendent approves that he advise the board through their Friday packet for .....  
Aliza Oliveros – for any exemptions to that.*

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

B. Possible action with respect to the execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement regarding the purchase of a tract of land of approximately 10.77 acres out of a 53.40 acre tract of land, which itself is out of a tract of land, described in the deed recorded in Volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas. The tract is situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas, such property being in the vicinity of the intersection of Saunders Blvd. and Loop 20 in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The purchase of said acres will be from L91 BC Properties, LLC.

*Stephen Trautmann – there is no action required at this time*

C. Consideration and Possible Action to Accept for Consideration Pradera Solar, LLC's Application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property under the Texas Economic Development Act, Texas Tax Code, Chapter 313 assess an Application fee, and authorize the Superintendent to review the Application for completeness and submit such Application to the Comptroller

*Stephen Trautmann – the recommendation is for the board to accept for consideration the Pradera Solar, LLC's application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified property, set a standard application fee of \$80,000.00 for such application and authorize the superintendent to acknowledge receipt of the application and application fee, review the application and upon the determination that the application is complete, work with the Underwood Law Firm to submit the application to the comptroller as set out in Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code.*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

D. Consideration and possible action to retain school finance consultants Moak, Casey & Associates to assist the District in processing and evaluating the financial impact of Pradera Solar, LLC's Application for Appraised Values Limitation on Qualified Property

*Stephen Trautmann – the recommendation is for the board move to retain the firm of Moak, Casey & Associates as school finance consultants to assist the district in processing and evaluating Pradera Solar LLC's applicatoin for Appraised Values Limitation on Qualified property and authorize the board president to sign such engagement letter with Moak, Casey & Associates to secure such services.*



Motion: So Move

Moved by: Javier Montemayor  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

E. Consideration and possible action to accept for consideration Hecate Energy Outpost Solar LLC's Application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property under the Texas Economic Development Act, Texas Tax Code, Chapter 313, assess an Application fee, and authorize the Superintendent to review the Application for completeness and submit such Application to the Comptroller

*Stephen Trautmann – the recommendation is for the board accept for consideration Hecate Energy Outpost Solar LLC's Application for an appraised value limitation on qualified property, set a standard application fee of \$80,000.00 for such application and authorize the superintendent to acknowledge receipt of the application and application fee, review the application and upon the determination that the application is complete, work with the Underwood Law Firm to submit the application to the comptroller as set out in Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code.*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Javier Montemayor  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

*Jaime Garcia – I think you need to also consider item X-D.*

F. Consideration and possible action to retain school finance consultants Moak, Casey & Associates to assist the District in processing and evaluating the financial impact of Hecate Outpost Solar LLC's Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property

*Stephen Trautmann – the recommendation is for the board move to retain the firm of Moak, Casey & Associates as school finance consultants to assist the district in processing and evaluating Hecate Energy Outpost Solar LLC's applicatoin for Appraised Values Limitation on Qualified property and authorize the board president to sign such engagement letter with Moak, Casey & Associates to secure such services.*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2021 was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Francisco Castillo  
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez  
Discussion: None  
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

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Ramiro Veliz, III, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

Minutes submitted by: *Alejandra Salinas*, Deputy Superintendent's Secretary

**Special Called Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb**

**December 7, 2021**

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Ramiro Veliz III, President, - PRESENT

Aliza Flores-Oliveros, Vice-President – PRESENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Member – PRESENT

Ricardo Molina Sr., Parliamentarian – PRESENT (In during Closed Session)

Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT (In during Closed Session)

Javier Montemayor, Jr., Member – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Member – PRESENT (In during Closed Session)

A Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Tuesday, December 7, 2021, beginning at 6:05 PM in the SAC Room #2, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78046.

- I. **Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**
  
- II. **Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551**

Mr. Ramiro Veliz, calls this meeting to order and establishes quorum at 6:44 PM.

- III. **Public Comments**

*Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except Non-English speakers who require a translator are limited to six (6) minutes. The presiding officer may waive or modify these time limits as appropriated. The speaker will be informed when he or she has one (1) minute remaining. Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees, or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, public officials, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.*

**IV. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act**

This meeting goes into Closed Session at 6:45 PM.

**A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting**

**1. Discussion Regarding Resolution Adopting One-Time Employee Retention Payment For All Full-Time District Employees Through the 2021-2022 School Year**

**V. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session**

The meeting is reconvened from closed session at 7:19 PM.

**A. Approval of Resolution Adopting One-Time Employee Retention Payment for All Full-Time District Employees Through the 2021-2022 School Year**

David Gonzalez: Yes. At this time I am making a recommendation on behalf of administration to issue a One-Time Employee Retention Payment of \$500.00 for All Full-Time District Employees

Francisco Castillo: I want to submit a counter motion, to include part-time employees, for the staff to bring to us at our board meeting next week, how we are going to compensate them.

Aliza Oliveros: I will second that if you back me up on increasing from \$500.00 to \$750.00.

**The motion is to increase the recommended amount of \$500 to \$750 with a recommendation that staff come back next week with a recommendation to also provide something to the part-time staff.**

Javier Montemayor: So the \$750.00 will be effective today..

Stephen Trautmann: Yes, for Full-Time Employees.

**The motion is to increase the recommended amount of \$500 to \$750 effective today and to come back with a recommendation next week to provide something to the part-time staff as well.**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Aliza Oliveros</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Francisco Castillo</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	

Aliza Oliveros: Ms. Orveda, Ms. Fraga, we appreciate (and TSTA I think is here being represented) in taking time to come address us with serious issues that we all face, but I wanted to take us back a little bit to 2019. I was at a restaurant and I had a little disagreement with the cashier, so I went back with my husband and I was sitting down at this restaurant and we were kind of upset, we were very upset. And this lady came and she was cleaning tables and she noticed that I was upset. And she started talking to me and she ends up telling us how this is her part-time job and she is a teacher at United ISD. And so I wish I remembered her name it was Ms. Valdez ( I do not remember the school). But I wanted to recognize her and thank you for sharing your feelings with us.

Ricardo Molina: I would like to say that \$750 is better than \$500. I think you all deserve more, unfortunately our fund balance is not very high and we are looking at substitutes and part-time, so that never happened before. So, we are trying to make the best for everybody to try to be fair with everybody. And I appreciate being here tonight, thank you.

David Gonzalez: Yes, If passed tonight (the resolution), the payment will be this Friday, December 10, 2021.

Ricardo Rodriguez: I want to thank Ms. Aliza for bumping it up. I know all our employees deserve it. But also, my understanding this check is coming by itself.

David Gonzalez: Yes sir, this Friday.

Francisco Castillo: I would like to make a comment as well; I think it is important to recognize that all employees are respected and are deserving of some kind of a stipend. And I rest on that, that I expect something good from staff by next Wednesday for all part-time employees as well, thank you.

Juan Roberto Ramirez: I just want to also thank the Superintendent for helping in regards to this and to make is obvious that it is really a sacrifice that the administration is doing overall. In the long run, we are going through a lot of stress and the pandemic, so we are losing a lot of students and money counts. So we are trying to make the best of it with all our hearts and with all the sacrifice that we do make.

Ramiro Veliz: Thank you Mr. Ramirez

**All In Favor: Unanimous**

***MOTION PASSES***

**Mr. David Gonzalez sends birthday wishes to Mr. Juan Roberto Ramirez and Ms. Aliza**

**Oliveros.**

**IV. Adjournment**

**Motion: So Move**  
**Moved By: Javier Montemayor**  
**Seconded By: Aliza Oliveros**  
**Any Discussion: NONE**

**All In Favor: Unanimous**

***MOTION PASSES***

*There being no further business of the UISD Board of Trustees, this Special Called meeting of December 7, 2021 is adjourned at **7:25 PM.***

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Ramiro Veliz, III, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

**Emergency Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb**

**January 13, 2022**

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Ramiro Veliz III, President, - PRESENT

Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – PRESENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

Ricardo Molina Sr., Parliamentarian – PRESENT

Javier Montemayor, Jr., Member – PRESENT

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Member – PRESENT (Via Videoconference)

An Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Thursday, January 13, 2022, beginning at 12:00 PM in the UISD Boardroom, 201 Lindenwood Drive, Laredo, Texas 78045.

