



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Board Minutes

SUBMITTED BY: Delia C. Campos **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: July 20, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

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

Special Called Meeting – June 14, 2011

Regular Board Meeting – June 22, 2011

Special Called Meeting – June 30, 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).

**Special Called Meeting
June 14, 2011**

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

In Attendance

Robert J. Santos
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

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

The Board of Trustees of United ISD met in a Special Called meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, beginning at 6:57 PM in the United ISD Boardroom, Laredo, TX 78045.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

President Pat Campos made an announcement calling this Special Called meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:57 pm. 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.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:58 p. m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

- A.** 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel

1. Consider Appointment of Executive Director for Elementary Education

No action was taken in Executive Session – Reconvened at 6:21pm

IV. Action Items:

- A. Appointment of Principal for Trautmann Elementary School
Mr. Santos is recommending Ms. Kristina Chapa as Principal for Trautmann Elementary School.

Motion by: Ricardo Molina
Seconded by: Juan R. Ramirez
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

V. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Special Called Meeting of June 14, 2011, was adjourned at 7:22 pm

Pat Campos – President

Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary

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

June 22, 2011

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President (arrived at 6:03pm)
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President (arrived at 6:07pm)
Juan Roberto Ramírez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian (arrived at 6:04pm)
Judd Gilpin – Member
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Member

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, June 22, 2011, in the Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President, Pat Campos made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:02 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.

IV. Recognitions:

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

- A. GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION – CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

- B. CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL – STUDENT SELECTED FOR LONE STAR LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

- C. CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS BAND VARSITY-CC – ADVANCED TO TMEA AREA LEVEL HONOR BAND COMPETITION

- D. TRAUTMANN MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS BAND VARSITY-CCC – ADVANCED TO TMEA AREA LEVEL HONOR BAND COMPETITION

- E. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL – BOYS BASEBALL TEAM – REGIONAL FINALIST – ELITE EIGHT

- F. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL – TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES' ASSOCIATION – 5A ALL-STATE TEAM

- G. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL – BOYS BASEBALL TEAM – REGIONAL QUARTERFINALIST

- H. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL – TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACHES' ASSOCIATION – 5A ALL-STATE TEAM

Public Comments:

Alejandra Lightner – Good Evening, Madam President distinguished board members and Supt. Santos. For the record my name is Alejandra Lightner, Vice President of TSTA for Laredo United. I am here to speak on items D, F, and G. District Insurance plan, teacher base salary for 2011-2012 and the freeze of all salaries & wages based on the 2010-11 school year. By increasing the health insurance premium and freezing salaries alone will more than offset the \$14.95 of an increase to our health insurance. The ability to retain and/or perhaps attract quality teachers will be severely compromised. I on behalf of all professionals and ESP's ask you to do the right thing and not freeze an increase to the employee's health insurance. Thank you.

Rene de la Vina: Good Evening Members of the Board, Superintendent Santos and Madam Chair. For the record my name is Rene De La Vina, Full-time President TSTA. A couple of issues I'll be talking about are D, G, and F on the agenda.

1) Re: to the premium of \$14.95 that the employee will have to pay because of the premium increase that went up. Maybe you would consider pulling from your general fund. I know you don't like to touch your general fund. It is not fair for the employee to have to take out extra money from their salaries. You're not going to give an increase to begin with and we understand why. But, I think you can at least cover the cost of the increase.

Also, I just want to mention that Edgewood and Orange Grove ISD have filed a lawsuit against the State of Texas for lack of funding and would like to ask you if you would consider looking into it and jumping on the band wagon and joining in on the lawsuit. I don't know if you remember 10 years ago we filed against the George Bush Administration under the Department of Education for lack of funding at the federal level. I am also looking that TSTA get involved in this and jumping on the band wagon. I have contacted our legal counsel and maybe filing a lawsuit. The problem with the State of Texas is that the accountability part does not change, but the funding does. They keep deleting the funding, but yet the accountability is still there. I don't think that it is fair to the teachers or to our children.

Again, Edgewood ISD has filed a lawsuit against the State of Texas for their lack of funding. We are also going to be looking into it. I will be going to a President's training in Austin, TX with TSTA and will be approaching our legal counsel on this issue. I think there will be a lot of school districts coming together because of lack of funding. We have to hold our State government accountable just as they hold us accountable. I think that is only fair.. We have to help our children.

2) As far as the salary freeze, of course we are against that. Hope you could give them something, but I know there is no money. I know that the Special Session is still going on right now until next week. Senate Bill 8 that you said you would never consider lowering their salaries to \$27,000 a year. That would be ridiculous a slap in the face for education especially to our teachers and our children. Again, if you can help the custodians with the health insurance as it is they are at the bottom of the pay scale. Can you imagine taking \$14.95 from them? It would be very tough on them. Some of them have already called me and told me they would rather cancel the insurance because they cannot afford it.

