



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of Board Minutes for the months of November and December 2023

SUBMITTED BY: Griselda Rodriguez **OF:** Secretary to Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: February 21, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees discuss and take possible action to approve the following board minutes for the months of November and December 2023 and January 2024.

- Regular Board Meeting – November 15, 2023
- Safety & Security Committee Meeting – November 30, 2023

- Regular Board Meeting – December 13, 2023

United Independent School District
United ISD Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Auditorium
5208 Santa Claudia Lane – Laredo, Texas 78043

Regular Board Meeting
November 15, 2023
6:00 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT:

Administrators in Charge - Laida Benavides, Mike Garza, Rebecca C. Morales

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ramiro Veliz, III, President – Absent
Aliza Flores Oliveros, Vice-President – Present
Michelle Molina, Secretary – Present
Francisco “Frank” Castillo – Present
Gilbert Aguilar, Jr. – Present
Javier Montemayor, Member – Present
Ricardo Rodriguez, Member – Present

LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT: Stephen Trautmann

Ms. Aliza Oliveros announced there was no quorum yet and stated they proceed with the Board Recognitions.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Ms. Aliza Oliveros called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Recognitions:

A. SUMMIT K12 AT THE 2023 TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE (TABE)

B. ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY - TOP 5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS IN TERMS OF PREPARING EMERGENT BILINGUAL STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN THEIR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

C. TRAUTMANN MIDDLE - 2023 NATIONAL AMERICAN MISS SOUTH TEXAS PRETEEN QUEEN - ANAREGINA GUERRA

D. LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND - 1ST DIVISION REGION 14 UIL MARCHING CONTEST - AREA G QUALIFIER

E. UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND - 1ST DIVISION REGION 14 UIL MARCHING CONTEST - AREA G QUALIFIER

F. J. B. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL - 2024 JEFFERSON AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - MATEO CAÑAMAR - NOURISH LAREDO

G. J. B. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND - 1ST DIVISION REGION 14 UIL MARCHING CONTEST - AREA G QUALIFIER - AREA G FINALIST - UIL STATE MARCHING CONTEST PARTICIPANT

H. UNITED/J. B. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL DRUM MAJOR AND COLOR GUARD CAPTAINS - 2ND TIME SINCE 2018 THAT TWO UNITED ISD BANDS PARTICIPATE AT THE UIL STATE MARCHING CONTEST

I. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND - 1ST DIVISION REGION 14 UIL MARCHING CONTEST - AREA G QUALIFIER - AREA G FINALIST - UIL STATE MARCHING CONTEST PARTICIPANT

IV. Public Comments:

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 regarding an item that is not listed on this agenda, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.

No Public Comments

V. Consent Agenda Items for Approval as Presented:

A. Monthly Disbursements

- B. Property Tax Refund for the Month of October 2023
- C. Cooperative Program Related Fees Report for the 2022-2023 fiscal year
- D. CSP 049-2023 Alexander HS, LB Johnson & United South HS Chiller Replacement
- E. Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- F. Low Attendance Day Waiver - District-Wide
- G. Adoption of 2024-2025 Academic Calendar
- H. First Reading of TASB Update 122 (LOCAL Policies)
- I. Memorandum of Understanding between McMurry University and United Independent School District
- J. Additional Appraiser for the 2023-2024 School Year
- K. Sale or Disposition of Salvage Furniture & Equipment
- L. Ratification of University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding between United ISD and The Office for Instructional Outreach at UTSA

Jaime Garcia made a recommendation to pull out items V-I and V-J from the consent agenda items and for the board to act on items V-A through V-H and K and L.

Javier Montemayor made a motion to approve the recommendation. Michelle Molina seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

David Canales presented the information for Item V-J which was moved out of consent to individual agenda item.

A motion to approve item V-J was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

Gilbert Aguilar made a motion to table item V-I for the December board meeting. Motion was seconded by Michelle Molina and was unanimously approved.