One or more board members may appear via video conference. A quorum of the Board will physically be present at 201 Lindenwood Drive, Laredo, Texas, 78045 in accordance with Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code.

Emergency meeting: The following agenda items are necessary due to an emergency or urgent public necessity that requires immediate action of the Board, or an imminent threat to public health and safety, or a reasonable situation. The following agenda items are necessary to immediately address COVID-19 related health and safety measures, for the health and well-being of UISD students.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Mr. Ramiro Veliz calls this Emergency Meeting to Order at 12:02 PM.

II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551

III. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

IV. Public Comments

*Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except Non-English speakers who require a translator are limited to six (6) minutes. The presiding officer may waive or modify these time limits as appropriated. The speaker will be informed when he or she has one (1) minute remaining. Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees, or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, public officials, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.*

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS.

V. Informational Items:

A. Information Regarding Update on Student and Staff COVID-19 Intake Reports



**B. Information Regarding Remote Conferencing Process and TEA guidance Regarding Same**

Ms. Gloria Rendon, deputy superintendent, provides a presentation on student Covid-19 intake reports. She goes on to say that as per the review in covid numbers the attendance rate was at 78.7% (previous day 74.8%) and percentages are steadily declining based on campus information being provided. The intake reports, explains Mrs. Rendon, are the number of positive cases or was exposed to a positive individual (students). As of Monday there were only 31 student intakes (in the system) as of the Tuesday, there was 1413. Mrs. Rendon informs the board that she did make contact with the City of Laredo health authorities to make them aware of the system overload. And how the district is still inputting intake information (approximately 1000 intakes still pending to be input into the system).

Ramiro Veliz: On the intake numbers, we are also factoring in the student staff that we are testing at the individual campuses..

Gloria Rendon: Yes sir.

Ramiro Veliz: We are doing individual testing throughout the district at any campus that there is available.

Gloria Rendon: It is limited available sir. It is for is that individuals that are showing symptoms on campus. But we have had parents who are coming in from the outside and the public wanting us to test, at that point we are saying we are not a testing site.

Ramiro Veliz: Are we currently focusing on employees and students.

Gloria Rendon: Who are symptomatic.

Ricardo Molina: Do we have anything coming from the state? Like employees and the students missing.

David H. Gonzalez: Right now, we are going to meet with the commissioner. As of right now we have also talked to Jeff Curtail with TEA, as of right now, no. I know they are looking at and even talked about reviewing our attendance ada the first six weeks. Now is there anything official, no sir.

Gloria Rendon: Just for the record, for those days of low attendance, there are Low Attendance Day Waivers that we can submit for this particular week.

Javier Montemayor inquires about the intake forms (specifically on the district asking the parents to complete the intake forms). "Is there anyway to streamline that form, to make it a little easier. How many pages do you all have there.

Gloria Rendon: It is three (requires basic information).

Emma Leza adds to the information, that English and Spanish videos have been added to the website to better assist parents through the process of inputting.

Javier Montemayor: One the parents completes the form, who at the campus do they need to contact to make sure that their concern has been addressed. That they have been approved for remote conferencing. I know that there are some principals dealing with those intakes themselves.

Rendon makes them aware that it is a three-step process of inputting, input the intake form, if submitted then you complete the conferencing form and then C& I will then send the link for remote conferencing. "But we are behind. We are trying to catch up to meet and provide the services for our students, but our staff is behind. With limited 65/70% members on campus."

Ramiro Veliz: That number of 1413, is that what where we are behind, or is that the total we have for the week.

Gloria Rendon: For today.

Ramiro Veliz: Ok, 1413, but we are missing about 7-8,000 students on the attendance side. Obviously we are stressing, parents and staff to try to see if that number is the amount of students that are actually going to be out because of..

Gloria Rendon: Probably not sir. Because a lot of parents just are not sending, or they do not meet the three step criteria. Which is covid positive, covid exposure or temporary medical disability. Their just simply choosing not to send their children to school for safety reasons.

Ramiro Veliz: Can we proceed to actually offer the remote instruction without going through the intake process verifying that they are meeting one of the criteria that is going to allow the state to be able to count the minutes and count the remote instruction. Is that correct.

Gloria Rendon: Correct.

Ramiro Veliz: The thing that we have to stress is obviously, encouraging the intake process for feedback from the parents. We are trying to do as best as possible as best. I know the employees have been going way beyond their duties and we are really appreciative of that. We are trying to get as many students with this process to be done, to be able to get them into

remote instruction and not lose any time. Again, what is the amount of remote instruction that the state is allowing once the status exception is met.

Emma Leza; If it is remote conferencing for the temporary medical, we do not have a limit on that but they do have to meet the three criteria.

Francisco Castillo: For each school do we have different staff.

Gloria Rendon: It is different staff.

Francisco Castillo: How many stations do you have..

Gloria Rendon: Sir we have asked principles, to designate other staff members however, I will tell you that sometimes there is a pause when we have to receive buses, cafeteria duties, when we are scattering ourselves to cover classes and substitutes. Our staff is being stretched thin. This is why we are behind. There is no designated individual because it fluctuates on a daily basis (referring to all the different circumstances at each campus due to lack of staff).

Javier Montemayor: I think we recognize the staff is working very hard. This is a very tough time for administration for all the campuses. The reason I ask about the intakes is, that I want to make sure that the community and the parents know where to go. They know what they need to do. And so it can try to work smoothly. But it is an imperfect system because it is all moving parts at one time. I want to make sure that the staff is aware that the board (I think speak for all) but that we are very appreciative of the work that they are doing right now.

David Gonzalez: Sir we appreciate those comments because I know our principals, and Ms. Leza is hear also, our principals have felt the work more than anytime probably in their career. Because this week has given them biggest opportunity for growth because we are really stretching them, to the brim. And our teachers as well. So, thank you for those comments to recognize our employees.

Aliza Oliveros: I think you said it is all hands on deck. This is a crisis situation, it is something we have never been through in the past and we just went virtual and now we are hybrid I guess you would say. I have received calls from the community on both sides saying "we need to be safe and go virtual", and then I have had others call and say you know this virus is not going anywhere, we need to keep going", but at the end of the day it's about what are we doing with our staff. They're burdened, they're tired and that is when things happen. That is when safety becomes a major issue, when you have overworked staff, that are stretched in all areas when you have students in a classroom without a teacher and we are scrambling trying to get someone an adult in there to supervise these children. And that is when you have to weigh both sides and that is when you have to make a decision. And I think you will give us more information on that in just a bit. But yes, we are very appreciative of our staff, our students and our parents.

Francisco Castillo: I wanted to find out on this requirement by the state, by the person inputting do need to have some kind of certification or is it just at large, or anybody...

Gloria Rendon: It is anybody sir.

Francisco Castillo: I am just trying to understand the process.

Mr. David Garcia informs the board that no certification is required of the individual inputting the information. The forms are simple and what they do is they just ask for certain key information. One important factor is that the form goes directly to the health department. There is tracking as to how did the person get infected or get that virus. Mr. Garcia continues the presentation on staff information. The numbers have increased from Monday through Thursday says Mr. Garcia. Mr. David Gonzalez shares that the numbers of 266 teachers without subs, "I want to make it very clear, we are addressing those needs of our kids through other staff members within the district and obviously within the campus, Our campus principals are on top of it. We are addressing it. We are not leaving classrooms by themselves or kids by themselves".

