



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of Board Minutes for the months of May and June 2023

SUBMITTED BY: Griselda Rodriguez / Alejandra Salinas **OF:** Office of Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: August 16, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the UISD Board of Trustees approve the Board Meeting Minutes for the months of May and June 2023.

1. Regular Board Meeting – May 17, 2023
2. Special Called Meeting – June 8, 2023
3. Regular Board Meeting – June 21, 2023
4. Special Called Meeting – June 29, 2023

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

POLICY REFERENCE & COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

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

Regular Board Meeting
May 17, 2023
6:00 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT: David H. Gonzalez

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT: Stephen Trautmann

The Board proceeded with the board recognitions before roll call.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Ramiro Veliz, III 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. ROTEX Community Partnership Program
- B. San Isidro Elementary School Raptorettes Dance Team - Division Champions
- C. Col. Santos Benavides Elementary School Danzerettes Dance Team - Grand Champions
- D. Antonio Gonzalez Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner Conference CC Varsity

- E. Clark Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- F. Elias Herrera Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CCC Sub Non-Varsity / Class Non-Varsity / Class CCC Varsity
- G. Ricardo Molina Middle School Band
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class CC Non-Varsity
- H. Los Obispos Middle School Silver Gems - Redlines National Competition
Jacket Winners
- I. Los Obispos Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- J. Raul Perales Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- K. Trautmann Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- L. United Middle School Maverettes Dance Team - America Dance Nationals
Middle School National Champions
1st Place Middle School Solo - Winners Circle Soloist
- M. United Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- N. United Middle School Orchestra
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class CC Varsity
- O. United South Middle School Band
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class CCC Varsity
- P. George Washington Middle School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class CC Non-Varsity / Class CC Varsity
- Q. Lyndon B. Johnson High School - UIL Academics
- R. Lyndon B. Johnson High School - CATE
- S. LBJ High School Dream Catchers Dance Team - Contest of Champions
Disney Dance Nationals - 1st Place National Champions - Team Kick
- T. LBJ High School Wolves Cheer Team - NCA Cheer Competition - 2nd Place
Large Intermediate Non-Tumbling Division
- U. Lyndon B. Johnson High School Band
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class 6A Varsity

- V. Lyndon B. Johnson High School Varsity Colorguard
3rd Place TECA State Championship
- W. Lyndon B. Johnson High School Junior Varsity Colorguard
3rd Place TECA State Championship
- X. Lyndon B. Johnson High School Indoor Drumline
2nd Place TECA State Championship
- Y. Alexander High School - NBA All Star (Never Been Absent)
- Z. Alexander High School - UIL Academics
- AA. Alexander High School - CATE
- BB. Alexander High School - Girls Swimming Team - District Champions /
Regional Champions
- CC. Alexander High School - Boys Track - District Champions
- DD. Alexander High School - Boys Track - State Qualifier
- EE. Alexander High School - Girls Track - District Champions
- FF. Alexander High School - Boys Golf - District Champions
- GG. Alexander High School - Dazzlers Dance Team - MA Dance Competition -
Team Military - 1st Place National Champion High Score Category Winner / 1st
Place Overall Regional Champions
- HH. Alexander High School Orchestra
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class 6A Varsity
- II. Alexander High School Choir
UIL Sweepstakes Winner - Class 6A Non-Varsity
- JJ. Alexander High School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class 6A Sub Non-Varsity / Class 6A Non-Varsity / Class 6A Varsity
- KK. Alexander High School Avant B Guard
2nd Place TCGC State Championships - Class 6A Varsity
- LL. United High School - NBA All Star (Never Been Absent)
- MM. United High School - UIL Academics
- NN. United High School - CATE
- OO. United High School - Boys Swimming Team - District Champions

PP. United High School - Cheer Team - UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship - 2023 Large Varsity Division Semifinalist

QQ. United High School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class 6A Sub Non-Varsity / Class 6A Non-Varsity / Class 6A Varsity

RR. United High School Indoor Drumline
Bronze Medal TECA State Championship - Class A

SS. United High School Winterguard
TECA State Championship - Class AA

TT. United South High School - NBA All Stars (Never Been Absent)

UU. United South High School - UIL Academics

VV. United South High School - CATE

WW. United South High School - Diving Team - Individual District Champion

XX. United South High School - Girls Golf Team - District Champions

YY. United South High School Cheer Team - NCA High School National Championship - 2nd Place Advanced Non-Tumbling Division

ZZ. United South High School Band - UIL Sweepstakes Winner
Class 6A Non-Varsity / Class 6A Varsity

AAA. United South High School - TMEA All-State Choir

BBB. United South High School Colorguard
MA Nationals - 2nd Place Team Flag Rifle

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.

David Garcia – addressed the board regarding the naming of the LBJ Field House. He asked that the LBJ Field House be named after one of their UISD teachers, a man who was once his team mate, and who inspired many, especially students. He asked that the field house be named after Mike Medina and spoke of some of Mike Medina's accomplishments in life.

Julissa Garza – stated she is a parent, a tax payer and teacher at UISD. She spoke about the cost of living increase, the 14 million dollar deficit due to the inability to maintain attendance rate and enrollment, especially after covid. She proposed an idea of online learning for students at UISD to bring up enrollment. She added that some parents kept their children at home because they still fear for the health and safety of their children, after covid. She mentioned some school districts and charter schools have offered online synchronous learning and have improved their enrollment numbers. She stated UISD has the resources for online learning such as the mi-fi and chromebooks and the buses that can sustain wifi capability. She added that the revenue they would be looking at for 3,400 students is about 20 million dollars which would bring UISD out of the 14 million dollar deficit.

