

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES EAGLE PASS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees of the Eagle Pass Independent School District held a Regular Meeting on September 08, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. in the District Service Center Board Meeting Room, 1420 Eidson Road, Eagle Pass, TX 78852.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Lupita Fuentes, President
Mrs. Hilda P. Martinez, Vice President
Dr. Hector Alvarez, Secretary
Ms. Glenna Purcell, Trustee
Mr. Ignacio J. Saucedo, Trustee
Mr. Humberto Torralba II, Trustee
Mr. Rudy Bowles, Trustee, arrived at 6:10 P.M.

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Gilberto Gonzalez

Attorney: Mr. Philip Marzec, Attorney Escamilla & Poneck Law Firm

Staff Members and Visitors Present: The sign-in sheet hereby becomes a part of these minutes.

- I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Board President, Lupita Fuentes called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Superintendent of Schools, Gilberto Gonzalez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION/ RECOGNITIONS:** No one signed up for the Citizen's Communication
 1. **Recognition of Eagle Pass High School for being selected by the U.S. News as one of America's Best High School for 2015 with the Silver Award.** Melissa Gratkowski, Public Relations Officer made the presentation and announced that EPHS Ranked as One of the Best in the State of Texas. U.S. News and World Report announced the 2015 Best High School rankings, highlighting top performing public schools on a state and national level. Over 29,070 public schools, 1,869 high schools from Texas were reviewed of which only 451 made their rankings. Eagle Pass High School was awarded a Nation Silver Medal and was ranked #201 in the state and #2,251 in the entire nation. This achievement was possible due to the continued commitment of our students, parents, teachers, staff and administration. Mr. Vale Moreno, Principal, and staff members were present to receive a certificate and a picture with the Board and Superintendent was taken.
- IV. **DISTRICT REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:** It was the consensus of the Board to have items 1-3 presented together.
 1. **Financial Report.** ...The balance on Food Service Funds as of August 31, 2015..., is that left over funds to pay off the Provision 2 over payment? The amount showing does not show any payables that have not gone through. There will be funds leftover and whatever is available could be used to pay off the overpayment.
 2. **Utility Report.** No questions from the Board

3. **Tax Collection Report.** No questions from the Board
4. **Tax Collector's Annual Report for Collections and Transfers.** Mr. Ismael Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance briefly reviewed the report to the Board of Trustees. **No questions from the Board.**
5. **Presentation of STAAR Results for Grades 3-8, TAKS Exit Level End of Course.** Mr. Samuel Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, presented to the Board and Superintendent the STAAR Results for 3-8, STAAR EOC, and TAKS Exit Level End of Course. STAAR results for grades 3-8 are at Level II-Satisfactory or above state level in most areas, on the whole accumulative the district is at par with the state. The EOC's Spring results for Algebra, Biology, English, I, II and US History, were addressed. CCWH and EPH TAKS Exit Level Results for March and July 2015 were also reviewed along with the AP Examination Scores. **Board Members questions and concerns were addressed. Trustee Bowles commented our district teachers are doing a terrific job, as they have to work through barriers of the English/Spanish language, comprehension of our students. The Board must take stand and pass a Resolution to let Legislation know there is a disparity with funding in our barder schools. (Eagle Pass)**
6. **Presentation of 2015 Accountability Ratings.** Mr. Samuel Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, presented to the Board and Superintendent the 2015 Accountability Ratings and every school met standard. **Board President and Superintendent thanked the teachers, parents, students, and administrators for all of their hard work.**
7. **Technology Report.** Sonny Snyder, Chief Technology Officers, addressed the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent and reviewed the following technology report: Mission statement, staff, CTO Roles (Leadership & Vision, Strategic Planning, Ethics & Policy), Tech. Services, Computer Services, and Broadcast Services Staff, Tech. Support, Hardware Selection use, HW Equip. Support, Software Selection use, approved software, web-based approved software, Data Management Srvs., Network Procedures use & support, Internet procedures use, Internet access monitoring, & reporting, Website Srvs., E-Rate program and Cost Savings. Patrick Salinas, Instructional Technology Director addressed the Board and Superintendent and reviewed the following report: Mission, Technology, & Materials Staff, Instructional Materials and Allotment, Tech. applications, Digital Courseware Tools, Digital Resources, Measuring Progress, Processional Development, ESC 20 Sessions, Students, and Curriculum Recommendations. **Board Members questions and concerns were addressed by Chief Technology Director and Instructional Technology Director.**
8. **Presentation of proposed band uniform for Eagle Pass High School.** David Solis, Eagle Pass High School Band Director addressed the Board of Trustees, and Superintendent. Mr. Solis thanked the board members for their support and stated they were grateful and looking forward to order new band uniforms for the 261 students. Mr. Solis presented two models to demo what uniforms they were looking into to place orders.

V. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to adopt Resolution 2015-2016-02 to levy the 2015 tax roll for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2016. **Motion by Trustee Purcell, second by Trustee Saucedo to adopt Resolution 2015-2016-02. Granted 7/0.**
2. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Eagle Pass ISD and Kids Are First, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start Program. **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Torralba to approve Memorandum of Understanding. Granted 7/0**

VI. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

It was the consensus of the Board to consider item(s) 1 – 4 in one motion. **Motion by Trustee Saucedo second by Trustee Bowles. Granted 7/0.**

1. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2015, (Regular), August 4, 2015, (Workshop), and August 11, 2015, (Regular) Board Meetings. **Item previously considered.**
2. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to purchase Credit by Exam Tests for EPISD Secondary Campuses from Texas Tech University ISD and the Board delegates the Superintendent or Designee the authority to make related budgeted purchases of goods or services as per Board Policy. **Item previously considered.**
3. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve Mr. Oscar Galindo and Mrs. Monica Aguirre, Maverick County Extension Agents as Adjunct Faculty Members. **Item previously considered.**
4. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to adopt Resolution 2015-2016-03 recognizing the Maverick County Texas 4-H Organization as extracurricular activity. **Item previously considered.**

- VII. **CLOSED SESSION:** Pursuant to Sections: 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083, and 551.084, Texas Government Code: **The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 8:06 P.M.** Pursuant to §551.071, §551.072, §551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083, and 551.084 of the Texas Government code. **Motion by Trustee Saucedo second by Trustee Alvarez. Granted 7/0.**

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

1. The Board will discuss the request to hire personnel to fill vacancies pursuant to TGC 551.074.
2. The Board will discuss the request to hire a Professional Employee to serve as Instructional Officer at Benavides Heights Elementary, Robert E. Lee Elementary, and Eagle Pass Junior High School subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent.
3. The Board will discuss the request to hire a professional employee to serve as Business and Finance Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent.

VIII. **OPEN SESSION:** The meeting reconvened at 9:24 P.M.

Consider and take appropriate action on item(s) discussed in Closed Session.

1. **Consider and take appropriate action on the request to hire personnel to fill vacancies pursuant to TGC 551.074.** Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Bowles to approve to hire personnel to fill vacancies as discussed in Closed Session. Granted 7/0.
2. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to hire a Professional Employee to serve as Instructional Officer at Benavides Heights Elementary, Robert E. Lee Elementary and Eagle Pass Junior High School subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. **Motion by Trustee Alvarez second by Trustee Martinez to hire Jose Negrete as a professional employee to serve as Instructional Officer at Benavides Heights Elementary subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent.** 7/0

Motion by Trustee Alvarez second by Trustee Bowles to hire Carlos Rodriguez as a professional employee to serve as Instructional Officer at Eagle Pass Junior High School subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. Granted 7/0.

Motion by Trustee Alvarez second by Trustee Bowles to hire Veronica Rodriguez as a professional employee to serve as Instructional Officer at Robert E. Lee Elementary subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. Granted 7/0.

3. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to hire a professional employee to serve as Business and Finance Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. **Motion by Trustee Purcell second by Trustee Torralba to hire Jose Esquivel as a professional employee to serve as Business and Finance Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. Granted 7/0.**

IX. **CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:**

Superintendent announced the football game to be held Friday, September 11, 2015, Eagle Pass Eagles vs. Eagle Pass Mavericks, and the TASA/TASB Convention will be on October 2-4, 2015. Trustee Bowles states the explanation of the Orange and White is to support the home team of the Eagles, the following year will be Black and Silver.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28P.M. **Motion by Trustee Torralba second by Trustee Saucedo. Granted 7/0.**

WE AFFIRM THAT THESE MINUTES ARE OFFICIAL COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

PRESIDENT: _____ SECRETARY: _____

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: _____ DATE MINUTES SIGNED: _____

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EAGLE PASS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Board of Trustees of the Eagle Pass Independent School District held a Regular Meeting on October 13, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. at the De Luna Center, 649 Webster Street, Eagle Pass, TX 78852.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Lupita Fuentes, President
Mrs. Hilda P. Martinez, Vice President
Ms. Glenna Purcell, Trustee
Mr. Ignacio J. Saucedo, Trustee
Mr. Humberto Torrlaba II, Trustee
Mr. Rudy Bowles, Trustee

Board Members Absent: Dr. Hector Alvarez, Secretary

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Gilberto Gonzalez

Attorney: Mr. Philip Marzec, Law Firm of Escamilla & Ponceck.

Staff Members and Visitors Present: The sign-in sheet hereby becomes a part of these minutes.

- I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Board President, Lupita Fuentes called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Superintendent Gilberto Gonzalez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **PUBLIC HEARING ON "SCHOOL FIRST RATING" (FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS):** Open: 6:05 P.M. – No one signed up, closed at 6:06 P.M.
- IV. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION- None/ RECOGNITIONS:**

1. **Recognition of Eagle Pass High School for being selected in Newsweek's 2015 "Beating the Odds" List.** Melissa Gratkowski, Public Information Officer made the presentation and announced the recognition of Eagle Pass High School for being selected in Newsweek's 2015 "Beating the Odds" List. Eagle Pass High School was ranked 333 in Newsweek's 2015 out of 500 public high schools. This is a prestigious award awarded to EPHS. A picture with board members and superintendent was taken.
2. **Recognition of Principals during October as Proclaimed by Texas Governor Greg Abbott.** Melissa Gratkowski, Public Information Officer made the presentation and announced the Recognition of Principals for the month of October. Each year, organizations nationwide designate the month of October as a time to recognize the contributions of elementary, and secondary principals. A panoramic picture with board members and superintendent was taken.
3. **Recognition of the Eagle Pass Independent School District Human Resources Department in celebration of Texas Education Human Resources Day-October 14, 2015.** Melissa Gratkowski, Public Information Officer announced the recognition of the Eagle Pass ISD Human Resources Department in celebration of Texas Education Human Resources Day

October 14, 2015. The staff was presented with a Proclamation from Texas State Governor Rick Perry long with a Resolution, which was signed by Eagle Pass ISD Board President Lupita Fuentes. A picture with board members and superintendent was taken.

V. DISTRICT REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Report on Eagle Pass ISD "School First" Rating (Financial Accountability Rating System of Texas)** Ismael Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance addressed the Board and Superintendent with a brief review of the "School First" Rating on Eagle Pass ISD. Overview of the financial accountability rating system of Texas known as "School First" has been implemented for 13 years; it was created by Texas Legislature in 2001 and is designed to help improve management of districts' financial resources by evaluating their financial performance. It also evaluates the financial health, stability and condition of school districts in Texas. Lastly, it provides financial management performance rating of school districts for the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Eagle Pass ISD earned a rating of "Pass" which demonstrates the quality of Eagle Pass ISD's financial management and reporting system. **No questions from the Board.**
2. **Review Investment Officer's Annual Report of Investment Transactions for all Funds for the Quarter ended August 31, 2015.** Deputy Superintendent Ismael Mijares briefly reviewed the annual report of all funds as presented for the quarter ended August 31, 2015. **No questions from board members, commended by Trustee Bowles.**
3. Financial Report. **No questions**
4. Utility Report. **No questions**
5. Tax Collection Report. **No questions.**
6. **Presentation of the Eagle Pass ISD Police Department.** Chief of Police Jose A. Ramos, EAGLE PASS ISD PD, addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent with information of the department (PD). Chief Ramos read over the Mission, number of department staff, the assigned campus(s) of the officers, the programs DARE & GREAT, the cases handled by campus, accountability of the offenses, safety concerns, the different trainings attended by officers, and the police department projects (Community exposure, drug/gang prevention programs, district-wide anti-bullying, multi-agency school safety initiatives, multi agent training, involving outside agencies in drills, restructure K-9 program, integrity checks at all campuses, expand use of police bike patrol). **Board members questions and concerns were addressed.**
7. **Presentation of 2015 Accountability Awards.** Samuel Mijares, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction addressed the Board of Trustees and Superintendent with the presentation of the 2015 Accountability Awards which were presented to 19 designated campuses which, included the 2 high schools, 2 jr. highs and 15 elementary schools, the early childhoods are not rated. Overall EAGLE PASS ISD Met Standard.
8. **The Board will hear presentations form Public Accounting Firms seeking to provide auditing services to the District in accordance with Request for Qualifications No. 163309 for District**