VI. Items for Individual Consideration for Discussion and Possible Action:

A. PUBLIC HEARING: On Amendment No. 1 to Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value between the District and Gransolar Texas Three LLC, Texas Comptroller Application Number 1744, pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code, as the statute existed immediately before its expiration pursuant to Section 313.171(a)

Javier Montemayor made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Motion was seconded by Michelle Molina and was unanimously approved.

Stephen Trautmann addressed the board with information on the Amendment. He stated the amendment has been reviewed by their law firm, by Fred Stormer and the Underwood Law Firm, approved by the comptroller and explained the amendment is solely to move the area where the solar panels would be located slightly north.

There were no public comments.

Javier Montemayor made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Motion was seconded by Francisco Castillo and was unanimously approved.

B. Amendment No. 1 to Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value between the District and Gransolar Texas Three LLC, Texas Comptroller Application Number 1744, pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code, as that statute existed immediately before its expiration pursuant to Section 313.171(a)

Jaime Garcia made a motion for the board to approve the Amendment #1 to Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value between the District and Gransolar Texas Three LLC, as presented thereby modifying the Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value dated September 6, 2022 Texas Comptroller Application Number 1744, and authorize the board vice president to execute and date the Amendment #1 on behalf of the district and authorize Ms. Benavides, Co-Administrator-In-Charge or her designee to take such other action as may be required under Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code as that statute existed immediately before its expiration pursuant to Section 313.171(a) for the comptrollers related rule.

A motion to approve legal counsel's recommendation was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

C. Donations for the Month of November 2023

Ms. Rebecca Morales read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$83,116.00.

A motion to approve the donations as presented was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

D. Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board Discretionary Funds for various projects/campuses

Mr. Mike Garza read the following additional requests for Discretionary Funds:

- *LBJ High School requestor Mr. Salazar on behalf of board member Gilbert Aguilar, for campus beautification, in the amount of \$2,500.00*
- *Clark Middle School requestor Ms. Gomez on behalf of board member Javier Montemayor, for faculty and staff incentives, in the amount of \$1,500.00*
- *United Middle School requestor Ms. Arizola on behalf of board member Javier Montemayor, for campus improvements, in the amount of \$1,500.00*
- *United South High School requestor Ms. Alvarez on behalf of board member Ramiro Veliz, for class of 2027 supplies and materials, in the amount of \$1,000.00*
- *United South High School requestor Ms. Alvarez on behalf of board member Ramiro Veliz, for field trip to Brownsville Port and Space X, in the amount of \$5,000.00*

A motion to approve the Board Discretionary Funds as presented was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

E. Resolution regarding whether to adopt a policy authorizing a campus of UISD to employ or accept as a volunteer a chaplain under Chapter 23 of the Texas Education Code, due to the requirement of Senate Bill 763 that Board action must be taken by March 1, 2024

Mr. Mike Garza made a recommendation to not have these services as part of the requirement of the state for us to present to the board. A motion to approve Mr. Garza's recommendation was made by Gilbert Aguilar and seconded by Javier Montemayor. Motion was unanimously approved.

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 6:58 p.m.

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

1. Administrators in Charge Duties and Responsibilities

2. Consultation with legal counsel and third-party law firm Thompson & Horton LLP regarding TEA Docket No. 015-LH-10-2023, *United ISD v. David H. Gonzalez*, and matters incident thereto

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

1. Report on the inquiry that has been made by the City of Laredo Utilities Department with respect to replacing the existing sanitary sewer lift station located behind Gonzalez Middle School with the installation of a replacement 12 inch wide gravity sewer line from the current lift station site to the existing sewer line along the Kansas City Southern railroad track north of the United Independent School District Activity Complex (SAC) property. The City of Laredo would be granted a 20 foot wide utility easement from the sanitary sewer lift station site running north through the SAC property to the current 21 inch wide gravity sewer line that runs alongside of the Kansas City Southern railroad track.

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

1. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding resolution casting UISD's 2,179 votes for members to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2023-2024 term as per Section 6.03 of the Texas Property Tax Code

2. Discussion regarding the appointment of Principal at Bonnie Garcia Elementary School

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 8:17 p.m.

