

AT A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING AND JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH DISTRICT CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT TEAM ON DISTRICT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON MARCH 18, 2025, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

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

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Keeley Boyer, Mike Adkins, Dr. Lilia Nanez, Deborah Ottmers, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Betsabe Salcido, Aaron Hawley, Tracey Borchardt, Ryan Merritt, Robert Trejo, Scott Rudes, Maggie Aguilar, Lisa Wills, Anthony Garcia, Mauricio Marquez, Sam Magallan, Albessa Chavez, Ruth Campbell, Celestina Trujillo, Crystal Campbell, A. Feliz Abalos, Mandy Hinojos, Beatris Mata, Andrea Hewitt, Isabel Cardona, Cynthia Rubalcado, Nory Leachon, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

27108 **Meeting Called to Order:** Christopher Stanley, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

27109 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Christopher Stanley, Board President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

27110 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In her opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer called attention to two ECISD leaders, Bowie Middle School Principal Amy Russell and Director of Digital Learning Lauren Tavarez, who spent two days at the State Capitol in Austin, either visiting legislators or testifying for the House Committee on Education, in support of public education.

27111 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

There was no public comment.

Board Policy

- 27112** **Discussion of Revision to Local Board Policy BAA(LOCAL): Board Legal Status: Powers and Duties:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operations, presented this item for discussion. The revision is necessary due to recent guidance issued by the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights regarding compliance with civil rights laws and the use of race in educational decision-making. The administration examined the written guidance from the U.S. Department of Education with a Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) policy consultant and legal counsel, reviewed all local board policies and regulations to ensure ECISD's compliance, and identified one instance for revision is page 2 of BAA (Local). Trustees asked for further revisions. This item will be presented for a second reading and vote at the Regular Board Meeting on March 25, 2025.

No action required.

Report/Discussion Items

- 27113** **Presentation of Burleson Early Education Center Update:** Alicia Syverson, Associate Superintendent of Student and School Support, opened the presentation for discussion. Dr. Mandy Hinojos, Director of Planning and School Choice, Beatris Mata, Director of Early Childhood Education, and Dr. Andrea Moreno-Hewitt, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction, each provided an update on the redesign of Burleson's campus into an early education center, focusing on their respective areas. In February 2024, the school board approved a plan to close Burleson Elementary School and repurpose it into a PreK center for 3-and-4-year-olds. A diverse district team is leading this redesign effort. The need for high quality prekindergarten remains high in this region. ECISD offers it through the Odessa YMCA partnership, Carver EEC, Lamar EEC and on thirteen elementary campuses. Preliminary data show 65% of students who attend ECISD's PreK are kindergarten ready. Of ECISD's PreK students, 72% qualify for free PreK (by meeting the state's requirements). The design team has established aggressive academic targets, received teacher input for classroom furniture and other resources, is renovating flooring, plumbing, paint, and playground equipment. Additionally, the team has selected the roadrunner as the school mascot and chosen Dynamic Blue and Daisy (yellow) as the school colors. The plan for year one is to enroll up to three hundred students following ECISD's existing model of a ½-day for three-year-olds and a full day for four-year-olds. Special Education Services and Bilingual Services will be available. Communication to the community will be published through a broad spectrum of platforms and events.

No action required.

- 27114** **Discussion of Proposed 2025-2026 Prekindergarten Boundaries:** Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of District Operation along with Hudson Huff, Zonda Education Consultant presented this item for discussion. The District has been working with Zonda Education on a demographic study that will help develop the new boundary lines for prekindergarten programs. Mr. Huff walked Trustees through the processes it uses for identifying young families and where they live in

order to project the number of students who live inside any proposed boundaries. Regarding PK-3, Burleson EEC will have an attendance zone as will the Odessa YMCA Family Learning Center. Austin Montessori's PK-3 Choice program will not change, and Carver EEC and Lamar EEC will continue to offer three-year-old special education programs. The alignment for PK-4 is a more involved task as Burleson will join Carver EEC, Lamar EEC and thirteen other elementary schools (some Choice campuses, some not) that offer a PK-4 program. In the initial proposal, children who live in the attendance zones for Burleson, EK Downing, Goliad, San Jacinto and West elementary schools would be zoned for PK-4 at Burleson (of course, all four-year-old students may apply for a Choice PK campus regardless of PK attendance zone). Trustees did not act on this item but will approve new prekindergarten boundaries that include the new Burleson campus soon.

No action required.

Public Hearing

- 27115** **Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report:** Executive Director of Accountability Dr. Robert Trejo presented the District Annual Performance Report. School districts are required to hold a public hearing to discuss this annual report which includes academic performance data, financial report, accreditation status, campus performance objectives, information on violent or criminal incidents, and performance in post-secondary institutions. The information in this report is for the 2023-2024 school year.

Immediately following the presentation, Board President Christopher Stanley declared the Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report, ***open***.

There was no public comment.

Board President Christopher Stanley declared the Joint Public Hearing with District Continuous Improvement Team on District Annual Performance Report, ***closed***.

No action required.

- 27116** **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District; or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]**
Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board's Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]:

There was no closed session.

27117 **Closing Remarks by the Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

27118 **Adjournment:** Board President Christopher Stanley adjourned the Board meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Board President
Christopher Stanley

Board Secretary
Dr. Steve Brown