



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Board Minutes

SUBMITTED BY: Alejandra Salinas **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: October 19, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

Regular Board Meeting – September 20, 2011

Special Called Meeting – September 26, 2011

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting. Govt. Code §551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

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

September 20, 2011

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Pat Campos – Member
Javier Montemayor – Member
Juan Molina – Member – Arrived at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order

I. Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, September 20, 2011, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President, Judd Gilpin made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:01 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. 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. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy.

Sandra De la Cruz – Junior band parent for United South High School Band – Spoke about the benefits of having the marching pads at USHS. One benefit would be that students don't have to worry about having parked cars in the area and the band would be able to learn the marching show at a quicker pace in preparation for the UIL Competition. She also stated practice sessions could take place in the morning when temperatures are not in the hundreds ensuring fewer events of heat strokes and heat exhaustion. Also students would be able to get home earlier since practices are now taking place from 5 to 7 p.m. everyday. This will allow band

students more time to focus on their classes and stated she hopes the marching band pads project will be approved for the United South High School Band.

Josie Manzanares – Senior band parent for United South High School – Spoke on behalf of all the band parents and students in support for marching pads for United South High School. She stated that in the last four years she has witnessed that not having the marching pads has affected the band students. Also, the parked vehicles prohibit the students from practicing for the marching show and compromise their safety. She stated she has witnessed the director stop the practice to make sure the students don't injure themselves or damage the parked vehicles since their practices take place in the front parking lot. As a parent, she wants all children to be safe while practicing.

Juan R. Robles – Representing LBJ – Spoke about marching pads for LBJ High School. He stated that it all comes down to avoiding injuries. The students practice in an unsafe area, the parking lot which has pot holes and students tend to injure their knees or their ankles. In addition, he stated that with the marching pads, the students would be able to have good practices when it comes to UIL.

IV. Recognitions:

The Board recognized the following organizations, students and employees for outstanding accomplishments:

- A. 2011 Pony League World Series Championship
- B. 14th International Drawing Contest "Este es mi Mexico 2010"

V. Consent Agenda Items

- A. **Approval of Monthly Disbursements**
- B. **Approval of Budget Amendments**
- C. **Tax Roll Adjustments for 2010 - 2011**
- D. **Consideration for approval of updated Resolution to participate in Region One Education Service Center General Purchasing Cooperative and the following special purchasing cooperative programs, Child Nutrition Programs – South Texas Coop, and Region One ESC – Library Services and Media Cooperative**
- E. **Approval of Sale of Salvage Equipment**
- F. **Approval of Internal Audit Plan for 2011-2012**
- G. **Discussion and possible action to enter into a twenty-five (25) year lease agreement with Webb County, Texas for the lease of approximately 8.66 (377,443 square feet) acres of school district property for use by Webb County as a dedicated park ("Trautmann Park") and any matters incident thereto**
- H. **Discussion/Action regarding the construction of marching pads at USHS and LBJHS, tennis courts at USHS and LBJHS, track and soccer practice field at JBAHS, and expansion of field houses at LBJHS, USHS, and JBAHS**
- I. **Designation of Jaime Canales as Student Relations Program Coordinator to serve as an Additional Hearing Officer for United ISD.**
- J. **Approval of Request from Juan Roberto Ramirez and Javier Montemayor, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Clark Elementary for \$17,191**
- K. **Approval of Request from Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for JB Alexander High School for \$4,200**

- L. Second Reading of Policy EHBB (LOCAL) – Special Programs: Gifted and Talented Students**
- M. Second Reading of Policy EIA (LOCAL) – Academic Achievement Grading Progress Reports to Parents**
- N. Second Reading of Policy EIC (LOCAL) – Academic Achievement Class Ranking**
- O. Delete Policy EIAB (LOCAL) – Grading/Progress Reports to Parents – Make-up Work**

Mr. Juan Molina motioned to approve Items 5-A through 5-O.

Motion: So move

Motion by: Juan A. Molina

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: Ms. Pat Campos asked why Item I, the designation of the Student Relations Coordinator, was on the agenda if that was not something that is usually approved by the Board.

Mr. Santos explained that the reason it is on the agenda is that part of Mr. Canales' duties is to serve as a hearing officer and in order for him to serve as a hearing officer it must be approved by the Board.