Aliza Oliveros: Mr. Gonzalez, thank you for that clarification but anybody can see the numbers are just increasing, and at the end of the day they are going to be even higher than what we are looking at right now. So, I go back to the comments I made earlier, we are stressed and everybody knows that when we are stressed that is when things happen. So, any decision we make today is going to be based on safety. We all agree, students need to be in-person instruction in a classroom to learn properly for good student instruction. But at the same time, you have to look at these numbers. They cannot be ignored, they are screaming at us and they are shouting all these alarms and saying do something before something happens. So, that is my concern right there. It is only going to get worse. I think we just need to buy some time is what we need to do. We are doing the best we can but how much more can we do in the name of safety.

Ramiro Veliz: Let us talk options then. I know there is no coting item right now, but I think we have looked at the different options so obviously option one would be to completely shut down the district and go virtual which we have done in the past. I think the issue that arises and that we have to mention is that there is no support from the state for that option as far as to completely shut down the whole district and have the instructional minutes count it. The only exception right now would be if students are meeting certain criteria so, what happens if we go that option. Where does that put us with the state as far as the instructional side on the reimbursement. The funding I think is something that we can definitely deal with but, more so on the instructional minutes. We definitely have to make up dates at some point. We are getting I think, to a point that there is really not time in the future to make up dates without either going into spring break days or summer. We cannot even add at the end of the calendar

year because we have college classes, graduations starting right after we close the school. So, what options have you all considered as far as..

Mr. Garcia asks to complete his side of the presentation and continued by Ms. Emma Leza who will provide more information that directly impact the addressed concerns.

Ms. Leza provides numbers of positive cases. "The dramatic increase in numbers will dictate to us that we need to make some changes to the way we had it. We cannot have like one remote conferencing teacher had 50 students now have 175. That is just not conducive to learning for our students and we know that". Campuses are working on daily remote conferencing schedules. The high school right now provides remote conferencing at every campus individually. At the middle schools campuses will be paired with another campus that does have a pathfinder with one that is lacking one with two conference periods, one to plan and the other one to do the pullout for student instruction. The number of teachers doing remote instruction, will be increased. A system for the elementary campuses is being designed so that the teacher can just do a minimum number of time per grade level. Campuses will not lose teachers.

Aliza Oliveros: With that having been said, you keep saying it is a fluctuating number, so, when a student meets the criteria for remote learning, they have been exposed or covid positive, how long are they able to continue.

Emma Leza: It is a 10 day period. And every student is granted by the state a maximum of 20 days. So for example, if they were exposed once, and then positive, they have a maximum of 20 days. The students that have a temporary medical disability we are able to submit waivers and extend that 20 days if the state approves them. And we have been doing that.

Aliza Oliveros: That is since the very beginning, I remember. So, now that we know that, do you foresee that in a time frame of two weeks, these numbers will drop dramatically.

Emma Leza: These numbers will drop but I am going to say, I do not know if there will be additional that we will have again, because it depends on positive and exposure.

Javier Montemayor: It depends on the surges also. Festivities are coming up, WBCA, spring break. Will we ever get all these students back at one time, is also a concern because as you say, they are fluctuating in and out depending on the surges.

Emma Leza: Yes, it is very fluid. We are getting students back, we are putting students on remote conferencing.

Javier Montemayor: We are already down on student enrollment. I am concerned that we may never get these students 100% back because of the fluctuations and surges. My question is, is covid considered a temporary medical condition.

Emma Leza: Yes it is. This is the criteria that the state gave us. Covid is for a temporary medical condition and in that branch they said any communicable disease such as covid, exposure to covid and then for example; if a student were to break a leg (let's just say) and they cannot be mobile for 10-20 days, then they can also go through the temporary medical disability.

Javier Montemayor: There are a lot of students/people who do not test negative after the test after the first 10 days. Are you requiring to come back to campuses. Is it negative required test.

Emma Leza: We are following the same protocol that we have from CDC right now. That is all the information I have for you. Let me know if you have any questions.

Aliza Flores: With the numbers that you have right now, do you think that we can sustain ourselves the way we are kind of hybrid with the amount of employees being out, in a safe manner.

Emma Leza: I think the biggest concern that we have is the staff. I will tell you, in our department (C & I) we have put everyone that is able to, on campuses. I'll tell you that Monday, I had 5% of the staff out, yesterday it was 13% and in one department there were eight people that either tested positive or had children that tested positive. And that, is what we are dealing with. We have met with principals and that is what principals are dealing with also. Either the staff is positive or the staff's children have tested positive and so they need to be at home with their children, who are ill. That is our biggest concern right now, the adults.

Javier Montemayor: If the numbers continue to increase the way the trend is showing and we continue to lose staff, we may get to the point where we may not have enough staff to cover the educational need.

David Gonzalez: That is what we are trying to forecast right now, yes sir. That is why I wanted you to have this information before we made any type of decision.

Aliza Oliveros: We are going to have to make a decision based on unknowns. And it is hard and I want the public to know that it is a difficult decision to make because like I said earlier, you are getting calls on both sides. But at the end of the day, our decisions and I can speak for the board I am sure, is going to be based on safety. It is difficult, it is very difficult.

Ramiro Veliz: That was information on agenda items A and B, now agenda item VI, items for individual consideration.

**VI. Items for Individual Consideration:**

**A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Resolution of the Board for Extension of District-Provided Emergency Paid Sick Leave for Eligible District Employees**

Mr. David Garcia makes a recommendation for a resolution. " In the past we have worked with a federal mandate in April of 2020, where they afforded the districts for individuals to be out for 10 days and pay those days under federal guidelines". The resolution has since been extended with certain qualifications. This resolution is for an extension of the resolution itself, to give employees an opportunity who unfortunately test positive and are vaccinated to qualify for an additional 10 days of leave. Extend it retro to January 1, through December 31, 2022.

Ricardo Rodriguez: Another words if you test positive one time, you cannot afford to get positive again. You lose all your privileges.

David Garcia: Actually, it is an extended benefit. Fortunately, in public schools, employees have an opportunity to accrue leave days so there can be income, so we do encourage employees to carefully use their personal sick days.

Ricardo Rodriguez: Let's just say you get sick with covid from a family member, you get your 10 days, you are cleared and come back then you go to work and you catch it from a student or another employee, you test positive again, who do you blame.

David Garcia: There is no other 10 day entitlement, it is only one time.

Ricardo Rodriguez: What do you do with that employee.

David Garcia: That employee will stay home and hopefully that they have accrued leave days, so that there can be income.

David Gonzalez: So this is additional 10 days to what they already have given us.

David Garcia: That is correct.

Aliza Oliveros: I think that what Mr. Rodriguez is saying, I know people who have tested positive three times. Sometime you do not know where you got infected and if an employee got infected because they are working for us, is that what you are saying (asking Mr. Rodriguez). Then I think it is only right that we extend this to them for a second time. Are we able to change that? And take away that. That as long as they test positive they can have this and they are vaccinated.

Jaime Garcia: I think the criteria that we have is that they test positive and that they have been vaccinated.

David Garcia: That is correct.

Ricardo Rodriguez: That is the only way, I guess.

Aliza Oliveros: So you want to limit of only one time.. (addressing Mr. Rodriguez).

Ricardo Rodriguez: Yes, and if they are vaccinated. I would like for them to get that privilege I mean, they are trying their best right now and we just gave them compliments and at the same time we are trying to kick them because if they get sick for coming to work you know, you are putting them out there. It's like, you can't come back to work. And if they lost their time for whatever reason, that is kind of hard but they did take the precautions of getting vaccinated with their two shots and their booster.

Javier Montemayor: I do not disagree with Mr. Rodriguez, but for example, a lot of people tested positive on the Friday when you tested employees, they were already positive when you had that Friday test. So, they probably caught it when they were off on a holiday or traveling or doing other things so, who is going to decide did you catch it at work or did you we are just going to give it a blanket.

Aliza Oliveros: I say give it a blanket.

Ricardo Rodriguez: Give it a blanket

Aliza Oliveros: Because you have to live your life. If you have gotten your booster, your three shots what more can you do to protect yourselves?. You ware your masks but you still have to live.