A. Discussion and possible action on the inquiry that has been made by the City of Laredo Utilities Department with respect to replacing the existing sanitary sewer lift station located behind Gonzalez Middle School with the installation of a replacement 12 inch wide gravity sanitary sewer line from the current lift station site to the existing twenty one inch wide gravity sanitary sewer line along the Kansas City Southern railroad track north of the United Independent School District Activity Complex (SAC) property and the granting to the City of Laredo of a 20 foot wide utility easement from the sanitary sewer lift station site running north through the SAC property to the current 21 inch wide gravity sanitary sewer line that runs alongside of the Kansas City Southern railroad track

Jaime Garcia stated his recommendation was to proceed and to authorize legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed session.

A motion to approve legal counsels recommendation was made by Michelle Molina and seconded by Javier Montemayor. Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution casting UISD's 2,179 votes for members to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2023-2024 term as per section 6.03 of the Texas Property Tax Code

Javier Montemayor made a motion to adopt the resolution casting UISD's 2,179 votes for members to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2023-2024 term as follows: 900 votes for Aliza Flores Oliveros, 900 votes for Frank Castillo, 379 votes for LISD trustee, Rick Garza. Motion was seconded by Gilbert Aguilar and was unanimously approved.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of Principal at Bonnie Garcia Elementary School

Mike Garza stated that Administration's recommendation for Principal at Bonnie Garcia Elementary School is Diana Escamilla Flores. A motion to approve the recommendation from administration was made by Michelle Molina and seconded by Javier Montemayor. Motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Frank Castillo. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Board Meeting of November 15, 2023 was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Ramiro Veliz, III, President

Michelle Molina, Secretary

Minutes Presented for Approval: February 21, 2024

Minutes submitted by:

Alejandra Salinas, Secretary to Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Policies

United Independent School District
Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, Room #2 – 5208 Santa Claudia Lane – Laredo, Texas 78043

Safety and Security Committee Meeting
November 30, 2023
11:30 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Garza, Ruben Ayala

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: As per Sign-in Sheets (attached)

LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT: Jaime Garcia

I. Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Mike Garza called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. He addressed the Safety and Security Committee and thanked them for attending the meeting. He stated all the audits that have been conducted so far this year, have been at 100%. Mr. Garza said that the implementation of locking the interior doors has been successful and also stated that this year they implemented a new weapons detection system and it has been working effectively. He also stated to the committee that in the near future they may present them with a policy regarding off duty officers carrying their weapons at any of our facilities.

Mr. Ruben Ayala addressed the committee and went over the titles of the individuals that represent the School Safety and Security Committee.

II. Call Roll - Committee Members - Texas Education Code §37.109

Mr. Ruben Ayala stated that the roll call will be conducted via the sign-in sheets. (attached)

III. Closed Session:

The Committee will adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to Texas Education Code §37.109(d) and the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act: Texas Government Code §§551.076, 551.089 (Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits; Closed meeting)

The Committee adjourned into Closed Session at 11:38 a.m.

A. Discussion regarding the Staying Safe: School Safety Response Training

IV. Reconvened from Closed Session

The Committee reconvened from Closed Session at 12:54 p.m. Mr. Ayala stated for the record that no action was taken in Closed Session.

A. Possible Action regarding the Staying Safe: School Safety Response Training

Mr. Jaime Garcia, legal counsel, stated the recommendation is to approve attendance at the School Safety Response Training as discussed in Closed Session.

A motion to approve the recommendation from legal counsel was made by David Perez and seconded by Dora Escamilla. Motion was unanimously approved.

V. Public Comments on Agenda Items

No public comments

VI. Announcements

Ruben Ayala announced that the Fall meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2024

VII. Adjournment

Ruben Ayala adjourned the meeting at 12:58 p.m.

