

AT A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATION BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M., OCTOBER 8, 2024, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

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

Absent:

Robert Thayer

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

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Aaron Hawley, Ryan Merritt, Shannon Davidson, Nancy Flores, Lisa Wills, Brittany Swaim, David Finley, John Ogomo, Cynthia Rubalcado, Candi Sikes, Mitchel Davis, Caitlin Couch, Melissa Cooper, Anthony Garcia, Betsabe Salcido, Crissy Medina, Sandy Canava, Jessica Sanchez, Scott Rudes, Sophia Trasloshelos, Beatris Mata, Maggie Aguilar, Tracey Borchardt, Sandra Talavera, Rita Lopez

26878 **Meeting Called to Order:** Christopher Stanley, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

26879 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law – this is to certify that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with the public notice of this meeting:** Board President Christopher Stanley, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

26880 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In her opening remarks, Interim Superintendent Dr. Keeley Boyer reminded Trustees that students will be out of school on Monday, October 14, for a staff development day, during which staff will still be working. She also noted that October is Principal Appreciation Month, encouraging everyone to thank campus leaders whenever possible.

26881 **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 were no public comments.

Report/Discussion Items

26882 **Presentation of Bilingual/ESL Program:** Dr. Betsabe Salcido, Executive Director of Bilingual/ESL presented this item for discussion. The program is growing, with 36 home languages among the District's 10,095 Emergent Bilingual students (up from 6,879 three years ago) and this includes 835 newcomers.

ESL is designed to provide instructional support in English using second language acquisition strategies to make content comprehensible. The goal is to develop reading, writing, listening and speaking competency in English without neglecting the need for students to learn in their native language, as well. Research has shown it takes 5-7 years to attain advanced language fluency in a second language. ECISD's Dual Language approach (teaching students in both the home language and English) is not to simply transition students into English, it is to build both languages equally high.

In the District's Dual Language One-Way program, PK-1st grade students learn to read in Spanish; 2nd – 5th graders receive literacy instruction in English one day and Spanish the next, alternating days. This design includes 45 minutes every day for Intentional Transfer, bridging the two languages. The results are positive. Kindergarten Readiness for Texas is 47%, In ECISD it is 54%, and for ECISD Emergent Bilinguals it is 75%. EB students showed growth in 5 of 7 STAAR areas, grades 3-5, from 2023 to 2024. Of note, 30% of top ten graduates last spring were former bilingual program students including one valedictorian and two salutatorians. The graduation rate is increasing, and the Global Leadership Academy created at Odessa High School and now expanded to Crockett Middle School is an award-winning program that nurtures and empowers students from diverse backgrounds, cultivating the qualities and skills essential for leadership within our community.

No action required.

26883 **Presentation of Curriculum and Instruction Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM):** Trustees heard a presentation from the Curriculum & Instruction team on Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM), highlighting five new bodies of work being implemented in math and science.

Conceptual flow in elementary math is being implemented for multiplication of larger digit numbers to develop deeper, long-lasting understanding of math. Students use base 10 blocks for a concrete, hands-on models that can be transferred to visual representations of the same process, guiding students towards abstract concepts, and then application of this knowledge to new situations. Conceptual flow in math is used for several concepts such as repeated addition. Training and professional development has been tailored to this approach.

Additionally, ST Math is a PreK-5th instructional program approved by the Texas Education Agency for accelerated learning in math. This digital program provides visual, learn-by-doing exercises that remove language barriers, build understanding, and create “productive struggle” opportunities. It is being funded by a three-year grant from Phillips 66.

Senate Bill 2124 requires all district to provide advanced math options for middle school students. All students who score in the top 40% on 5th grade Math STAAR are automatically placed in Honors Math in 6th grade. The numbers reflect that effort: Honor Math in '22 had 433, in '23 560, and this year 1,144.

A new course sequence is in place for high school students with Algebra 1 now followed by Algebra 2 then Geometry and, finally, a 4th year math. The continued focus on Algebra, without the previous interruption between Algebra I and 2 is intended to help students achieve college readiness measures.

In science, there is shift from 2-dimensional learning to 3-dimensional learning. Traditionally, science teaching focuses on knowledge and skills, the third dimension adds science and engineering practices – what sciences do, how scientists think, and what sciences know. The teaching and learning are anchored to an event in the natural world, linking knowledge with real-world contexts giving students an appreciation of the relevance of science. New science TEKS (content) from the state is being implemented starting this fall. From kindergarten through high school at least 40% of the science content is new, in 7th grade 80% of content is new.

No action required.

26884 **Presentation and Discussion of 2023-24 Senate Bill 1882 Partnership:** Alicia Syverson, Associate Superintendent of Student & School Support presented the annual update to the Board of Trustees on performance outcomes for schools partnered with ECISD under Senate Bill 1882. Designed to promote innovation and improve student outcomes, SB 1882 grants District Partners management responsibility and accountability for these schools’ outcomes, including autonomy over personnel, curriculum, calendar, assessments, and budget. The District holds each partner accountable through a performance contract.

ECISD has two partners: STEM Academy which is grades K-12 and became a partner in 2022, and the Odessa Family YMCA Learning Center, a PreK-3 campus that became a partner in 2021. Both agreements outline a series of performance measures for Academic Performance and Financial Health.

At STEM, students exceeded 8 of 10 academic goals and met all 4 financial performance measures. Bright spots include all five STAAR End of Course exams at or above 90% passing, a 15% increase in grades 6-8 English

Language Arts STAAR results, 96% passing rate in dual credit courses, the addition of Gifted/Talented Services, and an increase of more than 1,300 new student applications. Strengthening Math instruction and increasing College, Career and Military Readiness are identified as key areas for growth.

The YMCA exceeded both of its academic goals and met 5 of 5 financial performance measures. Bright spots include doubling the number of bilingual classrooms, an 18% increase in CLI from the previous year, and social/emotional growth through Conscious Discipline training through the course of the year. Key opportunities for growth are creating more family connectedness opportunities, support for special needs children collaboratively with the ECISD special education department and promoting the partnership's successes. A capital campaign is underway to expand the Y facility and the program.

No action required.

26885 **New PHS JROTC Firing Range and PHS Auditorium Renovation Design**

Update: Dr. Anthony Sorola, Associate Superintendent of Operations and David Finley, Parkhill Architect Director of K-12 Principal provided Trustees with an update on the renovation designs for the new JROTC firing range at Permian High School and the PHS Auditorium. Both projects were approved by voters as part of Bond 2023. Design committees have gone through the discussion of "Must Have" and "Want to Have" and the conceptual models are now being turned into building designs. As always, the goal is to create a facility that makes sense for the programs that utilize it, is affordable, and meets the needs of the students and staff. The auditorium is a complicated project, as it will be renovated and expanded in its current location. Other performance venues have been researched as examples. The JROTC facility needs include a firing range and will likely be built just north of the practice field on the westside of the campus; existing portables will be relocated. JROTC Construction is scheduled to begin in March, the auditorium is on track for April.

No action required.

26886 **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.

26887 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

26888 **Adjournment:** Christopher Stanley Board President, adjourned the Board meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Board President
Christopher Stanley

Board Secretary
Dr. Steve Brown