David Gonzalez: I just need to share that they can take up to 10 days from the state and then there are 10 additional days. We have extended it, I believe this is the fourth time we are extending this. There are not many districts in the state that actually do this. I am just providing you the information. We are doing an extension.

Jaime Garcia: Again, just for the record, Jaime Garcia (legal counsel); this is entirely district provided EPSL, so you are able to set the parameters as you see fit currently as Mr. Gonzalez mentioned this is an extension of a previous resolution that extended for eligible full-time employees, those being vaccinated the 10 days of district provided EPSL in the fall semester. So, even if they use their allotment in the fall semester, they re-infected in the spring they would have an entirely new allotment within the 12-month period.



Aliza Oliveros: They can only use it once.

Jaime Garcia: The way the resolution is being presented as (on screen) but it is the board's decision if they want to modify.

Aliza Oliveros: What if we say, if they have a booster, if they have the three shots, then they can...

Ricardo Rodriguez: Just to give you a heads up. You know, right now we are going through a situation and it is very hard. We experienced it because of all the holidays and spring break is coming along and we are going to be in this situation again in spring break. So, somebody is bound to get infected again and so it is going to affect another employee sooner or later or several employees again. And we are probably going to be the same numbers or maybe even worse. It all depends because we are still not over this dilemma. Winter is coming along so the flu and all of that is going to play big factors and a lot of stuff that we need to do so the wearing the mask which I know we cannot enforce it. But maybe taking a bit more precaution. I know that we are still checking back packs coming in to the schools. I think maybe avoid backpacks right now and not let any kids carry their back packs but continue to retest them I know that with some of the vaccines you show no symptoms. But at least we are taking those precautions. So the public will know that we are taking precautions and checking temperatures and for them to wash their hands and to be on top of the kids. I know that we are also short and stuff to be doing that but those would be precautions that we can start taking and be ready for spring break. Because we are going to see this again. So that is the only reason why I do not agree only on 10 days for the whole year because we are going to be facing this again in spring break.

David Gonzalez: A few comments here Mr. Rodriguez. Administration is going to go with the recommendation that you approve, we are going to go with what you approve, but just to make it very clear. We said the 10 days and we set parameters. And one of the objectives is obviously that we are looking after our employees. We are adding 10 more days that the state is giving them. The other is to set parameters to encourage our employees to get vaccinated which we cannot enforce but that encourages them. The last one also is, we give them 10 days, we keep adding but it also sets the frame of mind that our employees need to be a little more careful because they do not have a lot of days. I am just putting it out there, to let our employees know to take precautionary measures to let our employees know we are doing this for you but at the same time we ask that you be responsible because it is not a free for all. We are doing this additional to what the state is giving you.

Ramiro Veliz: I think gathering by the comments, I think we would all be in agreement, that we would modify the resolution to provide an additional 10 days or up to 20 days if they are positive again

Aliza Oliveros: Do you want to put the condition of the additional 10, to make it 20 with the booster..

Ricardo Rodriguez: With the three vaccines.

Aliza Oliveros: With the third shot

Ramiro Veliz: Yes, we can do that. The resolution will be changed to up to 20 days with the additional 10 days having both vaccines and a booster shot. Obviously this is intent for the employees and I think we can say that most of our employees we have a number that have been vaccinated.

David Gonzalez: About 95%

Ramiro Veliz: That is something that we want to put out there that we definitely thank our employees and make it public knowledge that 95% a little bit over that percentage is vaccinated.

Mike Garza: Just want to add, these are up to so many days right. So, if somebody is positive and they come back before the 10 days, those days get banked for later on. So they can use up to 20 days. If somebody comes back after 5 days if they are negative, they still have the carry over.

Javier Montemayor: I have a question though, how do you verify if they are vaccinated or not. With just their card..

Jaime Garcia: Proof is fine, you can ask for proof. There is also still exemptions for either medical or religious.

Ricardo Rodriguez: We could add those with exemptions to qualify for the additional days.

Javier Montemayor: The unvaccinated who meet those exemptions.

Ramiro Veliz: Motion is made to modify the resolution for a total of 20 days provided that the employee has the two vaccines and booster

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Aliza Oliveros</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>All In-Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

## MOTION PASSES

### B. Approval of RFP 082-2021 COVID-19 Antigen testing Kits

Mr. Mike Garza presents on the Antigen testing kits. More accurately on the need of having these tests at hand and providing numbers of staff and students test.

Aliza Oliveros: Is there any restriction to go outside of the vendor list.

Mike Garza: No ma'am. So, this is a bid that is local. For USD only. We are not restricted to any funding amount, The state, the money that they set aside, we are restricted to only those vendors that they have approved. We just cannot buy any because they do not have any available.

Aliza Oliveros: So, we will buy those when we can.

Mike Garza: Yes ma'am. This buys us a little gap time. So that when they have inventory, we then start buying from them.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Aliza Oliveros</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>

I think that testing is something that is extremely important and it's probably going to have to happen every week from here on out.

Mike Garza: Yes sir. We know that the federal government was going to be sending some tests but we are not waiting on that. This is why we are on top of it.

Mr. Motemayor shares with the audience that Congressman Henry Cuellar's office was going to receive from the CDC, through an expanded Testing Program, covid-19 testing kits at no cost. To child care centers K-12 schools and other facilities and that we can apply directly through his office and the turnaround was approximately 48 hours to receive these testing kits. I know you talked about the state but perhaps we can also supplement some of that what you are ordering and what you are going to buy with something from Henry Cuellar's office.

Mike Garza: Yes sir, and as of this meeting we did not have the logistics of it so we did not want to delay our ability to get our hands on, because literally the vendors that we are asking for you to approve, they are holding them right now. We will get on the line with them. In addition we hear that

the government was going to be sending test kits directly to the homes to all of us. So in a case of mine, we are a family of four we are supposed to receive about 32 test kits, per family, per month. That is the plan. So, there are going to be tests coming in, we are just trying to work in the logistics of it.

**Aliza Oliveros:** And that is the point of this whole meeting. We just need to buy ourselves some time so we can be equipped to provide instruction in a safe manner.

**Francisco Castillo:** Mr. Garza, what is the amount of tests that we have available. Do you know the number of how many we have still available.

**Mike Garza:** At the beginning of this calendar year, we had 18,000 test kits which again was the largest amount that any entity in the city of Laredo. We are in the process of administering but we have given out 13,300 tests. We have 4,400 tests available to us right now on hand. As soon as we issue the P.O. today we are going to receive an additional 30,000 tests. Once we work out the details with the office of Congressman Henry Cuellar's office we should have more on hand.

**Francisco Castillo:** Will we use the balance of the tests that we have available before we order new ones or before we start using them.

**Mike Garza:** I would anticipate sir that we would have enough, these 4,400 would buy us enough time to get the 30,000 that we are planning on getting as soon as we place the order.

**Javier Montemayor:** I think we need them now. I think that is probably one of the safest things that I have implemented in my household, my office. We have to know what is going on around you and everybody should have that sense of responsibility to test each other.

**Mike Garza:** We have always been testing. That has not stopped. Even though we have been limited on the number of tests, anybody symptomatic is being tested at the campus. We have never stopped testing our extra-curricular, that is a mandatory process. That has never stopped. So, there has been talk in social media about expired tests, the state provided those tests kits to us. They have extended those deadlines or expiration dates. So we are within the parameters of whatever those additional days are required. Here is really at the end of the day, the biggest thing. If somebody has tested positive we have encouraged them to retest with a PCR or more advanced test. It's almost a 99% outcome that they have tested positive with another test. So even though they show expired on the card, when they go and get tested with a PCR, 99% of the time it is a positive result. So anybody saying that an expired test is not a good test, that is just on paper it's expired but the state and the federal government have extended those particular deadlines.

**Javier Montemayor:** For our purposes we are still recognizing those.

**Mike Garza:** Yes sir.

Francisco Castillo: When the parents requests these at school, let's say their student, their child has positive, would they be allowed to take a second one the next day or at least sent home with an additional one so they can test at home.