There being no further business, the Safety & Security Committee Meeting of November 30, 2023 was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Mike Garza
Associate Superintendent Administration Operation Services

Ruben Ayala
Safety & Crisis Response Manager

Minutes presented for approval: February 21, 2024

Minutes submitted by: *Alejandra Salinas*, Secretary to Assistant Superintendent for Administration & Policies

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bill Johnson SAC Auditorium, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM

BOARD PRESENT: Ramiro Veliz, Ricardo Rodriguez, Michelle Molina,
Francisco Castillo, Aliza Oliveros, Gilbert Aguilar,
(Javier Montemayor at 6:39 pm)

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Garza, Laida Benavides, Rebecca Morales, Emma Leza,
Melissa Cruz, Monica Madrigal, Adriana Ramirez, Angie Sanchez,
Bobby Cruz, Mario Rosales, David Canales, Irene Rosales, Gerry
Rodriguez, Laura De Los Santos, Frank Gutierrez

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Mr. Ramiro Veliz calls this meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Recognitions:

A. PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS - Webb County Recognizes Ruben & Patty Vela

**B. UISD'S AREA & HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER - WIND SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS
CONCERT COMMITTEE**

C. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL

*** Girls Cross Country - District 30-6A Champions, Regional Qualifiers and State
Qualifier**

*** Boys Cross Country - Regional Qualifier**

*** Tennis Team - Regional Semi-Finalists Sweet-16**

*** Football Team - 30-6A District Champions, Bi-District Champions, Area Champions
& Regional Semi-Finalists**

D. 2023-2024 AP SCHOLARS

*** United High School**

*** United South High School**

- * Lyndon B. Johnson High School
- * John B. Alexander High School

E. JOHN B. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL

- * Girls Cross Country - Individual Regional Qualifier
- * Boys Cross Country - Individual District Champion & Regional Qualifier
- * Tennis Team - District Champions, Regional Semi-Finalists Sweet-16
- * Volleyball Team - District 30-6A Champions

F. LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL

- * Girls Cross Country - Regional Qualifier
- * Boys Cross Country - Regional Qualifier

IV. Public Comments: 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 regarding an item that is not listed on this agenda, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information.

Leticia Juarez: To speak regarding CSP 022-2023 United South High School Additions and Renovations. Ms. Juarez expresses her concern about the additions and renovations for United South High School. She reminds the board that they had taken action back in November 2021 to not replace Salinas Elementary but instead allocate some funds to pay for certain programs at United South High School. Ms. Juarez points out that this cost is now at \$17M. Furthermore, Ms. Juarez asks the board why it took them two years to take action, "knowing that the prices have been rising". Additionally, Ms. Juarez is asking why the cost of \$17M is not itemized, for fiscal transparency. "Taxpayers should be made aware of what each item is costing us", she said.

Valentin "Vale" Ruiz: Mr. Ruiz says is here to advocate for the ROTC programs and says he wants these groups recognized. Reason being is that continuously minorities black, hispanics and latinos, have been used in the front lines in infantry. Inferring that the districts need to

support students in programs such as College Career and Military Readiness (CCMR). "You need to invest in these programs," Mr. Ruiz, and asked the board to use these funds to support the JROTC programs.

Rene De La Viña: Mr. De La Viña speaks for students with special needs, and reminds the board to please include students with special needs in our recognitions. "Please recognize our Special Education students, it's only fair," La Viña also addresses the board and asks that the district provide transportation for students to avoid danger to students.

Ismael Rincon: Mr. Rincon speaks about the priority to renovate United South High School, or upgrade other buildings on campus. He compares other district needs such as hiring more security guards, uniforms, playgrounds, raises for bus drivers among other things and says that the renovations should be used for that. Mr. Rincon believes the renovations is a misuse of public money and instead be used for that. Mr. Rincon believes the renovations is a waste of money and invest in our children instead", he said.

Victor M. Vazquez: Mr. Vazquez is speaking against the United South High School renovations. He says the contract is too expensive and that the district continues working with the same companies. Mr. Vazquez does not think the campus needs another drill (marching) pad. He states that in reviewing the monthly disbursements, the district spends too much on attorney fees and that the district should cut back on food. Mr. Vazquez said that if the district would post all the expenses he would not ask for so many public records.