Again, if you can help out our employees and of course our children. Thank you

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Review of LEGAL Polices in TASB Update 90

Mr. Santos – No Superintendent's Report at this time.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

- A.** Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B.** Approval of Tax Refunds
- C.** Approval to Designate Norma Farabough to Calculate 2011 Tax Rate
- D.** Renewal of District Health Insurance Plan
- E.** Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- F.** Discussion/Action re: Teacher Base Salaries for 2011-12 School/Work Year
- G.** Discussion/Action re: Employee Salaries for the 2011-12 School/Work Year, including Freeze of all Salaries and/or Wages Based upon the 2010-2011 Compensation Plan
- H.** Approval of request for Competitive Sealed Proposals (CSP) as the solicitation method of procurement for the Installation of a Metal Canopy Structure for the South Basketball Court at Trautmann Park
- I.** Approval of RFCQ 006-2011 External Quality Assessment Services for Internal Audit Department
- J.** Discussion and Possible Action to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Laredo Independent School District to amend the current boundary shared between the two school districts and to adopt a new boundary including the filing of a map of the new boundary with the Texas Education Agency and any matters incident thereto
- K.** Approval of Application for A Missed Instructional Day for Monday, May 16, 2011
- L.** Approval of Application for Expedited and General State Waivers for the 2011-2012 School Year
- M.** Approval of Requests from Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for JB Alexander High School for \$5,650
- N.** Approval of Requests from Juan Roberto Ramirez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Kazen Elementary for \$9,811.75 and Washington Middle School for \$25,997.24
- O.** Approval of Request from Judd Gilpin for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Krueger Field for \$2,436

- P.** Approval of Request from Ricardo Molina, Sr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Arndt Elementary for \$6,102
- Q.** Approval of Request from Javier Montemayor, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Alexander High School for \$9,000
- R.** Approval of Requests from Ricardo Rodriguez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Antonio Gonzalez Middle School for \$7,500 and Killam Elementary for \$2,994.36

Motion by: Mr. Juan Roberto Ramirez advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committee Members had met and were recommending the approval of the following items:

Moved by: Ricardo Molina
Seconded by: Judd Gilpin

Discussion: Correction was made on agenda item (M) on Discretionary Funds from Pat Campos for Newman Elem. for \$5,556.30 and Gutierrez Elem. for \$4,765 not for JB Alexander.

In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

VII. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

1. Special Called Meeting – May 7, 2011
2. Special Called Meeting – May 10, 2011
3. Regular Board Meeting – May 18, 2011
4. Special Called Meeting – June 1, 2011

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Juan R. Ramirez
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations into the minutes and requested that the Board accept the generous donations to UISD totaling \$63,438.50.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Ricardo Molina
Seconded by: Juan R. Ramirez
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

C. Approval of an Order authorizing the Issuance of United Independent School District Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2011, and Other Matters Related Thereto

Laida Benavides – Good evening, Madam President, Members of the Board, Mr. Santos, Mr. Cruz and audience. We are bringing to you an item for your consideration to approve and Order authorizing the Issuance of United Independent School District Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2011. At this point I would like to turn it over to our financial advisor, Noe Hinojosa of Estrada Hinojosa & Company to explain the parameters that will be set by this resolution and the authority that we granted to the Board President and our Superintendent if the market is under the right conditions that we would be able to proceed with the refunding.

Noe Hinojosa – My name is Noe Hinojosa with Estrada Hinojosa & Company for the record. As of today we are bringing to you as an Order similar to the one we brought to you back in the fall about October. Basically we sought from you the authority to refinance for the purpose of strictly savings on certain outstanding debt of about \$60 million dollars. Since that time we have brought it to you back in October. The market has deteriorated so we are not able to execute the financing. The order giving us that authority expired back in April on or about April 30th. What we're doing today is basically bringing to your attention when we're done with the financial audit committee to allow us to get the authority again if the market stays where it is at so we can execute the financing today. Once the fiscal year ends this year the School District will be about \$234 million in outstanding debt that we are looking at. Dissecting and taking those pieces from all that debt that carries high interest rate and refinance that with existing rates. What we're doing here is that we are contemplating taking 34 million and save the school district about 2 million or more. That is what this is about.

Javier Montemayor - What are the high interest rates at this point?

Noe Hinojosa – Right now, what we are looking at is taking out some bonds that have carried a rate of an average of 4.85% there about. We're going to replace that with rates of south of 3%. I'll be specific Mr. Montemayor. Basically the bonds that we're taking out carry a rate of 4.85-5% and replace those with 2.95%. We think the market is even better than 2.95% today.

Javier Montemayor – It is almost close to 2 points.

Noe Hinojosa – Exactly

Javier Montemayor – What do you think the savings to the district would be?