Mike Garza: So what we do as a matter of practice and because we are limited on the number of test kits, is that once a positive is a positive, we recognize it as it being so, we do not recommend testing right away. We usually recommend for them to wait at least three to five days to test again or else we are just never going to stop. We are airing in the side of caution that if we get a positive test result we are sending them home and following our protocols. We do encourage them to go and take an additional test. A PCR test which is a more accurate version of the test. But we are finding out that our antigen test are confirming the result of a PCR test. And another thing in closing, we are sticking to the binax product. We are already familiar with we are certified we are trained. Individuals actually received a certificate in the training and so the vendors that we are approving today are so that we have five different vendors so that we are able to buy from whoever has inventory. And we are sticking to that particular product or else we would have to retrain everybody. But it's time limitations on doing that would be very difficult for us.

All In-Favor:                      Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**VII. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act**

This meeting goes into **Closed Session** at 12:52 PM.

**V. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session**

The meeting is reconvened from Closed Session at 1:21 PM.

**A. Discussion, Including Consultation with Legal Counsel, Regarding District's COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Legal Matters Related Thereto**

David Gonzalez: as we are all aware, COVID-19 numbers have been rising in our community and throughout the state. This has resulted in a lack of employees being able to report to

campuses because of required quarantine and isolation periods. In the interests of the safety of our students and staff and a lack of available employees, the District will be transitioning to remote instruction beginning on Monday, January 17 through Friday, January 21. This decision was not made lightly, and we have evaluated all points at our disposal, including the option of shutting down entirely for the week. It is my strong belief that going remote instruction next week is in the best interest for United ISD. Not only will this allow students to stay home and safe, it also provides students the opportunity to continue to receive instruction with which we have been entrusted with. Further, our decreasing staffing levels make this the best decision for our students as it may become difficult to adequately supervise all classrooms as our staff slowly returns from quarantine or isolation. Still, for those students and parents interested in receiving live instruction, that opportunity will also be provided to District students. Our office will be sending out formal notice to parents this afternoon and tomorrow with further details of this transition. I ask that we remain calm, informed and obviously safe and that we stay unified. I am going to ask the board for your support at this as a decision is not an easy one to make for our students and our staff, thank you.

Ramiro Veliz: Thank you Mr. Gonzalez, as the superintendent of schools I know this decision I know has not been taken lightly. I know that you have been in conversation with other district officials looking at the data and that we have seen at the restart of our spring semester. And under your authority obviously recommending the closure of the direct face-to-face instruction but going into transition to that virtual for next week. I speak for the board, you have our full support for this decision and for the public, we definitely encourage the continued usage of face masks, social distancing, this is something that is temporary and that going forward based on the information data that is out there right now. Limit the exposure and limit the transmission of the virus.

Javier Montemayor: I will say that, I have to acknowledge that there is no better way to educate our kids than a face-to-face, in class, on campus method.

David Gonzalez: I agree.

Javier Montemayor: However, given the increasing numbers in our community, in our own staff and administration. I acknowledge that it is also getting to the point that we may not have enough staff to cover the education of our children and I see daily around me, numerous people getting sick and so I think one week virtual remote conferencing, will hopefully curve this surge. And hopefully if our community would, I would encourage the community to continue to wear their face masks to continue to test, to get vaccinated and hopefully that would help get our kids on campus. I have constituents who want to stay in school, and want their kids in school, I understand that. I do too. However looking at the numbers, I think it is important that we take a step back and allow some time to heal.

Aliza Oliveros: And Mr. Gonzalez you have my full support. At the end of the day this is a safety issue. It's about having the appropriate number of staff to supervise our children in the schools. So, we gave this a hard earnest and sincere effort, we tried. We tried very hard and I want to recognize all the staff for everything you have done, but we have reached a point where the employees there is just too many employees who are out to call it safe. So what we are doing is we are going to take a week. Hopefully, employees that were testing positive will now test negative and we can come back and be full strength once again. But yes, I recognize it, in-person instruction is the way to go. But it is not safe right now.

Francisco Castillo: Mr. Gonzalez, I pledge to you my full support on this matter. I believe that it is necessary because of the high rate of positive cases in our community. And we stand with our community and we want to do our best but I also want to follow in our families and also be cognizant of how the students are doing and trying to protect them, are they wearing their masks and doing other things that are necessary for me. They are required to be vaccinated. I think we are all in this together. And congratulations to the staff, the teachers who have always been there for us to help mitigate the circumstances that we are in this and Mr. Gonzalez, again, we want to do the best we can to educate our students and I think right now this is a choice that we have to take health and safety of our staff and students amount to this matter.

Ramiro Veliz: Again this is not a voting item and it is under Mr. Gonzalez's authority, and as I mention again, you have the full support of the board of trustee.

David Gonzalez: Thank you and again I want to recognize our principals, specifically our teachers and our staff who tried this week. It came to the point that for next week we need to make sure that we adequately support our campuses and our students. I know Dr. Victor Treviño was on the line. He has been in contact with us both districts and really making sure that we are safe in the city.

Mr. Gonzalez thanks Dr, Treviño for his support as well.

## VII. Adjournment

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>

**All In Favor:**

***MOTION PASSES***

**VIII. Adjournment**

*There being no further business of the UISD Board of Trustees, this Emergency Meeting of January 13, 2022 is adjourned at **1:29 PM.***

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Ramiro Veliz, President

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Juan R. Ramirez, Secretary

These Minutes were completed by Griselda Rodriguez, and submitted for approval by the UISD Board of Trustees at the April 2022 Regular Board Meeting



**Public Hearing  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb**

**January 18, 2022**

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Ramiro Veliz III, President, - PRESENT

Aliza Flores-Oliveros, Vice-President – ABSENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – ABSENT

Ricardo Molina Sr., Parliamentarian – PRESENT

Javier Montemayor, Jr., Member – PRESENT

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Member - PRESENT

A Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Tuesday, January 18, 2022, beginning at 6:05 PM in the SAC Room #2, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

The subject to be discussed or considered are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

**I. Roll Call, Call to Order**

Mr. Ramiro Veliz Opens and calls this public hearing to order at **6:09 pm.**

**II. Open Public Hearing**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>All In-Favor:</b>	<b>Francisco Castillo, Ricardo Molina, Ramiro Veliz, Ricardo Rodriguez, Javier Montemayor</b>

## MOTION PASSES

### III. Overview of School First (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)

### IV. School District's Rating

Laida Benavides presents on the School First Report starting as of August 31, 2020 and makes the board and audience aware that the notice was posted (as required) in our local newspaper. The rating that the district attained was above standard (considered a "B" points 80-89). All critical indicators were passed (although no pints were attained there). On indicator number 11 Ms. Benavides points out, the districts has been falling short (for the past three years) due to a short cash flow in hand as a result of the expenses being used to complete the pool/natatorium. "We do make big payments on our debt every year so that should help that indicator. And looking at the numbers for next year we think we might recover two of those points that we lost in that section". The goal is attaining eight of ten points, hoping that this would get the district at 90 points. "We will be looking at this very carefully. We are trying to be conservative while still meeting our district needs" says Ms. Benavides.

Javier Montemayor: When you say cash..

Laida Benavides: Cash on hand as of August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Javier Montemayor: Is that our general fund.

Laida Benavides: It is general fund.

Javier Montemayor: What are we required to have in our general fund, as emergency relief or..

Laida Benavides: It's an indicator that says how much in your fund balance. I think they say it's something like 60 days (worth). They will tell us we have to, but in our own fund balance we say we need at least one month's operation.

Javier Montemayor: So we are good there.

Laida Benavides: Yes, we are good but, at the same time TEA sends us mixed messages saying we have too much in your fund balance. Every time legislators meet they start looking at our fund balance.

Javier Montemayor: To cut our funding..

Laida Benavides: Yes, but obviously I think we have been very efficient considering the projects that we have done from our general fund.

Ramiro Veliz: We thank you for the information. We know it is a team effort by a lot of individuals throughout different departments.