Luis de la Garza – stated he is the new TSTA president effective June 1st. He commented that the nation is facing runaway inflation and salaries have not been able to keep up with and as a result of that many employees of the district have been working second jobs to help make ends meet. He added that the morale of many employees is low. He mentioned that the district has mentioned there is not enough money to increase district salaries; however, the district is allowing money to purchase a plaque to honor Carol Summers and while the contribution from Mr. Summers is significant, he believes that the contribution of the district workers is equally as essential as they provide exceptional services to the needs of students on a daily basis. He mentioned that the amount that is saved by refraining from purchasing the plaque can be used to help a worker's family that may be struggling to feed his/her family. He asked that UISD create a significant cost of living adjustment for all workers based on their pay scale. This cost of living adjustment is separate from the raise that workers need in order to help sustain themselves and their families. He asked the board to provide comparable raises to all employees to mitigate the rising cost of inflation. He mentioned he researched three school districts who share the same demographics as UISD and he found they have higher starting salaries. He added that UISD uses staffing agencies and it is not in the best interest of the district. He ended by saying he is in support to help improve the quality of life not only for the students of UISD but also for the workers who make up the lifeline of this great District.

Edna Olmeda – asked that as they plan for next school years budget that they consider the high cost of living and the high rate of inflation and to give them a substantial increase in pay to make a decent living. She shared some personal matters that happened to her in her personal life and medical issues affecting her

health. She asked the board for the district to start cutting down on other things so that they can give the staff and teachers the raise they deserve.

Clarissa Fraga – stated she was there to represent many individuals who were left baffled at the injustices they endured with the current TIA system that the district has in place. She added she is a second grade teacher not partaking in the allotment. She said she is simply there as the voice of those who fear speaking. She said evidence can be provided that many teachers were discriminated against using an opinionated based evaluation known as TTESS. She gave several examples of the unfairness of the evaluations.

Jocelyn Martinez – addressed the board regarding the student safety. She stated her son fell and fractured his radius and wrist which led to surgery. She was told at the campus that no other accidents had happened in their playground. Ms. Martinez also stated the playground has no shade or trees and nothing for students to play with. She added that a safe playground should be created for all students regardless of their age or grade level and hopes this issue can be resolved.

Valentin Ruiz – stated he was there to speak for all UISD employees who do not have a voice because of fear of retaliation, bullying, bad evaluations, being relocated to another campus and/or fired. He apologized to the superintendent for saying that he makes twice as much as the president because what he meant to say is that he makes twice the salary of our congressman who only makes \$150,000 and has many years experience as a congressman. He added that our superintendent currently makes \$300,000 plus, with no prior experience while our new city manager only makes \$250,000 with prior work experience. Mr. Ruiz said he was not there to attack the superintendent and only speaking the truth that they need to cut the fact that tax payers are suffering including UISD employees who are suffering from a 9% inflation rate from July 2022. He added that all UISD employees deserve a cost of living adjustment. Mr. Ruiz also requested that the UISD board do a hair follicle drug test to clear the name of the board member that got himself in trouble and stated this is sending a bad message to employees and taxpayers if they refuse. He ended by saying that taxpayers are so upset that they will vote them out.

Jose Ovando – stated he stands behind the teachers and said they do need a raise. He said he was there to speak on the issue of redistricting. He said the previous attorney had mentioned to him that the board acts as one and if one does something wrong then the wrong belongs to all the others. Mr. Ovando stated that in his opinion, this redistricting is a violation of the Voter Rights Act. He told the board they were taking away the power to vote from the one of the poorest communities in Texas and that is not integrity nor honor. He stated they were encompassing one street to favor one board member who self-admitted he committed voter fraud and there is a record of that and according to the Voter Rights Act there has to be full disclosure of data and proposed maps and he has not seen any data. Mr. Ovando also stated that he agrees that there has to be a drug test not

only for teachers but for everybody including board members. He challenged the board to take a drug test and said he would take one too.

Victor Vasquez – addressed the board regarding redistricting. He stated he was surprised that Mr. Aguilar would sponsor something that is not bad for him. He said the board needs a code of conduct because teachers have one and students have one so the board should have one also. He stated there are situations in the past where board members have been dating teachers or employees and there is no code of conduct for that. He added that somebody got a contract and nothing was done and also somebody got arrested and still sitting at the table and going to school functions. He repeated they need a code of conduct and a drug test to be an example for all the kids.

Sara Santos – addressed the board regarding mileage for homebound. She said homebound teachers are getting paid mileage only to get there and it should be back and forth, not just one way. Another issue she stated was retirement. She said there is a cap on local and state leave when people are going to retire. Some of those days are paid at 100%, some at 75% and some at 50% and the rest of the days you lose them because you can't donate them. Another issue she stated was with STEP Academy which was implemented for children who make a mistake can learn. She said kids are not learning while they are at STEP because the teachers there are not doing their teacher duties and only doing teacher aide duties because all they are doing is logging into their google classroom. They don't do grading or lesson plans and Ms. Santos asked why are they getting paid the same salary when they are not doing all the responsibilities and duties that a regular teacher does. Ms. Santos asked for changes to be made on these three issues.

V. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval of awarding bids, proposals and qualifications
- C. Approval of Property Tax Refunds for the Month of April 2023
- D. Approval of Amendment No. 5 to the Design-Build Contract with Leyendecker Construction of Texas, Inc. for the new Aquatic Center Facility to increase the contract Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) amount to install additional signage at the Carroll E. Summers, Jr. Aquatic Center
- E. Approval to authorize by resolution, the extension of the district's depository contract for the 2023-2025 biennium
- F. Approval of Amendment to District of Innovation Plan
- G. Approval of updated District of Innovation Addendum to employment contracts

H. Approval of Resolution of the United Independent School District (UISD) in support of the Texas Governor's FY24 Criminal Justice Program grant application for "Body Worn Cameras"

I. Approval of Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification Form

J. Approval of annual renewal of District Worker's Compensation Insurance Program

A motion to approve the consent agenda items was made by Mr. Ramiro Veliz and seconded by Javier Montemayor.

Mr. Francisco Castillo asked for more information on the irrigation item under awards and bids. He asked why we need irrigation and landscaping services.

Ms. Cordy Jackson responded that part of this bid is to provide the actual shrubs and trees and also the district does not have enough irrigators. She clarified that this bid gives us the labor for irrigation and planting and it also gives us the actual shrub, tree.

Mr. Castillo asked if we went with the lowest bidder.

Ms. Jackson responded that it was awarded to both because they to by line item.

Mr. Castillo asked if Parent Square was the lowest bidder.