In Favor: Unanimous

VI. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

1. Budget Workshop – July 27, 2011
2. Public Hearing – August 17, 2011
3. Regular Board Meeting – August 17, 2011

Motion: Juan Molina motioned to approve with some minor adjustments

Motion by: Juan A. Molina

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: Mr. Juan Molina mentioned that Mr. Montemayor had said that there were three board members at the meeting but there was actually four. Mr. Montemayor responded that there were three members on the disciplinary appeals committee that participated but four were present. Mr. Molina asked that the minutes reflect that there were four board members at that meeting.

In Favor: Unanimous

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations into the minutes and requested that the Board accept the generous donations to UISD totaling \$1,542.09

Motion: So move

Moved by: Juan A. Molina

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

C. First and Final Reading of Policy CE (LOCAL) – Annual Operating Budget

Motion: So move
Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
Seconded by: Juan A. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Resolution to Approve the 2011 Appraisal Roll as the 2011 UISD Tax Roll

Norma Farabough, Tax Assessor addressed the board and read the resolution

Motion: So Move
Moved by: Juan A. Molina
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

E. Nomination of Candidates to the Board of Directors of the Webb County Appraisal District

Norma Farabough addressed the board and informed the board that we need to have a resolution nominating the candidates to be placed on the ballot to serve on the Board of Directors of the Webb County Appraisal District and because of the time frame we would need to select those two candidates and vote on it. Ms. Farabough then read the resolution and stated that Judd Gilpin and Javier Montemayor were nominated as candidates.

Motion: So move
Moved by: Juan A. Molina
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

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

Norma Farabough addressed the board and informed them that on this resolution we have 2030 votes to be cast for members for the Appraisal District Board of Directors. She then read the resolution.

Motion: So move
Moved by: Pat Campos
Seconded by: Juan A. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

G. Approval of Solicitation Methods of Procurement and Funding Sources for Listed High School Construction Projects subject of Item #5H

Mr. Eduardo Zuñiga addressed the board and stated we have been given direction to move forward on the projects for the expansion of field houses and tennis courts at LBJ and United South and the running track and soccer practice field at John B. Alexander. He asked the Board to approve the Design Build Method for those three projects. The fourth project which is the band marching pads, the board had previously approved the CSP method so we are going to continue with that CSP method and request proposals again for the band marching pads. He explained that for the funding source, staff is recommending that we use the county available land funds and reminded the board that the only thing those funds can be used for is for payment of debt or

construction. He stated the recommendation is to use the county land fund available which is approximately 10.9 million.

Motion: So move

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

VIII. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:27 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

1. Consultation with legal counsel re: legal issues in connection with U FIRST Program

B. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel

1. Consider Superintendent's Evaluation
2. Consider Extension and Modification of Superintendent's Employment
3. Superintendent Duties and Responsibilities

C. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel

551.076 Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of security personnel or devices

1. Status of on-going Audits
2. Athletic Department Overtime
3. Transportation Department Overtime
4. Student Activity Fund Audit
 - a. Zaffirini Elementary School
 - b. Kazen Elementary School
 - c. Salvador Garcia Middle School

VIII. Reconvened from Closed Session at 8:21 p.m. No action was taken in closed session. The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session.

A. Approval of Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Juan Cruz stated the recommendation is to approve the Superintendent's 2010-11 evaluation as presented in closed session.

Motion: So move

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

B. Action re: Superintendent's Employment Contract, Modifications and Extension

Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez moved to approve a one year extension to the Superintendent's employment contract through June 30, 2014 and further moved to modify the Superintendent's employment contract accordingly: A. To add the 2010-11 school year performance pay received by the Superintendent to the Superintendent's base salary and B. That the Superintendent is entitled to receive same salary increase, if any, as District Administrators may receive by the Board in future budget cycles.

Motion: So move

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

Mr. Roberto Santos addressed the Board and thanked them for their support and thanked them for the confidence they have in him. Mr. Santos announced the resignation of Ms. Pam Juarez and thanked her for all the years she's been at United and for everything she has done for United.

Juan Roberto Ramirez stated there are no words to say to a lady who, together with her staff, has guided students in the curriculum area. He said they will never match anyone in her way of guiding her staff and thanked her for all the years she put into education.

Ms. Pam Juarez addressed the board and thanked the Board and said she'll still be here until January 31st.

Pat Campos said she will save her comments until Ms. Juarez' retirement but welcomed her to retirement.

Mr. Gilpin thanked Ms. Juarez for all her years of service and said we are all proud of all her accomplishments

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2011, was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo Rodriguez – Secretary

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

September 26, 2011

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Pat Campos – Member
Javier Montemayor – Member
Juan Molina – Member – **Absent**

A Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Monday, September 26, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the United ISD – Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, Room #2, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. An announcement was made by the Board President, Judd Gilpin, calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 7:00 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting 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. Action Item:

A. Discussion/Action re: date of implementation of U-FIRST Program, and incident matters related thereto.

Mr. Juan Cruz addressed the board and stated the only thing needed to discuss on the U-FIRST is that there needs to be some type of direction to the administration on two simple issues. One is the date you want this program to commence and whether or not it is going to apply to the current students at STEP Academy.