Laida Benavides: Tax office, business office, fixed assets, purchasing and everybody.

Ramiro Veliz: Thank you.

**V. Public Comments On Report**

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**VI. Adjournment**

**Motion: So Move**  
**Moved By: Javier Montemayor**  
**Seconded By: Ricardo Rodriguez**  
**Any Discussion: NONE**

**All In Favor: Unanimous**

***MOTION PASSES***

*There being no further business of the USD Board of Trustees, this Public Hearing of January 18, 2022 is adjourned at **6:16 PM.***

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Ramiro Veliz, III, President

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Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

*These Minutes were completed by Griselda Rodriguez, and submitted for approval by the USD Board of Trustees at the April 2022 Regular Board Meeting.*

**Special Called Meeting  
The State of Texas  
United Independent School District  
The County of Webb**

**January 18, 2022**

**In Attendance**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools

**Board of Trustees**

Ramiro Veliz III, President, - PRESENT

Aliza Flores-Oliveros, Vice-President – ABSENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – ABSENT

Ricardo Molina Sr., Parliamentarian – PRESENT

Javier Montemayor, Jr., Member – PRESENT

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Member - PRESENT

A Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Tuesday, January 18, 2022, beginning at 6:10 PM in the SAC Room #2, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

- I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**
  
- II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551**
  
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**

- A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

Mr. Ramiro Veliz, calls this meeting to order and establishes quorum at 6:16 PM.

#### IV. Public Comments

***Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker, except Non-English speakers who require a translator are limited to six (6) minutes. The presiding officer may waive or modify these time limits as appropriated. The speaker will be informed when he or she has one (1) minute remaining. Public comment shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees, or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, public officials, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.***

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS.

#### V. Item for Information Only:

- A. Presentation of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RICIPS) & Use of Funds Plan Revision

Ms. Laida Benavides begins this presentation by making the board and public aware that the district received funds from the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER III) awarded by the state through the department of education. The revision is to make use of these funds based allowable uses such as instructional needs, safety needs and so on. Ms. Benavides explains that through the ESSER grant it is required to do a 6-month review. She continues to go over the plan revisions and Ms. Gloria Rendon covers information regarding school health and safety protocols. "Modifications have been made due to things that came up and that TEA allowed us to do. Back in July (2021) we did not know that the state of Texas or TEA would allow monies for remote conferencing", says Ms. Benavides. According to the presentation, the biggest change

came from "Unexpected Expenses" used to set aside monies (\$41.4M) for revenue shortfall for fiscal year 2022, 2023 per TEA Commissioner due to low attendance, low student enrollment etc.

Mr. Javier Montemayor asks Ms. Benavides if this is where the employee bonus came from (referring to the one-time retention payment for employees).

Laida Benavides: If you remember, that payment came from ESSER II.

Ms. Gloria Rendon presents the school health and safety protocols and mentions for the record that the district follows CDC guidelines but TEA guidelines and regulations supersedes those of the CDC.

Ricardo Molina: What is the difference between covid and a cold? How can you distinguish that.

Gloria Rendon: Sometimes we do not sir.

Ricardo Molina: Like when they are in school, when do you say, you have covid, go home.

Gloria Rendon: Well, we normally test them. When we have test kits. If they are not testing positive, they can stay. If their symptoms are not improving, then we ask for them to get a..

Ricardo Molina: A second test.

Gloria Rendon: A doctor's note. Because it may be allergies. The medical documentation will always supersede symptoms, or an antigen test.

Ricardo Molina: Did you get to order the tests.

David Gonzalez: Yes, Mr. Garza was doing and they were very successful, we did.

Mike Garza: Yes, we placed the order. As a matter of fact, the original request was going to be tonight. But, the fact that we had an emergency meeting on Thursday, gave us those extra days to be able to order. So we have already received 10,000 tests in. We are placing an order for another 30,000. And I was sharing with Mr. Gonzalez before the meeting that, we got contacted by the state. We were selected as one of the districts that because of our testing that we have history, the state is going to start receiving 5 million tests a month and UISD was selected as one of the districts to receive a portion of those tests. So, they will be giving us tests every two weeks from the state level. So we are going to have more than we probably need, but not enough right. So we are going to be testing as much as possible. In this situation Mr. Molina, there is a factor of vaccinated versus unvaccinated individuals so, that is also to be considered. If the individual is unvaccinated and is asymptomatic then that is a different criteria.

Ricardo Molina: How are they working for the kids (meaning the vaccines). Is it from 5 to twelve.

Gloria Rendon: Yes, sir, we have had the vaccines for a while. We have offered clinics. Two to three clinics every week.

Ricardo Molina: Are they taking advantage of them or not.

Gloria Rendon: Well, last Friday for example, we opened up 800 slots and it filled in 30 minutes. This week we did not do appointments. It was first come first serve, there was no traffic. So it was 200 slots every hour, and it was 800 slots. And they filled with in 30 minutes. For the boosters and pediatric vaccines as well.

Ricardo Molina: How about the 5-12, are they going to go campus to campus.

Gloria Rendon: Yes sir. We have been doing that since October.

Javier Montemayor: Mr. Garza, I think testing is probably the most critical element of the safety situation that we have now. Do you estimate, for example United is the biggest campus. Are they going through these testing kits pretty rapidly.

Mike Garza: Yes, sir. Right before we came back from the Christmas break, we set up a testing site at every one of our locations. So that anybody who was coming back on Monday, was eligible to test. So we gave out 6,500 test kits everywhere. Because of that we probably detected like in this room, we tested all the substitute teachers so we did not want people coming in, that were potentially positive. I was actually involved in testing in this particular room and of the tests that we perform here, 225-230 people that we tested, 21 were positive. The majority of those individuals were asymptomatic. They did not even know they were sick. So we were able to prevent them from coming in to our schools. And I want to say that, across the board in all of our sites that is probably a good representation. In addition, we set up a site here at the SAC. Where we offered PCR testing for those individuals that tested positive to go and get an alternative test immediately, because that is scares in our community. What we are doing this week, just to let you all know is that in addition to the rapid testing we work with a company, they are going site by site across our district, even though we are remote, but any staff members that are at our campus, are being offered the PCR test. So by Friday, we would have given that option to everybody in addition to the rapid testing. So we are certainly doing our part. That is most likely why we were selected to receive a portion of the test kits that are coming. Because of the testing that we are doing in the district.

Francisco Castillo inquires as to where the students that are coming into the campus being tested. Mr. Garza replies that the only students that we (the district) mandate to be tested are the extra-curricular students. All other students must have parental consent. We do not randomly test. Or there may be a testing date that the school may set up. Mr. Garza clarifies for Mr. Castillo that

rapid testing can be administered in mass quantities where as PCR requires a person to administer the test to each individual and the district does not have these tests in-house. "One thing that I would really assure the board is, if someone wanted to test, we would not deny them" says Mr. Garza. Last point that Mr. Garza makes clear is that an antigen test takes 5 days for a notification, where as, the PCR test provides a result within 1 or days of infection.

Javier Montemayo: So the binax test only provides a positive result if you are in the fourth or fifth day of infection.

Mike Garza: It comes out positive when you are in the fourth of fifth day of infection. Not the first or sixth. That is just they was the test was made.

**VI. Items for Individual Consideration:**

**A. Notice of PUBLIC HEARING for District of Innovation**

**1. Open Public hearing Regarding District of Innovation Plan**

**A motion is made to Open the Public Hearing at 6:41 pm.**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Made By:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

**a. Discussion Regarding District of Innovation Plan**

**Gloria Rendon: We bring before you the District of Innovation, we have met all requirements from the state. We have posted our plan online for the 30 days. Ms. Rendon goes through the recommendations made by the advisory committee and makes it clear that this is a renewal from 5 years ago.**

- You must maintain an academic acceptable rating**
- You have to have an acceptable financial accountability rating**
- Establish a committee to develop an approval plan according to statutory requirements.**



We have met all the requirements and have submitted our first notice to our commissioner of education. Ms. Rendon presents the timeline for DOI.