Ms. Jackson responded that it was a renewal and it was the highest ranked vendor not necessarily the lowest but that was the vendor that the committee selected based on the criteria that the department gave her when they did the solicitation.

Michelle Molina made a sub-motion to table item D.

Stephen Trautmann clarified that based on Ms. Molina's request, they can pull Item D from the consent agenda and act on the remaining items with the motion that is on the table and once it is approved then they can address Ms. Molina's item D. He clarified that the motion is to approve A-J with the removal of D.

Motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ramiro Veliz clarified that Ms. Molina's sub-motion is to table Item D for the next board meeting.

Mr. Javier Montemayor stated there had to be a future set date for the tabled item. The item was tabled for the next scheduled meeting.

Motion was seconded by Ms. Aliza Oliveros and was unanimously approved.

VI. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Discussion and possible action to approve donations

Mr. David Gonzalez read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$10,582.26

A motion was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Aliza Oliveros to approve the donations.

Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board Discretionary Funds for various projects/campuses

Mr. Mike Garza read the following additional requests: Muller Elementary on behalf of Michelle Molina for planners for students in the amount of \$3,456.25; Police Department sponsored by Javier Montemayor and Michelle Molina for a Police Week luncheon in the amount of \$673.12; L.B.J. High School sponsored by Gilbert Aguilar for football equipment in the amount of \$3,000.00; Police Department sponsored by Gilbert Aguilar for Police Week in the amount of \$1,047.54; Transportation South sponsored by Gilbert Aguilar for employee appreciation breakfast in the amount of \$477.50

A motion was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina to approve the discretionary funds requests as presented.

Motion was unanimously approved.

C. Discussion and possible action to approve Board minutes for the months of March, April, and May 2023

A motion was made by Gilbert Aguilar and seconded by Michelle Molina to approve the board minutes as presented.

Motion was unanimously approved.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding resolution approving employee compensation for temporary emergency closure on May 4, 2023

David Canales addressed the board and stated that on May 4th we had a water problem at Juarez-Lincoln and had to dismiss employees early and this resolution will help compensate those employees.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Aliza F. Oliveros.

Motion was unanimously approved.

E. Discussion and possible action to approve Board travel for the months of May and June 2023

A motion to approve board travel was made by Aliza F. Oliveros and seconded with discussion by Francisco Castillo.

Michelle Molina asked to be excluded from the South Padre trip.

Francisco Castillo asked to be excluded as well.

Motion was unanimously approved.

F. Discussion and possible action regarding naming of LBJ High School Fieldhouse pursuant to Board Policy CW Local - Naming Facilities

A motion to approve was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina to approve the naming of LBJ High School Fieldhouse.

Gilbert Aguilar recommended they name the LBJ High School Fieldhouse in honor of Mike Medina.

Motion was unanimously approved.

G. Discussion and possible action regarding Trustee appointments, assignments, and delegations to external/internal committees and boards

A motion was made by Javier Montemayor to recall our appointed trustee Rick Rodriguez' from the Appraisal Board and set a Special Called Meeting for next week to recall the votes cast in favor of Mr. Rodriguez and recast them in favor of a candidate to be determined at the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Michelle Molina. Ms. Oliveros opened for discussion.

Francisco Castillo asked if they could amend the motion to include the Safety Committee Assignment.

Javier Montemayor stated that was not an assignment that they vote on.

Stephen Trautmann clarified that the Safety Committee by statute requires the board president and another trustee and it was his understanding that Mr. Rodriguez was not on the Safety Committee.

Aliza F. Oliveros stated she was on the Safety Committee. Francisco Castillo was ok with that.

Michelle Molina asked who was on the Clean Air Coalition Committee. Aliza Oliveros replied she was on that committee and also Francisco Castillo and Javier Montemayor is the alternate.

Michelle Molina asked to remove Francisco Castillo from that committee to allow her to be on that committee.

Aliza F. Oliveros stated she would remove herself so Ms. Molina can be on the committee.

Stephen Trautmann clarified the amended motion is in addition to Mr. Montemayor's motion, to place Ms. Molina on the Clear Air Coalition and remove Aliza F. Oliveros. He asked for a second on that amended motion.

Gilbert Aguilar seconded that motion and asked for clarification on the resolution for the appraisal district.

Stephen Trautmann clarified that for the appraisal district there would have to be a subsequent meeting with a resolution to recall Mr. Rodriguez's votes and at that point if the resolution gets approved Mr. Rodriguez is no longer on the appraisal district and there would be a second resolution on a second agenda item to recast those votes for a new potential trustee to serve on the appraisal district committee.

Francisco Castillo clarified that the Clean Air Coalition can name four individuals. Ms. Oliveros stated she would stay on and add Michelle Molina.

Ramiro Veliz, III clarified they now have the original motion by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Michelle Molina.

Motion was approved by Francisco Castillo, Javier Montemayor, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ramiro Veliz, III, Michelle Molina, Gilbert Aguilar

Motion was opposed by Ricardo Rodriguez

Motion passed.

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 7:50 p.m.

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

1. Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities

2. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding amendment to Mini-Billboard Marketing Agreement between Impacto Media, Inc. and United Independent School District, and matters incident thereto

3. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding 2020 census and District 1 boundary issues, 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 providing authorization to legal counsel to present proposed resolutions for sale of specific tracts of land for consideration and approval by the Board of Trustees.

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

1. Conduct Superintendent's annual evaluation

2. Discussion regarding the appointment of Principal at United South High 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 9:21 p.m.

A. Discussion and possible action regarding amendment to Mini-Billboard Marketing Agreement between Impacto Media, Inc. and United Independent School District

Stephen Trautmann stated the recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to propose a second amendment to the Mini-Billboard Agreement with Impacto Media, Inc. as discussed in closed session to convey said Second Amendment to the Mini-Billboard Agreement to Impacto Media as UISD's final offer with no further negotiations and to authorize the superintendent to execute this Second Amendment to the Mini-Billboard Agreement if accepted and executed by Impacto Media Inc.