Jose Ovando: Mr. Ovando speaks about the bids. He states that the district has forgotten that "it is a district for it and it has become a district of construction". He alludes to the fact that the district's procurement process is false. That the district continues to hire the same company time and time again. Additionally, Mr. Ovando asks the board why the district spends so much on ammunition. He states that the district has spent 1 million dollars on ammo and sarcastically asks the board "where is the ammo, is it in Mexico?".

Mike Garza: Mr. Garza chimes in to address the board for clarification regarding the dollar amount spent on ammo. Mr. Garza states the district has spent \$21 thousand dollars on ammunition and that this is the information provided to them in their packet.

Joanna Gonzalez: Ms. Gonzalez advocates for the renovations at United South High School. She says that their buildings are not up to par as other schools. "We have fewer resources, limited spaces, and outdated facilities that do not meet the needs of our students." "It's not just about catching up to other schools, but about providing the best possible learning environment", said Ms. Gonzalez. She says that by investing in renovations they can work in a more modern and functional learning environment that fosters creativity, collaboration and growth. She says they can see the difference in other high schools. Ms. Gonzalez shows pictures of the out-dated buildings

at United South High School. "It is time that we address the disparity and bring us up to par with other high schools".

Sofia Rodriguez: To speak on improvements needed at United South High School. Ms. Cantu is the Magnet president at USHS. She says that United South stands as the oldest high school in United ISD. She quotes Mr. Enrique Rangel stating "when it started (USHS) it was strictly a magnet high school, over the years it has developed into a full-fledge high school, so we need to build facilities to bring it up to par with other high schools in the district". Ms. Rodriguez says she grew up in the north and attended schools there. She applied to the magnet at USHS and quickly noticed the disparities. "An improved environment will overall help students feel more welcomed in their school". Ms. Rodriguez invites the board and offers to personally give them a tour of the school. "Just come visit us and see what we can do to improve our campus", said Sofia Rodriguez.

Victoria Cazares: A senior at United South High School says that they (students) should not have to ask for their school to be renovated. United South is 34 years old, founded in 1990. She mentions specifically the vocational building and how it lacks enclosure. "Where is the funding for United South?", asks Ms. Cazares. She goes on to express her feeling of the inequity of funds allocated for other district high schools. Ms. Cazares continues to bring awareness on other areas of concern such as the ROTC and dance/color guard hall.

Jorge Martinez: A junior at United South High School, says it is sad that students have to advocate for their right to campus renovations. "It is imperative that the board realize that USHS is long overdue for a renovation" he stated. Mr. Martinez speaks with pride and advocates for the campus renovations and asks the board not to make this political.

Jorge Vazquez: A senior at United South High School, advocates for campus renovations and expresses concern of a much needed upgrades for safety and maintenance. He says the campus is too crowded and buildings are in poor condition. He asks the board for consideration for renovating USHS.

Gael Peña: A senior at USHS and vice president of the culinary arts club. He speaks about the lack of resources and outdated equipment for the culinary arts department for the past few years and how committed the club is at competitions such as Skills USA. "Just imagine what could be done, if we had the proper equipment", said Mr. Peña.

Cynthia Mata: Cadet First Lieutenant, Panther Battalion Commanding Officer for USHS Officer Training Corps. She advocates for the renovation/remodel of the ROTC building. Ms, Mata says they are in need of funding for everyday activities and says they have minimum space for practice. "Our rifle range is used as our gym". She also stated "The obstacle course, if you guys really care about student safety, you should fix it, we shouldn't be asking." She claims students have gotten injured when using it.

END OF PUBLIC COMMENTS.

V. Consent Agenda Items

A. Monthly Disbursements

B. Property Tax Refunds for the month of November 2023

C. Awarding bids, proposals, qualifications and extensions

D. CSP 022-2023 United South High School Additions and Renovations

E. Resolution to Use Funds from the District's General Fund Balance for United South High School Additions and Renovations associated with CSP 022-2023 United South High School Additions and Renovations

F. Boundary Changes for the following Middle Schools: George Washington Middle School and Juan Roberto Ramirez Middle School effective 2024-2025 school year

G. Missed Instructional Day Waiver for United Middle School

H. 2023-2024 District and Campus Improvement Plans

I. Second and Final Reading of TASB Update 122 (LOCAL) Policies

A motion is moved to approve the consent agenda items, by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Aliza Oliveros, for discussion.