Juan Roberto Ramirez motioned for the program to start on today's date. Mr. Gilpin asked if that

would be effective for the students currently serving now, Mr. Juan Roberto Ramirez responded yes, from the start of the school year.

Motion: So move

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina (**later withdrew his motion**)

Discussion:

Ms. Pat Campos stated that if this program passes today then it should be implemented effective for the following day and effective for those students that commit the offense or have their hearings the following day after we pass this action item.

Mr. Juan Roberto Ramirez stated for the record that by implementing this program as it was presented to them by Ms. Perez it sends an overall picture of what we are trying to work. He stated students doing something really terrible will get punishment as mandated and mentioned as an example a student pulling an alarm and causes hysteria at a school even though it's a prank joke, and also stated the district will not overlook any issue other than what the UFIRST program presents.

Mr. Ricardo Molina stated that many of these students did things worse than pulling an alarm or stealing a stereo. Some had pills, some of them had drugs and that is why these students are where they are right now. And he agrees that this program should start from today on and not go back to when school started. Since it is being passed today it should be implemented the next day and be a fresh start for the people affected today and not for people that already committed an offense.

Mr. Gilpin stated that there was a misunderstanding earlier. He asked Mr. Ramirez if his motion was to become effective immediately and including those students who are currently serving. Mr. Ramirez confirmed. He then asked Mr. Ricardo Molina if he seconded that. Mr. Molina stated that some of these kids did more than just pull an alarm. He said some of these kids have major offenses. He stated that this program is a fresh start for everybody but it should be a fresh start for new kids starting this program.

Mr. Juan Cruz clarified for the record that the motion on the floor that the board is going to vote for would require administration to implement the UFIRST program immediately, as of tomorrow, which would be September 27, 2011 and it would apply to all students at STEP, whether they were placed this year or during the 2010-11 school year. Just making sure the board understands the motion that is on the floor.

Mr. Ramirez responded yes, that is the motion.

Mr. Ricardo Molina withdrew his motion.

Mr. Juan Cruz stated they need a second.

Mr. Gilpin stated the policy is grafted in such a way as to exclude offenders who committed

offenses where there were victims involved and also where there would be a threat to the general population whether it be teachers or students and mentioned he is comfortable with the policy and utilizing it for students that are there currently or in the future.

Ms. Pat Campos stated she is not against the program at all but that there is some tweaking that needs to be done to that program and feels that the program should start tomorrow. She doesn't think it should be retroactive to the beginning of the school year for kids that are already there.

Mr. Juan Cruz stated we need a second.

Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez seconded.

Mr. Javier Montemayor stated he would like to see the program be applied to those students who are currently there who qualify by looking at the program criteria. He doesn't want there to be an impression that any particular student is being given a break or weak punishment. If a student meets the criteria, in accordance to what administration has proposed then so be it and stated he trusts administration to make that decision and leaves the discipline issue in their hands. He stated that the student code of conduct discipline is under administration's control as well.

Ms. Pat Campos asked for clarification on the program. She stated this program was initially for first time offenders discretionary transfers, not mandatory expulsions to JJAEP.

Mr. Santos stated that based on what we have now, anyone that is currently at JJAEP on mandatory placement would not qualify, anybody that is at STEP, based on the criteria that we have would qualify.

Ms. Campos asked about any of those students that were expelled that should have been at JJAEP.

Mr. Santos responded that if a student was expelled and is at JJAEP then he wouldn't qualify but if a student was expelled and is back at STEP then he would be considered like any other student that is at STEP based on the criteria that we have.

Ms. Campos said she thought this program was for discretionary only.

Mr. Santos responded that this program was set up for discretionary students that are at STEP.

Ms. Campos stated that this was not a discretionary offense, the one she is talking about.

Mr. Santos responded no it was not a discretionary offense.

Ms. Campos stated that was all and asked Mr. Gilpin to continue.

In Favor: Javier Montemayor, Judd Gilpin, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Ricardo Rodriguez

Opposed: Pat Campos, Ricardo Molina

Mr. Gilpin stated the item passed 4 to 2.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Special Called Meeting of September 26, 2011 was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Judd Gilpin, President

Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, Secretary