Ramiro Veliz, III made a motion to approve and seconded by Gilbert Aguilar. Motion was approved by Javier Montemayor, Aliza F. Oliveros, Ramiro Veliz, III, Michelle Molina, Gilbert Aguilar.

Motion was opposed by Francisco Castillo.

Motion Passed.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding redistricting of District 1 and District 4 boundaries due to 2020 census

Jaime Garcia stated as discussed in closed session, they went over the constitutionality of the proposed boundary maps which met all the constitutional requirements and the standard deviation is within the 10 percent rule.

Javier Montemayor motioned to open for discussion and seconded by Aliza Oliveros. He asked if the portion that is being added back to district one was previously part of district one.

Jaime Garcia stated it was part of District 1 approved in 2022 and it was removed from district one on January 25, 2023. Some input was gathered and legalities were discussed in closed session for the proposal and explained some of the legalities regarding this proposal.

Aliza Oliveros stated that normally redistricting is once every 10 years and if this item is approved that would be 3 times in the past 2 years which is a lot. She stated for several reasons that she could not support this item.

Francisco Castillo asked if the Department of Justice reviews this maps. Jaime Garcia clarified that they do not because the racial make up of Laredo and Webb County is 97% hispanic and they review maps where there has been racial segregation.

Gilbert Aguilar made a motion to approve the redistricting of District 1 and District 4 boundaries due to 2020 census. Michelle Molina seconded the motion.

Motion was approved by Javier Montemayor, Ramiro Veliz, III, Michelle Molina, Gilbert Aguilar.

Motion was opposed by Francisco Castillo, Aliza F. Oliveros.

Motion passed

C. Discussion and possible action with respect to providing authorization to legal counsel to present proposed resolutions for sale of specific tracts of land, to be considered by the Board of Trustees.

Kenneth Valls made a recommendation to allow counsel to return to the board with a resolution with respect to the sale of the Las Blancas property as discussed in closed session and to continue with the analysis of the other properties.

A motion to approve the recommendation from legal counsel was made by Aliza F. Oliveros and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding Superintendent's annual evaluation

Stephen Trautmann stated the recommendation is to approve the superintendent's annual evaluation as discussed in closed session.

A motion to approve the recommendation from legal counsel was made by Aliza F. Oliveros and seconded by Michelle Molina. Motion was unanimously approved.

E. Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of Principal at United South High School

David Gonzalez stated his recommendation for Principal of United South High School is Martha Alvarez.

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Ramiro Veliz, III and seconded by Aliza F. Oliveros. Motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Javier Montemayor and seconded by Gilbert Aguilar.

Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Board Meeting of May 17, 2023 was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Ramiro Veliz, III, President

Michelle Molina, Secretary

Approved: August 16, 2023

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

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
UISD Boardroom * 201 Lindenwood Drive * Laredo, TX. 78045

Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees
June 8, 2023
6:00 P.M.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: **Ramiro Veliz, Michelle Molina, Gilbert Aguilar Jr., Francisco Castillo, Aliza Oliveros**

STAFF PRESENT: **David Gonzalez, Emma Leza, Rebecca Morales, Sam Flores, Laida Benavides, Adriana Ramirez, David Canales, Susan Carlson**

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at **6:03 p.m.** by Ramiro Veliz, III.
Announcement by legal counsel regarding trustee Montemayor being delayed due to business.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of allegiance is recited.

III. Public Comments:

Guillermo "Memo" Castro: Mr. Castro speaks about a concern regarding new warehouse development in front of Muller Elementary school.

The board president reminds Mr. Castro and the audience that public comments are for items on the agenda and that they would welcome him at the next Regular Board meeting. Mr. Castro replies, asking them to stand up for the integrity of the board.

Dolores Medrano: Asks the board to take action regarding the FBI raid against UISD board member and asks the board specifically why they chose to award the contract. Ms. Medrano also expresses concern about the manner in which newly board member for District 1 was appointed, and asks the board if a board member needs to be replaced, that this action be in a controversial manner.

Alfonso "Poncho" Casso: Speaks in regards to the resolution requesting resignation of board member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez. He requests the names of those board members who voted for and even abstained from voting for this contract, be included in the resolution. Mr. Casso shared with the board that he requested the FBI look into this matter (and other) and claims this was an illegal contract and asks for transparency.

Hilario Cavazos: Expresses his support for superintendent Gonzalez and speaks about the issue with board member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez. "A board member is here to serve, not to make money", said Mr. Cavazos. Mr. Cavazos asks that board member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez be removed and thus bring dignity back to the United ISD board.

Elsa Jasso: Ms. Jasso expresses her concern about board member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez and ask that he be removed. She also does not agree with the appointment of the newest board member for District 1.

Victor M. Vazquez: Mr. Vazquez states that after the raid, the district should have come out and explain what was going on. He argues the matter that by taking action to abstain, that board member awarded the contract. Mr. Vazquez also makes claims of retaliation. "When someone speaks up something happens to that person." Lastly, he asks the board why the superintendent has been evaluated four to five times this year. "Who evaluates you" stated Mr. Vazquez.

Jose Ovando: "I told you so" begins Mr. Ovando, taunting the board. He goes on to say that by appointing a board member (after the passing of late Mr. Ricardo Molina), is illegal, unethical and immoral and that he feels they took away the right of the people to vote.

IV. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the Following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

The board adjourns into Closed Session at **6:20 p.m.**

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

- 1. Consultation with legal counsel regarding legal issues related to Trustee(s) resignation and removal from office, limiting Trustee(s) access to District facilities and events pursuant to Texas Code sections 11.151 and 11.1511, and matters incident thereto**

V. 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 7:17 p.m. For the record Mr. Javier Montemayor joined the board during the closed session.

Legal counsel addresses the board and audience in attendance, regarding a standing trustee, for the record; The law does not allow or vest the power within the board to remove a Trustee. There are only two options to remove a trustee. It must be a lawsuit filed by the Attorney General, a County Attorney or District Attorney. The other option is a community member to file their own petition (through jury trial) with a finding of "guilty". "There is nothing within this board's power that they can do to remove Mr. Rodriguez or any trustee.