Salary Scale Audit. The first presentation was made by Deborah V. McDonald, CPA, Partner Colman, Horton & Co. LLP., she addressed detailed information about the firm and staff, and other audit services they've performed in public school districts as well as extensive experience with cities, counties and other governmental entities. Ms. McDonald has thirty-five years' experience with public schools and the firm is currently auditing fifteen public school districts. Electronic version of the annual financial and compliance reports is also submitted. Ms. McDonald addressed the District Salary Scale Audit and would be pleased to perform the audit. Ms. McDonald was open to answer any questions or make any clarification necessary concerning their proposal to service the district in accordance with RFQ No. 163309 District Salary Scale Audit, and any questions or concerns addressed by the Board.

Presentation by Mr. Mendoza, and Mr. Martinez, Partner/Manager with Garza/Gonzalez & Associates- Mr. Mendoza, addressed the Board and Superintendent with a summary of their qualifications which included over forty-years of experience with Texas school districts, including human resources and payroll operations. Currently they audit over ten school districts and were part of the development of the Texas Education Agency Resource Guide. Other experiences by the firm are in financial and compliance audits with municipalities, counties, utilities and many other public entities. Mr. Mendoza presented a proposal that would demonstrate that Garza/Gonzalez & Associates would be the most qualified firm to perform the engagement of the District Salary Scale Audit.

Presentation by Mr. Robert Carter, Partner with Leal & Carter, P.C., addressed the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent and made a presentation on the firm's qualifications, they have over forty-years in the public sector with school districts, local governments, and local entities with governmental funding. Mr. Carter went over their Quality Controls Peer Reviews which they received a *Pass*. The firm emphasizes on a year round, ongoing personal relationship with their clients, including TEA, and many school districts. They stress a team approach with management and do not disrupt clients operations. Additionally, over the last eight years, the firm (in association with a nation firm) has been involved in an engagement to perform the Single Audit for the State of Texas. The firm's audit area has included TEA programs, such as Migrant Education, Vocational Education, Title I Grants, and National School Lunch Program.

VI. **ACTION ITEMS:** *With the consensus of the Board Action Item #1 will be taken under Closed Session. Motion by Trustee Purcell second by Trustee Torralba. Granted 6/0.*

2. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to adopt Resolution 2015-2016-04 to approve the annual review of Investment Policy and Investment Strategies in accordance with Board Policy CDA (Legal). **Motion by Trustee Saucedo second by Trustee Bowles. Granted 6/0**
3. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to adopt Resolution 2015-2016-05 to nominate candidates to serve as Board of Directors of the Maverick County Appraisal District (MCAD). **Motion by Trustee Purcell second by Trustee Torralba to nominate Trustee Fuentes, Saucedo and Martinez to serve on the MCAD. Granted 6/0.**

4. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to amend the Capital Projects Budget. **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Purcell. Granted 6/0.**
5. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve consultant contracts for Special Education Services 2015-2016 school year. **Motion by Trustee Bowles second by Trustee Saucedo. Granted 6/0.**
6. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve an intergovernmental agreement between the Eagle Pass Independent School District and the City of Eagle Pass for Services and Equipment. **Motion by Trustee Bowles second by Trustee Torralba. Granted 6/0.**
7. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to an intergovernmental agreement between the Eagle Pass Independent School District and the City of Eagle Pass- Golf. **Motion by Trustee Saucedo second by Trustee Torralba to table item and continue in contract on a monthly basis, until the Eagle Pass Golf Association formally votes to increase the currently... members... and that the district continues talks with the City of Eagle Pass. Motion carries. 5/0/1- Abstain Bowles.**
8. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to adopt a Proclamation with the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative proclaiming October as "Disability Employment Awareness Month." **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Torralba. Granted 6/0.**

VII. CONSENT:

It was the Consensus of the Board to consider items 1-7 in one motion. Motion by Trustee Purcell second by Trustee Bowles. Granted 6/0. Board members questions and concerns were addressed.

1. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015, (Workshop), August 18, 2015, (Workshop), and September 01, 2015, (Special) Board Meeting. **Item previously considered.**
2. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to accept school supplies donation from Pizza Hut Restaurant. **Item previously considered.**
3. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve the revised list of 2015-2016 Teacher Appraisers. **Item previously considered.**
4. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to declare the attached list of items as surplus property and authorize its disposal. **Item previously considered.**
5. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve a cooperative working agreement between EPISD and the Rural Intervention (RBI) Program of Serving Children and Adults in Need (SCAN), Inc. for the 2015-2016. **Item previously considered.**
6. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Eagle Pass ISD and TMC (Teaching & Mentoring Communities). **Item previously considered.**

7. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to approve the 2015-2016 Dual Credit Partnership Agreement between the Eagle Pass Independent School District and Southwest Texas Junior College. **Item previously considered.**

VIII. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083, and 551.084, Texas Government Code:

The Board adjourned into **Closed Session at 8:33 P.M.** Pursuant to Section §551.071, §551.072, §551.074, §551.076, §551.082, §551.083 and §551.084 of the Texas Government Code. **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Bowles. Granted 6/0.**

1. The Board will discuss the request to hire personnel to fill vacancies pursuant to TGC 551.074.
2. The Board will discuss the request to hire a Professional Employee to serve as Risk Management Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent.
3. The Board will discuss the request to approve developmental leave. TGC 551.074.
4. The Board will hear the Level III Grievance of Maria Ramos.
5. The Board will hear the Level III Grievance of Carlos Santos.
6. The Board will hear the Level III Grievance of Hector Perez.

IX. OPEN SESSION: The meeting reconvened at 10:52 P.M.

Consider and take appropriate action on the item discussed in Closed Session to include Action Item #1.

ACTION ITEM #1:

1. Consider and take appropriate action on the request to award Request for Qualifications No. 163309 for District Salary Scale Audit and Amend the M & O Budget accordingly. **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Saucedo to Table Item. Granted 6/0.**

OPEN ITEMS:

1. **Consider and take appropriate action on the request to hire personnel to fill vacancies pursuant to TGC 551.074.** Motion by Trustee Torralba second by Trustee Bowles to hire personnel to fill vacancies as discussed in Closed Session. **Granted 6/0.**
2. **Consider and take appropriate action on the request to hire a professional employee to serve as Risk Management Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent.** Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Purcell to hire Tohui Valero as a professional employee to serve as Risk Management Director subject to possible future reassignment by the Superintendent. **Granted 6/0.**
3. Consider and take action on the request to approve development leave. **Motion by Trustee Saucedo second by Trustee Torralba. Granted 6/0**
4. The Board will take action on the Level III Grievance of Maria Ramos. **The Board will take action on the Level III Grievance of Maria Ramos.... No action taken.**

5. The Board will take action on the Level III Grievance of Carlos Santos. **The Board will take action on the Level III Grievance of Carlos Santos... No action taken.**
6. The Board will hear the Level III Grievance of Hector Perez. **The Board will take action on the Level III Grievance of Hector Perez... No action taken.**
7. Discussion and action on the request to grant an easement on District property located adjacent to Cerna Elementary to accommodate telephone lines. **Motion by Trustee Purcell second by Trustee Saucedo to grant an easement on District property located adjacent to Cerna Elementary to accommodate telephone lines. Granted 6/0.**

X. **CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:** Community Breakfast will be held tomorrow, and the CC Winn Homecoming Parade will also take place.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There, being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 P.M. **Motion by Trustee Martinez second by Trustee Bowles. Granted 6/0.**

WE AFFIRM THAT THESE MINUTES ARE OFFICIAL, COMPLETE, AND CORRECT.

PRESIDENT: _____ **SECRETARY:** _____

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: _____

DATE MINUTES SIGNED: _____

DRAFT