Ramiro Veliz: How long would it be in effect. Another five years.

Gloria Rendon: Yes sir. It is on my calendar.

Ms. Gloria Rendon continue to present the exemptions and elaborates on each, four for renewal and five additional ones.

- 1<sup>st</sup> day of Instruction
- Minimum attendance for class credit or final grade
- Designation of a campus behavior coordinator
- Teacher certification for career and technical education & dual credit
- Ejection of an individual from a facility
- School Day Interruptions
- Suspension in students in grades below 3
- Staff Development
- Teacher mentor program

Francisco Castillo: In regards to the mentors program, we currently have that.

Gloria Rendon: Yes, we do. We normally tap our same individuals. They have to meet with the teacher they have to take classes. They have to partner up, they have to show them how to do grades etc.

Francisco Castillo: So you have that because new teachers need some guidance.

Gloria Rendon: Yes, we have a mentor program for administrators as well.

**b. Public Comments on the District of Innovation Plan**

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**A motion is made to Close the Public Hearing at 6:53 pm.**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Javier Montemayor</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>None</b>

All In Favor: Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding District of Innovation Plan**

A motion is made to approve as presented.

Motion: So Move  
Moved By: Javier Montemayor  
Seconded By: Francisco Castillo  
Any Discussion: None  
All In Favor: Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**B. Discussion and Possible Action on United Independent School District Management Fellowship Program**

This is an item that has been brought in the past by Mr. Castillo, and the last time we remember we had moved it for a future date. I think the issue right now is that we do not have it funded. No funding on that program right now.

Ricardo Rodriguez make a motion to remove the fellowship program.

Motion: So Move  
Moved By: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded By: Francisco Castillo  
Any Discussion: None  
All In Favor: Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Board Member Assignments to the Business and Instructional Committees**

Ramiro Veliz: So this is where we designate since there has not been an official designation since I think July.

Ricardo Rodriguez: My motion is to just keep it the way it is and just keep Mr. Javier Montemayor as a chairman for the Instructional and I will be the chairman for the business. For the Business it is: Ricardo Rodriguez, Ricardo Molina and Mr. Juan Roberto Ramirez For the Instruction: It is Ms. Aliza Oliveros, Javier Montemayor and Francisco Castillo

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Molina</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	

**Francisco Castillo; Yes, I would like to discuss the possibility of joining the Business Committee. I express that because I thought that is where I could best serve in the capacity of being involved with the business. That is my thought still to see if I am able to join that committee.**

**Ramiro Veliz: Let us vote on this and then if you to, then do a sub-motion.**

**Francisco Castillo: I cannot right now. That is why I am making my motion that I be included in the business committee. I would like to finish with that.**

**Ricardo Molina: Call for a vote.**

**Ramiro Veliz: Ok, a sub-motion by Mr. Castillo. So how would be the assignment sir.**

**Ricardo Molina: Call for a vote Mr. president.**

**Ramiro Veliz: We have to do the sub-motion first. Mr. Castillo, you want to join the business committee, how would everybody else be assigned?**

**Francisco Castillo: If anyone wants to be in the instructional committee.**

**Ramiro Veliz: It is your motion, so if you want to assign and then we vote.**

**Stephen Trautmann: Mr. Castillo right now you have a motion to place yourself in the business committee, so do we have a second to place Mr. Castillo in the business committee? No second, so the original motion is on the table.**

**Ramiro Veliz: Going back to the original the one with Mr. Rodriguez's motion, and we have a second by Ricardo Molina**

All In Favor: Ramiro Veliz, Ricardo Rodriguez, Ricardo Molina

All Against: None

**MOTION PASSES**

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion: So Move  
Moved By: Ricardo Rodriguez  
Seconded By: Ricardo Molina  
Any Discussion: NONE

All In Favor: Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

*There being no further business of the USD Board of Trustees, this Special Called meeting of January 18, 2022 is adjourned at 6:58 PM.*

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Ramiro Veliz, III, President

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Ricardo Rodriguez, Secretary

*These Minutes were completed by Guiselda Rodriguez, and submitted for approval by the USD Board of Trustees at the April 2022 Regular Board Meeting.*

A Regular Board Meeting  
Of United ISD  
The State of Texas  
County of Webb

January 26, 2022

**In Attendance:**

David H. Gonzalez, Superintendent

**Board of Trustees:**

Ramiro Veliz, III, President - ABSENT

Aliza Flores-Oliveros, Vice President – PRESENT

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary – PRESENT

Ricardo Molina, Sr., Parliamentarian – PRESENT

Francisco “Frank” Castillo, Member – ABSENT

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez, Member – PRESENT

Javier Montemayor, Jr., Member – ABSENT

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD will be held Wednesday, January 26, 2022, beginning at 6:00 PM in the UISD Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building – Room #1, located at 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

The subjects to be discussed or considered are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted one at one time.

**I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**

*Ms. Aliza Oliveros calls this meeting to order at 6:13 PM. Quorum is established.*

**II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to Order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551**

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

- A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.**

**IV. Recognitions**

**A. UNITED MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND – All Region Orchestra**

**B. MIDDLE SCHOOLS – All-Region Band Audition Results**

**C. JOHN B. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL BAND:**

- \*Marching Band 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Division UIL Marching / Area Champions**

- \*Choir – All Region Choir Members**

- \*Orchestra All-Region**

**D. LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL BAND – 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Division – UIL Marching Contest / Area Qualifier**

**E. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL BAND:**

- \*2021 1<sup>ST</sup> Division – UIL Marching Contest / Area Qualifier / Area Finalist**

- \*Choir – All-Region Choir Members**

- \*Orchestra – All-Region Orchestra members**

**F. UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL BAND:**

- \*2021 1<sup>st</sup> Division – UIL Marching Contest / Area Qualifier**

- \*Choir – All-Region Choir Members**

**G. BOARD APPRECIATION – UISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**V. Public Comments**

***Comments shall be limited to current Board agenda items, student recognitions, or charitable causes. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker except that non-English speakers requiring a translator are limited to six minutes. The presiding Board***

***officer may modify or waive these time limits as appropriate. Public Comments shall not be used for personal attacks by the speaker against District employees or students. Speakers who engage in personal attacks, or use insulting, profane, threatening, or abusive language during any Board meeting shall be ruled out of order by the presiding Board officer and may be escorted from the Board meeting room by District peace officers or security staff. Any concerns or complaints regarding individual District employees, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in Board Policy BED (LOCAL). Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.***

Oscar Castillo: Good evening my name is Oscar Castillo and I am talking about Peña Consulting, item IX-A. I am representing the Kahledi Group and this is just to give you an update on the item that is going to be bought for the UISD kitchen on Saunders. We have.. all this has been submitted to your representatives but we have the corner, we are going to have the left turn from 359 into the master plan.

Mr. Castillo says he is mainly present in case the UISD board have any questions.

Ms. Aliza Oliveros thanks Mr. Castillo for his comments and makes him aware that the board cannot address his comments at this time.

***END OF PUBLIC COMMENTS***

**A motion is made to address item VII.-C: Approval of Independent Audit Report**

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Aliza Oliveros</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In-Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

\*Go to Item VII.-C

## **VI. Consent Agenda Items**

### **A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements**

- B. Approval of Property Tax Refunds for the month of December 2021**
- C. Adopt Resolution of Early Separation of Employee Separation from Employment incentive to Full Time District Employees for the 2021-2022 School Year**
- D. Approval of Low Attendance Day Waivers for the Week of January 10-14, 2022**
- E. Approval of RFQ 004-2021 Medical Evaluations and Other Health Impairments for all Students**

A motion is made to approve Items VI. A through E.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Molina</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In-Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

**VII. Items for Individual Consideration**

**A. Approval of Donations**

Superintendent Gonzalez asks the board to graciously accept the following donations:

- **A donation was received by Juarez-Lincoln Elementary from Redman Redwing Council No. 16 in the amount of \$2,000.00 and will be used to purchase items such as blankets, jackets and heaters for our neediest families.**
- **A donation was received by Raul Perales middle school from their Cheer Booster Club, in the amount of \$3,850.00 to pay for Cheer Bus Expense in February for Fun Cheer Competition in Georgetown.**

**Grand Total: \$5,850.00**

David Gonzalez: We thank all the businesses and organizations for helping and supporting our students and campuses.