A submotion by Gilbert Aguilar and a second by Francisco Castillo to take action on items V.-D & V.E until after closed session. With 6 yeas and one against, Ricardo Rodriguez this submotion is passed.

An amended motion is moved by Javier Montemayor, seconded by Aliza Oliveros, with 6 yeas and one against by Ricardo Rodriguez this motion is passed to approve items V. A, B, C, F, G, H, & I.

VI. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Approval of Donations

- A donation received by UHS Baseball Team in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Norway Air-conditioning Inc.
- A donation received by the FIxed Assets Department of 61 file cabinets from U.S. Dept. of Justice Laredo Immigration Court (approximate value) \$42,700.00

The UISD 2023 Golf Tournament received several donations:

- Mr. Richard Rosas - \$1,000.00
- Synergy Structural Engineering - \$1,000.00
- Chick-Fil-A - \$1,000.00
- Solid IT Networks - \$1,000.00
- Charlie Clark Hyundai - \$2,500.00
- There was 1 donation under \$1,000.00 in the amount of \$300.00 from Primary Management Group that will go towards the UISD Golf Tournament.

For a Grand Total of \$59,500.00

On a motion by Aliza Oliveros and seconded by Javier Montemayor and Francisco Castillo, this motion is unanimously passed.

B. Approval of Board Minutes for the month of October 2023

With a motion by Aliza Oliveros and Francisco Castillo and a second by Javier Montemayor, the motion to approve the Board Minutes is passed unanimously.

C. Approval of additional appraiser(s) for the 2023-2024 School Year

Mr. David Canales presents on a request to approve an additional appraiser for Bonnie Garcia Elementary.

On a motion by Gilbert Aguilar and seconded by Francisco Castillo, this motion is passed unanimously.

D. Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board Discretionary Funds for various projects/campuses

- LBJHS Mr. Armando Salazar - sponsored by Gilbert Aguilar \$2,500.00 for campus improvements
- Federal Programs requested \$531.90 for faculty and staff incentives sponsored by Gilbert Aguilar.
- UHS principal Jessica Salazar, sponsored by Michelle Molina and Javier Montemayor the amount of \$700.00 for student incentives.

On a motion moved to approve the board discretionary funds requests by Aliza Oliveros and a second by Gilbert Aguilar, this motion is passed unanimously.

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 7:21 p.m.

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

1. Administrators-in-Charge Duties and Responsibilities

2. Consultation with legal counsel regarding dismissal with prejudice of all claims in Cause No. 2021-CVH-001030-D1, *Patricia Y. Mayers v. United ISD*, in the 49th Judicial District, Webb County, Texas, and matters incident thereto

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

TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting

1. Legal consultation and report on the status of the lawsuit filed by Potential Holdings, LLC against the United Independent School District ("UISD") regarding the UISD Student Activity Complex/Educational Support Center Plat filed of record in Volume 21, Pages 43-44 of the Webb County Plat Records, and the UISD Las Cruces School Plat filed in Volume 18, Page 55, of the Plat Records of Webb County, Texas, and Santa Claudia Lane and Santa Monica Drive within the UISD SAC Plat and matters incident thereto, including legal options available to UISD. The suit was filed in the District Court of the 111th Judicial District of Webb County, Texas, under cause number 2023CVG000151D2

2. Legal consultation and report regarding the ownership of real property located along the eastern property perimeter of Muller Elementary School along Muller Memorial Boulevard and regarding the possible negotiation of a purchase and sale agreement with la Bota Ranch Development Company, Inc.

3. Legal consultation and report regarding future traffic issues on Muller Memorial Boulevard

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

TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting

1. Discussion regarding the appointment of Principal at Rodolfo Centeno Elementary School

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

The board reconvenes from Closed Session at 8:38 p.m. No action taken in closed session.

The board revisits Items V. D & E.