- A. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution requesting Trustee Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez' resignation from the District's Board of Trustees, limiting Trustee Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez' access to District facilities and events pursuant to Texas Education Code sections 11.151 and 11.1511, and a no-confidence vote for Trustee Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez**

- B. Discussion and possible action on the voluntary assignment, reassignment and/or prohibition of District Board members regarding Committee or Board assignments including but not limited to any Committee and Appraisal Board and any other Board/Committee thereto, to include a mandatory prohibition Requirement to not be present at our facilities or events except for family needs/purposes. This prohibition is valid during and while a criminal and/or law enforcement investigation or proceedings are ongoing.**

A motion is made to consolidate items V.A and V.B. Motion made by Ramiro Veliz to consolidate both items, seconded by Javier Montemayor and passed unanimously.

Javier Montemayor makes a motion to adopt a resolution requesting that board member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez resign from the USD board immediately. That this board limit Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez's access to District facilities, all District events pursuant to the Texas Education Code, and that this board issue a vote of "no-confidence" against trustee Ricardo Rodriguez. Further that this no-confidence vote include any allocation of funds for any trustee training now

or in the future. That the prohibition of District facilities be with the exception to his capacity as a parent but that this include all committees, assignments or travel and this prohibition be valid during and while a criminal law enforcement investigation or proceedings are ongoing should he not resign. Motion is seconded by Michelle Molina.

Legal counsel states that the prohibition of travel will rescind the travel that was approved the previous month for Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez.

The board unanimously approves this motion, non opposed.

- C. Discussion and possible action by resolution of the United Independent School District's Board of Trustees to call for the recall of the United Independent School District's member of the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors and to cast all of United Independent School District's 1,066 votes to recall Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, the United Independent School District's member on the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors, as per Section 6.033 of the Texas Property Tax Code**

With a motion by Michelle Molina and a second by Francisco Castillo to approve the resolution as presented. The board approves and motion is passed unanimously.

- D. Discussion and possible action by resolution of the United Independent School District's Board of Trustees to nominate a Candidate for the Webb County Appraisal District's Board of Directors as a result of the recall of the United Independent School District's member and to cast all of the United Independent School District's 1,066 votes for United Independent School District's new member to the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the remainder of the 2022-2023 term as per section 6.033 of the Texas Property Code**

The recommendation is to appoint Francisco Castillo as candidate for the Webb County Appraisal District's Board of Directors. Motion made by Javier Montemayor, seconded by Aliza Oliveros and Michelle Molina, the board unanimously approves, motion is passed.

VI. Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn made by Javier Montemayor and a second by Aliza Oliveros, motion passes unanimously.

There being no further business of the USD Board of Trustees this Special Called meeting of June 8, 2023, is adjourned at **7:22 p.m.**

Ramiro Veliz, III
Board President

Michelle Molina
Board Secretary

Minutes Approved 08/16/2023

These minutes were completed by Griselda Rodriguez, secretary and will be submitted for approval at the August 2023 regular Board meeting.

United Independent School District

Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043

Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 21, 2023

At 6:00 P.M.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Ramiro Veliz, Francisco Castillo, Gilbert Aguilar, Michelle Molina

STAFF PRESENT: David Gonzalez, Laida Benavides, Emma Leza, David Canales, Sam Flores, Rebecca Morales, Edith Landeck, Cindy Ramirez, Hector Perez, Monica Madrigal, Cordy Jackson, Marta Stahl, Rosa Cabello, Bobby Cruz

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

- This meeting is called to order at 6:04 p.m. by the board president.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comments:

- Luis De La Garza advocates for teacher support by a pay increase of 7% to mitigate rising inflation of cost of living and states that the result of rising inflation has caused many employees to seek secondary jobs to make ends meet. "As TSTA president, I am here to collaborate with district personnel and trustees to ensure that students and employees are successful in their academic and professional setting".
- Victor Vazquez speaks against the Homestead Exemption. Mr. Vazquez wants the district to look through other avenues and provides his view of examples.
- James Aurthur, community manager for La Bota Homeowners Association to express the community's concern of a new warehouse being built directly in front of Muller Elementary. This is an area of high traffic already and states that the size of the warehouse would substantially increase traffic making this congested and unsafe. Mr. Arthur also adds that this Road has only one entrance and exit

for approximately 500 homeowners and campus staff. Mr. Arthur invites a board member of the La Bota Ranch Homeowners Association to also speak on this issue and asks the UISD Board for a resolution addressing the matter.

IV. Consent Agenda Items

- A motion is made to remove Consent Agenda Item IV. E - Resolution Adopting Local Homestead Exemption, from Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Gilbert Aguilar.

Michelle Molina states her appreciation to administration for putting this presentation together and is in favor to table the item.

Francisco Castillo also states his opposition to this agenda item regarding Homestead Exemption. He expresses he does not wish to table it but rather take a vote.

Motion moved by Ramiro Veliz, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar and is unanimously approved to be removed from the Consent Agenda Items.

- Mrs. Laida Benavides presents on the Local Homestead Exemption providing legislative information and different scenarios with properties appraised values. (See Attached Presentation)

Board members discuss whether the item should be tabled or up for a vote. Legal counsel reads out a message from board member Javier Montemayor for the record.

Javier Montemayor, trustee District 5: "Please note that while the board has been steady and consistent in its efforts to address the salaries and wages of our teachers and staff, we continue working together and make concerted efforts to attract and retain quality employees. I recognize and applaud the UISD staff in identifying and addressing our district's needs. However, as to the Homestead Exemption currently available to UISD residents, I ask the board to consider keeping it the same and not reducing it with the increased appraisal values on our homes inflation and the higher cost of living in general removing this exemption, could be detrimental to many households. Providing some property tax relief should be a priority for us. In addition, the district I serve, District 5 includes

some of the oldest homes in UISD and as such many retired residents that live on fixed incomes. These residents will be directly affected by the removal of this exemption but we have taken positive steps like reducing the district's tax rate. I cannot at this time support any item requesting the removal or decreasing the Homestead Exemption. I ask the board to table this matter and put it for July so that we may all be present, or in the alternative reject this proposition.”