Noe Hinojosa – Right now, we're contemplating the savings would be 2 million 2 and we're thinking normally when a school district refinances its debt. We spread out the savings over the life of the bonds that are currently outstanding. We are thinking about accelerating those savings to year 2012-2013 so that the District will have a greater benefit verse saving 150 -180 thousand dollars a year. Maybe getting you a million dollars in savings in 2013 and provide a better relief for your budget.

Javier Montemayor – How much time is this war going to be in place?

Noe Hinojosa – Normally we get a six month window. But as it is right now we don't want to take any chances. Mrs. Benavides is going to be joining us on Monday and Tuesday on conference calls with the people from New York on the ratings for these bonds and we think we will be ready to sell those bonds in about a week or two after that.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Ricardo Molina

Seconded by: Javier Montemayor

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

D. First Reading of Policy CE (LOCAL) - Annual Operating Budget

Motion: No action taken on First Reading

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Discussion:

In Favor:

Opposed:

E. First Reading of Policy DEE (LOCAL) - Compensation and Benefits Expense Reimbursement

Motion: No action taken on First Reading

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Discussion:

In Favor:
Opposed:

F. First Reading of Policy BBG (LOCAL): Board Members - Compensation and Expenses

Motion: No action taken on First Reading

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Discussion:
In Favor:
Opposed:

G. First Reading of Policy DK (LOCAL) Assignments and Schedules

Motion: No action taken on First Reading

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Discussion:
In Favor:
Opposed:

H. First Reading of (LOCAL) Policies in TASB Update 90

Motion: No action taken on First Reading

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Discussion:
In Favor:
Opposed:

I. Election of New Board Officers

1st Motion: Ricardo Molina made a motion to elect Juan A. Molina as President of the Board.

Motion failed

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Discussion:
In Favor: Pat Campos, Ricardo Molina
Opposed: Judd Gilpin, Juan R. Ramirez and Rick Rodriguez

2nd Motion: Pat Campos - Is there another motion?

Rick Rodriguez motioned to elect Judd Gilpin as President to the Board

Pat Campos – Do you want to take all of them at the same time?

Let us vote on the President since we already made the motion.

Moved by: Juan R. Ramirez

Seconded by: Rick Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Pat Campos, Ricardo Molina, Juan R. Ramirez and Rick Rodriguez

Opposed: Juan A. Molina

3rd Motion Judd Gilpin

I would like to nominate Juan Roberto Ramirez as Vice President, Ricardo Rodriguez as Secretary and Ricardo Molina as Parliamentarian of the Board

Moved by: Juan R. Ramirez

Seconded by: Rick Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

Judd Gilpin - Before we adjourn I would like to express our gratitude toward the officers that served today. Is there anyone that would like to join me?

Mr. Ramirez - I would like to give thanks to madam Chairman, Pat Campos for the time served as President of the Board. She led us into a new era and even though we have a new sheriff in town she has done a good job in working together with the Vice President and Parliamentarian and the new board. I welcome the new officers on the Board.

Pat Campos – On my behalf I want to thank the entire board for your support for the 2 ½ years I served. It was something the Mr. Johnson made the motion at that time and I want to thank him also for that opportunity and the rest of you that were present when the vote was taken. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity for serving as your leader on the board. And, Judd anything you need I am here to serve you.

Judd Gilpin – Thank you, Pat.

VIII. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session at 6:36 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: Delinquent Tax Collection Contract

- B. 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. Career & Technology Student Coding
 - 2. Coca Cola Exclusivity Agreement
 - 3. Random Student Drug Testing Program
 - 4. Status of on-going Audits

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:43 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

- IX. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session.
 - A. Action to Approve Delinquent Tax Collection Contract with the Law Firm of Hall, Quintanilla & Alarcon

Juan Cruz – Mr. President, members of the board the recommendation on agenda item 9A to approve as discussed and presented in closed session.

Moved by: Pat Campos
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2011, was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary

**Special Called Meeting
June 30, 2011**

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

In Attendance

Robert J. Santos - absent
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

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

The Board of Trustees of United ISD met in a Special Called meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2011, beginning at 12:00 PM in the United ISD Boardroom, Laredo, TX 78045.

- I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**
- II.** President Pat Campos made an announcement calling this Special Called meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 12:03 pm. 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. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 12:04 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:**
 - A.** 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel
 1. Consider Appointment of Director for Staff Development

The Board returned from Closed Session at 12:23 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

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

1. Appointment of Director for Staff Development

Administration recommends that Celia Taboada be named the Director of Staff Development

Motion by: Juan A. Molina

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: Mr. Montemayor – This position was already voted on at a prior meeting. We had already filled this position by another employee that is no longer with the District. This position has already been approved. We're not creating new positions or spending new monies on this position. On those bases I think it's critical that at this point primarily for the purpose of training our teachers and staff. The training sessions begin in mid-July thru August. I think it's critical that she get on board quickly to get up to date and up to speed so we can have an effective staff working.

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

V. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Special Called Meeting of June 30, 2011, was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Judd Gilpin, President

Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, Secretary