Ramiro Veliz makes a motion to approve items V. D and V.E, motion is seconded by Gilbert Aguilar.

Gilbert Aguilar is of the opinion that he would like all schools to be up to par across the board.

Francisco Castillo comments that his concern is that he hears the same comments from the schools from the north. That they are not up to par and believes that the district did not plan correctly. He wishes to give all students the same access to all the programs.

Mike Garza addresses the board to make them aware that they have a plan to visit with board members in the near future to address other concerns such as LBJ not having an FFA Building at the main campus and UHS requesting a canopy.

Javier Montemayor comments that some of the oldest campuses in the district began in district 5. "Everybody has their different priorities and we are trying to equalize everybody", he stated. Mr. Montemayor says he is in favor of this project and needs to start immediately.

Gilbert Aguilar states he is also in favor for this project at United South High School. "Our students are our top priority and in order to grow this program and excel or be career ready, we need to provide the right resources:, said Mr. Aguilar.

Aliza Oliveros concurs with her colleagues in favor of this project and thanks the students for bringing awareness of the concerns at their campus and commends them for advocating so passionately for their campus renovations. She also thanks Mr. Mike Garza for taking the lead in addressing these and other campus issues.

Ricardo Rodriguez comments that perhaps the district needs to speed up construction projects in order to not overpay (alluding that inflation prices increase rapidly). He also takes a moment to thank all the United South High School students who came and spoke in favor of the renovations.

After a motion by Ramiro Veliz, a second by Gilbert Aguilar and discussion, the board unanimously passed Items V.D and V. E.

A. Possible action with respect to the lawsuit filed by Potential Holdings, LLC against the United Independent School District ("UISD") regarding the UISD Student Activity Complex/Educational Support Center Plat filed of record in Volume 21, Pages 43-44 of the Webb County Plat Records, and the UISD Las Cruces School Plat filed in Volume 18, Page 55, of the Plat Records of Webb County, Texas, and Santa Claudia Lane and Santa Monica drive within the UISD SAC Plat and matters incident thereto, including

legal options available to UISD. The suit was filed in the District Court of the 111th Judicial District of Webb County Texas, under cause number 2023CVG000151D2.

The recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to proceed as instructed in closed session. On a motion by Javier Montemayor, seconded by Aliza Oliveros and Francisco Castillo, the board unanimously approved to pass.

B. Possible action regarding the negotiation of a purchase and sale agreement with respect to the property owned by La Bota Ranch Development Company, Inc. located along the eastern property perimeter of Muller Elementary School.

The recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to proceed as instructed in closed session. On a motion by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Aliza Oliveros and Francisco Castillo, this motion is unanimously approved.

C. Possible action regarding future traffic issues on Muller Memorial Boulevard.

The recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to proceed as instructed in closed session. On a motion by Aliza Oliveros, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar, and unanimously approved.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of Principal at Rodolfo Centeno Elementary School

The recommendation of is to appoint Ms. Cynthia Sierra as principal for Centeno Elementary School. On a motion by Javier Montemayor, and a second by Gilbert Aguilar, the board unanimously approved.

Mr. Mike Garza recognizes administrators that are retiring.

Mrs. Claudia Dovalina-Guzman, Executive Director for Special Education, Patricia Lañas, principal at Bonnie Garcia Elementary and Amabilia Gonzalez, principal at Centeno Elementary.

Ramiro Veliz thanks the district faculty and staff for their hard work. "I think the district is at a great place right now, and I thank you for that" said Mr. Veliz. He also congratulated fellow board members who celebrate their birthdays this month; Mr. Francisco Castillo, Aliza Oliveros and Gilbert Aguilar. Lastly, he wishes happy holidays to students, staff and community. "Merry Christmas".

IX. Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Gilbert Aguilar, the board unanimously passed.

There being no further business of the USD Board of Trustees, this Regular Board Meeting is adjourned at **8:49 p.m.**

Ramiro Veliz, III
Board President

Michelle Molina
Board Secretary

Approved on 12/13/2023

December 13, 2023 minutes completed by Griselda Rodriguez, secretary to Superintendent.