Mrs. Benavides ensures the board that residents over 65, the taxes are frozen. The board looks at the possibility of requesting a meeting to address this matter once the legislative session has reconvened and passed.

- Michelle Molina makes a motion to table this item and reconvene at a later date to allow the full board to be present to voice their opinions.
- Francisco Catillo stated he respects everyone's views but he wants this item up for a vote and clarifies that this exemption does not have to do with teacher raises.
- Gilbert Aguilar addresses Mr. Castillo’s stand on homestead exemption, but he reminds the board that perhaps after the legislative special session, they may have some more positive information to provide. “A bill might pass”, stated Mr. Aguilar and he is hopeful for property tax relief from the state. Mr. Aguilar seconded the motion to table for a later date; Ramiro Veliz and Michelle Molina approved the motion. Francisco Castillo against. Motion is carried.

A. Approval of Budget Amendments

B. Approval of Monthly Disbursements

C. Approval to designate Monica Madrigal to calculate the 2023 Tax Rate

D. Approval of Property Tax Refunds for the month of May 2023

E. Approval of resolution adopting Local Option Homestead Exemption

F. Approval of awarding bids, proposals, qualifications and extensions

G. Approval of adoption of Health Self-Health Insurance Resolution

H. Approval of Low Attendance Day Waivers - Remote Conferencing for May 24, 2023

I. Approval of Low Attendance Day Waivers - Remote Conferencing (5th & 6th Six Weeks)

J. Approval of revisions to 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

K. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between United Independent School District and U.S. Consulate General in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico

L. Approval of revisions to 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

M. Approval of United ISD's T-TESS and T-PESS Approval Calendar for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year

N. Approval of disposition of Mobile Learning Devices (MLD) for graduating students at United High School (UHS), United South High School (USHS), John B. Alexander (AHS), and Lyndon B. Johnson High School (LBJHS)

- A motion is made to approve the Consent Agenda Items IV. A - N with the exception of IV. E. Motion moved by Michelle Molina, seconded by Francisco Castillo and unanimously approved.

V. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Approval of Donations

Mr. David Gonzalez reads in the donations and asks the board graciously accept and will be included in the minutes;

- A donation of instruments received by United Middle School, by Mr. Kim Yang of 28 violins and 12 cellos with an approximate value of \$3,680.00
- One donation of under \$1,000.00; A donation from Pro-Haul and Demolition Services of Laredo in the amount of \$500.00 received by Kennedy-Zapata Elementary that will go towards the 5th grade level.

Grand total for this month is **\$4,180.00**

Motion so move, to approve Donations as presented. Motion moved by Ramiro Veliz, seconded by Michelle Molina and Francisco Castillo, and unanimously passed.

B. Discussion and possible action to approve Board Minutes for the month of May 2023

- With a motion made by Michelle Molina and seconded by Gilbert Aguilar, this item is unanimously passed.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding Ed-Flex Waiver for San Isidro

- Ms. Rebecca Morales informs the board that although most of UISD's campuses are Title I, San Isidro is the exception. However, being that San Isidro is at 35.4% economically disadvantaged the district can now apply through the Ed-Flex Waiver making all of UISD schools, Title I campuses for 2023-2024 and will continue should the campus stay at 35% economically disadvantaged. A motion is made by Michelle Molina to approve the Ed-Flex Waiver for San Isidro Elementary. Motion is seconded by Francisco Castillo and unanimously approved.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding first and final reading of Board policy CHE (Local) - Purchasing and Acquisition - Vendor Disclosures and Contracts

- Legal Counsel reads out the portion of the change on CHE Local.
"The District shall not enter into a contract with or solicit services from a business entity in which a board member or a person related to a board member within the third degree by consanguinity, which is blood, or in second degree by affinity which is marriage, owns a substantial interest as that item is defined by law and policy."

After discussion from Michelle Molina and Francisco Castillo, the board asks for clarification regarding state law allowing sitting board members to have a contract with the district. To which legal counsel replies that state law does "not prohibit" a board member from doing business (or contract) with the district and that this was created in part due to smaller communities where services may be very limited. This policy change is at a local level, meaning Local Board Policy / ordinance.

Motion moved by Michelle Molina to approve the first and final reading of Board Policy CHE (Local), seconded by Francisco Castillo and unanimously passed.

E. Discussion and possible action to distribute discretionary funds from District 2 Trustee for the 2023-2024 school year and assurance for equal allocation of said funds for District campuses within District 2

- Motion so move, by Michelle Molina and seconded by Francisco Castillo. With discussion from Michelle Molina stating that this is a follow up from a previous meeting and with the no-confidence in trust, the motion is that the total amount of discretionary funds for District 2, be dispersed evenly throughout, within District 2 schools for the 2023-2024 school year. The board votes unanimously and motion is passed.

F. Discussion and possible action regarding requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board Discretionary Funds for various projects/campuses

Rebecca Morales states that no additional discretionary funds other that was presented. Motion made by Ramiro Veliz, seconded by Francisco Castillo and is approved unanimously.

VI. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

The board adjourns into closed session at **6:53 p.m.**

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

1. Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities

**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 United Independent School District regarding the United Independent School District streets Santa Claudia and Santa Monica within the UISD Student Activity Complex center and matters incident thereto. The suit was filed in the District court of the 111th Judicial District of Webb County, Texas, under Cause Number: 2023CVG00151D2**

- 2. Legal consultation and report on resolution for the sale of the real property described as Lot 2A (3.13 acres), Block 1, Unit 2, as well as a 16.8695 acre tract out of Tract 6, Unit 2, Las Blancas Subdivision Laredo, Webb County, Texas**
- 3. Legal consultation and report on resolution for the sale of a residential lot described as a .344 acre tract on the western side of Palencia Avenue out of Lot 3, Block 2, United Independent School District, Santa Rita Elementary School Plat, Laredo, Webb County, Texas**

**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 Fasken Elementary School**
- 2. Discussion regarding the appointment of Principal at Clark Middle School**
- 3. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding issuance of term employment contract for the 2023-2024 school year for Director of Technology and Executive Director for Safety/Crisis Management**
- 4. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding rescission of prior action to propose nonrenewal of term contract employees and matters incident thereto**