**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Rodriguez  
**Seconded By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**B. Approval of Board Minutes for the month of August 2021**

A motion is made to approve the Board Minutes as presented.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Seconded By:** Ricardo Rodriguez  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**C. Approval of Independent Audit Report for the Year Ended August 31, 2021**

Sam Flores provides a presentation and introduces Mr. Carlos Cascos (partner for Cascos & Associates / Brownsville, Texas). Mr. Casco's summarizes the highlights of the audit report such as net position, assets, liabilities and unrestricted fund balance. The district has earned unmodified opinions on all it's aspects. "An unmodified opinion is the most favorable opinion that any accounting firm can provide an entity whether it's public or private (pages 17, 193 and 195 of this presentation)" says Mr. Carlos Cascos. The days of operation (days the district can remain open with no funding coming in all the while maintain the levels of services this district has adopted) are 84 days. Mr. Cascos elaborates on how he came to those numbers and complements administration and the board for maintaining the financial integrity and stability of this district and stands ready to answer any questions from the board.

Aliza Oliveros: Thank you for your report, and to congratulate our financial department for all your hard work, we very much appreciate it not only by us but by the taxpayers as well.

Juan Roberto Ramirez: Thank you for your very kind words.

Carlos Cascos: Thank you very much.

David Gonzalez: We ask Mr. Cascos to have a safe drive back home (Brownsville, Tx.) and thanks him for being present.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Seconded By:** Ricardo Rodriguez  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In-Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

\*The board returns to regular agenda Item VI.

**D. Approval of Resolution of the United Independent School District Board Regarding Temporary Emergency Closure Due to Dangerous Weather**

David Gonzalez: Yes, we recommend the UISD board to approve as presented the resolution of Temporary Closure Due to Dangerous Weather.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Seconded By:** Juan Roberto Ramirez  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**E. First and Final Reading of Board Policy BED (LOCAL) – Board Meetings – Public Participation**

Mr. David Garcia presents on Board Policy BED (LOCAL) Public Participation and reads “At regular board meetings the board shall permit public comments regardless of whether the topic is an item on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting, additionally during the business and instructional meeting, the board shall permit public comments regardless of whether the topic is an items on the agenda posted with notice of the meeting. Individuals who make a public comment at a business and instructional committee meeting are subject to comply with the portions of this policy”. In special called meetings, public comments shall be limited to items on the agenda, posted with notice of the meeting.

Stephen Trautmann: This is based on the action that you all (the board) took in the December meeting.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Rodriguez  
**Seconded By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**F. First and Final Reading of Board Policy DFE (LOCAL) Termination of Employment Resignation**

Mr. David Garcia reads in the new language included in this policy and explain the removal of titles for associate superintendents etc. who have since left the district or now hold a new title (such as Gloria Rendon now Deputy superintendent, Eddie Zuñiga, retired, Mr. Mike Garza, now associate superintendent, David Garcia now associate superintendent and includes new executive director to Human Resources, Mr. David Canales to accept resignations).

Stephen Trautmann: This policy falls in line with TASBS most recent update.

David Garcia: The policy changes are just to keep in line with positions that we currently have active in our organizational team.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Rodriguez  
**Seconded By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**G. First and Final Reading of Board Policy BDB (LOCAL) – Board Internal Organization – Internal Communities**

Stephen Trautmann: This is a policy that both Jaime and I did review, based on other board policies from larger school districts in the state and it basically clarifies the Business and

Instruction committees as to who can sit in the meetings and things of that nature. Basically members of the Business committee can only sit in the Business committee and members of the Instructional committee can only sit in the Instructional committee, unless we have zero members show up, then we can have one cover both.

Aliza Oliveros: Can a member, for example of the Instructional committee, sit in the audience?

Stephen Trautmann: Absolutely.

Aliza Flores: Just not formally sitting in the committee.

Stephen Trautmann: Yes ma'am.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Molina</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

**H. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve memorandum of Understanding between United Independent School District and City of Laredo Concerning Student-Parent Reunification Process Involving School Campus Emergency Evacuations**

David Gonzalez: This is pretty much for our emergency drills.

Jaime Garcia: This MOU with the city of Laredo regarding mass reunification if there is a mass emergency at school. The reunification center will be the Sames Arena and this MOU outlines how the process will play out. It is something we had in place with them. For a few years. So we just made some slight revisions and it is here for your approval tonight.

David Gonzalez: We are organizing a drill for March.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Juan Roberto Ramirez</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

**I. Approval of Requests of Board Members in re: Use of Board Discretionary Funds for Various Campuses and Departments**

A motion is made to approve the Use of Board Discretionary Funds as presented.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Molina</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

**VIII. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act**

The board adjourns into Closed Session at 6:34 pm.

**A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting**

**1. Superintendent's Duties and Responsible**

**B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting  
TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting**

**1. Legal Consultation and Consideration of Possible Action with respect to final negotiations of and execution of the Purchase and Sale Agreement regarding the acquisition of a tract of land approximately 10.77 Acres out of a 53.40-Acre Tract of Land, which itself is out of a tract of Land, described in the deed recorded in Volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas. The Tract is situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas, such property being in the vicinity of the intersection of Saunders Blvd.**

and Loop 20 in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The acquisition of said acres will be from L91 BC Properties, LLC.

2. **Legal Consultation and Consideration pertaining to the Possible Execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement Regarding the Possible Acquisition of an Approximately 10.16 Acre Tract on the North Side of Clark Blvd., East of Chacon Creek and West of Bob Bullock Loop and West of the Walmart Supercenter. Such Property is owned by Killam Development, Ltd.**

- IX. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session**

*Ms. Aliza Oliveros Reconvenes from closed session at 8:02 pm.*

- A. Possible Action with Respect to the Execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement Regarding the Acquisition of a Tract of Land of Approximately 10.77 Acres out of a 53.40-Acre Tract of Land, which itself is out of a Tract of Land, described in the Deed Recorded in Volume 1089, Pages 586-587, Deed Records, Webb County, Texas. The Tract is situated in Porcion 28, E. Martinez, Abstract 241, Webb County, Texas such Property being in the vicinity of the Intersection of Saunders Blvd. and Loop 20 in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. The purchase of said Acres will be from L91 BC Properties, LLC**

Stephen Trautmann: The recommendation is to table this item at this time.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>So Move</b>
<b>Moved By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Rodriguez</b>
<b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Ricardo Molina</b>
<b>Any Discussion:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>All In Favor:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>

**MOTION PASSES**

- B. Possible Action with Respect to the Possible Execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement Regarding the Possible Acquisition. An approximately 10.16 Acre Tract on the North side of Clark Blvd., East of Chacon Creek and West of Bob Bullock Loop and West of the Walmart Supercenter owned by Killam Development, Ltd.**

Stephen Trautmann: Yes, the recommendation is a motion to table.

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Ricardo Molina  
**Seconded By:** Juan Roberto Ramirez  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**IX. Adjournment**

**Motion:** So Move  
**Moved By:** Aliza Oliveros  
**Seconded By:** Juan Roberto Ramirez  
**Any Discussion:** NONE  
**All In Favor:** Unanimous

**MOTION PASSES**

**There being no further business before the United ISD Board of Trustees, this Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2022 was Adjourned at 8:20 PM.**

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**Ramiro Veliz, III, Board President**

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**Juan Roberto Ramirez, Board Secretary**

*Minutes completed by Griselda Rodriguez, Secretary.  
Submitted for Approval at the April 2022, Regular Board Meeting.*