**D. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney; Closed Meeting
TGC 551.076 Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits**

- 1. Student Activity Funds Audit: United South High School**
- 2. UVC Lamps ESSER III Funds - Davis-Bacon Compliance March, April, May 2023**
- 3. Records Management**
- 4. Carl D. Perkins Basic Formula Grant**

5. **CPR/First Aid Training Compliance**
6. **Police and Security Officers Equipment Inventory**
7. **Kronos Editing and Approval Process**
8. **Contracted Services**
9. **Status of ongoing audits**

VII. 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 **8:13 p.m.**

- A. Possible action with respect to the status of the lawsuit filed by Potential Holdings, LLC against the United Independent School District regarding UISD streets Santa Claudia and Santa Monica, located within the UISD Student Activity Complex, and the underlying dispute upon which the lawsuit was based upon. The suit was filed under Cause Number: 2023CVG000151D2**

The recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to proceed in the lawsuit as discussed in closed session.

Motion is made to approve this recommendation. Motion made by Gilbert Aguilar, seconded by Francisco Castillo and passed unanimously.

- B. Possible action with respect to executing a resolution for the sale of the real property described as Lot 2A (3.13 acres), Block 1, Unit 2, as well as a 16.8695 acre tract out of Tract 6, Unit 2, Las Blancas Subdivision, Laredo, Webb County, Texas**

Resolution read in, see attached.

A motion is made to approve the read-in resolution by Francisco Castillo, and with a second by Ramiro Veliz, this motion is passed unanimously.

- C. Possible action with respect to executing a resolution for the sale of a residential lot described as a .334 acre tract on the western side of Palencia Avenue out of Lot 3,**

**Block 2, United Independent School District, Santa Rita Elementary School Plat,
Laredo, Webb County, Texas**

Resolution is read-in, see attached.

With a motion made by Michelle Molina and seconded by Francisco Castillo, this motion is passed unanimously.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of Principals at Fasken Elementary School

The recommendation by administration is to appoint Liliana Barragan as the principal at Fasken Elementary.

A motion is made to approve the appointment of Liliana Barragan as principal at Fasken elementary school. Motion made by Michelle Molina, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar and unanimously passed.

E. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of Principal at Clark Middle School

The recommendation is to appoint Ms. Michelle C. Gomez as principal to Clark Middle School.

A motion is made by Michelle Molina to approve the appointment of Michelle C. Gomez as principal to Clark Middle School, and seconded by Gilbert Aguilar. The board unanimously approves and motion is passed.

F. Discussion and possible action regarding the issuance of term employment contract for the 2023-2024 school year for Director of Technology and Executive Director for Safety/Crisis Management

For the record the staff names are Rene Cruz and Dolores Barrera. With a motion by Michelle Molina and a second by Gilbert Aguilar, this board unanimously approves and motion is passed.

G. Discussion and possible action to rescind proposed nonrenewal of classroom teacher's term employment contract, rescind appointment of board-designated

hearing officer, approve resignation agreement, and to authorize Superintendent to execute relevant documents

The recommendation is to rescind the proposed nonrenewal of classroom teacher Gustavo Rojo-Buendia's term employment contract that the board acted upon on May 11, 2023, rescind the appointment of the board designated hearing officer Jose Maldonado and to approve the resignation agreement as discussed in closed session and to authorize the superintendent and administration to execute all relevant documents.

With a motion made by Michelle Molina, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar, this motion is approved and passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn by Francisco Castillo and a second by Gilbert Aguilar, Jr. this motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business of the UISD Board of Trustees, this Regular Board Meeting of June 21, 2023, was adjourned at **8:20 p.m.**

Ramiro Veliz, III
Board President

Michelle Molina
Board Secretary

Approved 0/16/2023

These minutes were completed by Griselda Rodriguez, secretary and will be brought for approval at the August 2023 Regular Board meeting.

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Auditorium * 5208 Santa Claudia Ln. * Laredo, TX. 78043

Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 29, 2023

12:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Gilbert Aguilar, Michelle Molina, Francisco Castillo, Javier Montemayor, Aliza Oliveros, Ramiro Veliz

STAFF PRESENT: David Gonzalez, Laida Benavides, Mike Garza, Sam Flores, Hector Perez

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting is called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Ramiro Veliz, board president.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- The pledge of allegiance is recited.
- Mrs. Aliza Oliveros makes a motion to bring up item IV.A. No second.
- On a recommendation by legal counsel to allow public comments to be read-in. A motion is now made to rescind/retract previous motion. Board approves unanimously.

III. Public Comments

Jorge Mendoza: Mr. Mendoza addressed the board to speak about his concern with the increase of Local Homestead and asks the board to seek other avenues to make up for this increase. He says "everyone has a household budget and people are constrained to their low income". He supports teachers and employees but asks the board to look at other means. Mr. Mendoza wants the board to also focus on student safety and provides an example of his concern. Lastly Mr. Mendoza suggested that someone propose that board members should be allowed one or two terms and "not 20, 30 years" he said.

Jose Ovando: Speaks against Local Homestead Exemption.

Victor Vazquez: Speaks against the Local Homestead Exemption. Mr. Vazquez commends the Safety Department for adding the position of Lead School Psychologist.

Dolores Medrano: States her opposition to the Local Homestead Exemption. She recommends that administration take a 5% cut in salaries instead of the 5% increase to the Homestead. "If you need more money, do what the rest of us are doing, we are cutting our expenses, cutting our travel, we are working harder and working longer", says Ms. Medrano. She goes on to suggest that maybe the district needs to freeze salaries, freeze travel, cut 10% from every department, among other things.

Ivan Rodriguez: Speaks out against adjusting the Homestead Exemption. Says the district may be a bit too soft on department heads. "We are all going through hard times", says Mr. Rodriguez and reminds the board of their duty to the students and then the taxpayers. Mr. Rodriguez lastly encourages the board to look into ways for cutting back expenses.

Alfonso "Poncho" Casso: Speaks about the Homestead Exemption and legislation in relation to funding for districts and teachers. He also believes that the district needs to better inform the community regarding Homestead Exemptions and that the district should wait on the outcome of the legislative session.

Tom LaFluer: Secretary for La Bota Homeowners Association. Mr. LaFluer speaks out about new land development directly across Muller Elementary school. The area currently endures a traffic concern and portrayed scenarios of implications of building a new Warehouse directly across the street. Mr. LaFluer provided the board with documentation for a visual of the site. On behalf of the La Bota Ranch Homeowners Association, Mr. LaFluer asked the support of the district to stop the construction of such warehouse.

James Arthur: Muller Elementary concern. Mr. Arthur echoes Mr. LaFluer's concern and provides the board with additional information and possible different options of road access. He also informs the board that they are contacting the city and county to address their concerns and ask for their support as well to help solve this problem.

IV. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Discussion and possible action to approve resolution adopting Local Homestead Exemption

- A motion is made, by Michelle Molina for discussion, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar and Francisco Castillo.

Michelle Molina thanks the administration for bringing this item forward and states her stand on not increasing the Homestead Exemption.

Francisco Castillo also speaks on not approving a resolution to adopt a Local Homestead Exemption.

- Gilbert Aguilar makes a motion to table this item indefinitely and that the Homestead Exemption remain at 15%.

Javier Montemayor also speaks against the Homestead Exemption and says he represents a large amount of retired individuals living on fixed income and how it would be detrimental to taxpayers.

Aliza Oliveros, says she has been against this since this item was initially presented to her and she stands her ground against it and has no further comments.

Javier Montemayor brings up that administration came to board with numbers and this is an issue that needs to be discussed as other important matters are discussed. "We are talking about \$9 million dollars", he said.

The board continues discussion on Homestead Exemption. Mrs. Oliveros said she requested a campaign for the district to inform the public as to why the decision to reduce the Homestead Exemption. "I was simply told no!" said Mrs. Oliveros.

- Ramiro Veliz asks board member Aguilar to amend his motion to table. Motion made by Mr. Aguilar is to table item on Local Homestead Exemption and seconded by Aliza Oliveros.

Ms. Laida Benavides presents on the Local Homestead Exemption. She states that legislators met the day before to address this matter and that Tax relief is coming. The recommendation by administration is that no action is taken on this item.

Jaime Garcia, legal counsel for UISD clarifies for the record on the implication of tabeling an item indefinitely as opposed to tabling it to bring back in the near future. Other board members address their concerns to not bring back this item.

- Aliza Oliveros rescinds her second motion to table, and makes a submotion to have the board simply vote for or against. The submotion is seconded by Michelle Molina and the board approves unanimously.

- A motion is now made to take a vote for or against the resolution, motion made by Aliza Oliveros, seconded by Michelle Molina:

Against: Francisco Castillo, Javier Montemayor, Aliza Oliveros, Ramiro Veliz, Michelle Molina, Gilbert Aguilar.

Non Oppose, motion passes. The resolution regarding Homestead Exemption does not pass.

V. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act

The board adjourns into closed session at 12:49 p.m.

A. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting

TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property; Closed Meeting

- 1. Consultation with legal counsel regarding the ownership of real property located along the eastern property perimeter of Muller Elementary School along Muller Memorial Boulevard and the possible negotiation of a purchase and sale agreement with respect to the purchase of such property owned by La Bota Ranch Development Company, Inc.**
- 2. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding a possible Board resolution in support of the advancement of Riverbank Drive in Laredo, Webb County, Texas and matters incident thereto**
- 3. Discussion, including consultation with legal counsel, regarding a possible Board resolution encouraging the City of Laredo, the La Bota Homeowners Association, and Gubagreen Industrial, LLC to work in collaboration to address UISD's traffic and safety concerns related to Gubagreen, LLC's development of property located directly across Muller Elementary School and matters incidental thereto, including but not limited to the appropriate traffic limitations associated with a school zone taking into consideration the existing conditions**

B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting

TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting

- 1. Discussion regarding the appointment of Lead School Psychologist for Safety and Crisis Management**

VI. 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 1:18 p.m.

A. Discussion and possible action with respect to authorizing legal counsel to attempt to negotiate a purchase and sale agreement pertaining to real property located along the eastern property perimeter of Muller Elementary School along Muller Memorial Boulevard, such property owned by La Bota Ranch Development Company Inc.

The recommendation is to authorize legal counsel to negotiate as discussed in closed session. Motion moved by Javier Montemayor, seconded by Aliza Oliveros and the board approves unanimously.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding adoption of a Board resolution in support of the advancement of Riverbank Drive in Laredo, Webb County, Texas

The recommendation is to adopt a board resolution in support of the advancement of Riverbank Drive in Laredo, Webb County, Texas. Motion is moved to adopt the resolution as presented by Javier Montemayor, seconded by Aliza Oliveros and the board unanimously approved. (resolution is read-in)

C. Discussion and possible action regarding adoption of a Board resolution encouraging the City of Laredo, the La Bota Homeowners Association, and Gubagreen Industrial, LLC to work in collaboration to address UISD's traffic and safety concerns related to Gubagreen Industrial, LLC's development of property located directly across Muller Elementary School

The recommendation is to adopt said resolution. Motion moved by Michelle Molina, seconded by Gilbert Aguilar and passed unanimously. (resolution is read-in)

D. Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of Lead School Psychologist for Safety and Crisis Management

The recommendation by administration is to appoint Dr. Linda Garza, as the Lead School Psychologist for Safety and Crisis Management. Motion to pass made by Ramiro Veliz, second by Michelle Molina, the board unanimously approves and motion is passed.

VII. Adjournment

On a motion to adjourn this meeting, made by Michelle Molina, and seconded by Ramiro Veliz, and unanimously passed.

There being no further business of the UISD Board of Trustees this Special Called meeting of June 29, 2023 is adjourned at **1:28 p.m.**

Ramiro Veliz, III
Board President

Michelle Molina
Board Secretary

Approved 08/16/2023

Minutes completed by Griselda Rodriguez, secretary and will be submitted at the August 2023 Regular Board meeting.