

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., JANUARY 12, 2021, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

Delma Abalos
Dr. Steve Brown
Carol Gregg (Virtually)
Tammy Hawkins
Nelson Minyard
Dr. Donna Smith
Christopher Stanley

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Staci Ashley, Dr. Stephanie Howard, Dr. Lilia Náñez, Deborah Ottmers, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks, Patrick Young

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Robert Cedillo, Ashley Osborne, Andrea Martin, Dr. Corey Seymour, Carla Byrne, Jaime Miller, Alicia Press, Lisa Wyman, Crissy Medina, Heather Solis, Clara Brazell, Beatris Mata, Joyce Collins, Ruth Campbell, Albert Anchondo, Mary Franco

25333 **Meeting Called to Order:** Tammy Hawkins, Board Vice-President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

25334 **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 Vice-President Tammy Hawkins, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

25335 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In Dr. Muri's opening remarks he reminded Trustees today was the start of 87th Texas Legislative session, and we hope education will remain a priority. Yesterday, the state comptroller released information on how much money will be available to spend for the new biennium, and while yesterday's figure is better than earlier projections a shortfall of about \$1 billion is still expected. Dr. Muri said this is not good since costs have risen but the state's overall budget would be about the same as 2019. If that is the case, cuts will have to be made. State Legislators have stated that they would like to protect HB3 (the sweeping education bill from the last legislative session) which included things like raises for teachers, money for the Teacher Incentive Allotment and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, plus funding for the Additional Days School Year in the summer. These are some of the elements of HB3 that ECISD leveraged to benefit our staff and students.

(Board President Delma Abalos arrived at 6:02 p.m. and was present for the remainder of the meeting.)

25336 **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

25337 **Presentation of the Career & Technical Education Program:** Executive Director of Career & Technical Education Carla Byrne presented this item for discussion. Trustees heard a report on the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program. CTE prepares students for college and career opportunities. ECISD's CTE programs are designed for high skill, high demand, high wage occupations; offer dual credit courses allowing kids to earn high school credit and college credit at the same time; and give students the chance to earn industry-recognized certifications. More than 7,200 students are currently enrolled in CTE classes, taking advantage of more than 200 course offerings. New courses set to come to ECISD are HVAC & Plumbing (which are high need jobs in the Permian Basin), Court Reporting, Paralegal, and an expansion of Robotics. State-of-the-art CTE facilities are also on the District's wish list for future projects.

No action required.

25338 **Equity Task Force Presentation:** Executive Director of Leadership Robert Cedillo along with Executive Director of Talent Development Ashley Osborne and Bonham Middle School Principal Mareka Austin presented this item for discussion. Nearly one year ago, an Equity Task Force of District employees and community members began work on disparities in discipline among student ethnicity groups. The Equity Task Force delivered recommendations to the school board in July, and the District began implementing changes this school year. Revisions to the Student Code of Conduct, changes to discipline practices, Unconscious Bias training for employees, strategic scheduling, implementation of a Behavior Support framework, creation of an African American Studies elective course, and recruiting efforts targeted to Historically Black Colleges & Universities are all measures undertaken or being developed now. Specific, comparative data is difficult to collect at this time because of the impact of COVID-19 on school attendance in Spring 2020 and throughout this 2020-21 school year

No action required.

25339 **Discussion of PK3 Innovation Partner:** Assistant Superintendent of Student and School Support Alicia Syverson along with Director of Literacy Jaime Miller, Senior Vice-President Complex Community Federal Credit Union Development & HR Lisa Wyman and YMCA CEO Crissy Medina presented this item for

discussion. The Board discussed an innovative partnership to greatly expand 3-year-old Pre-kindergarten ECISD next year. Through the Call for Quality Schools, the Odessa YMCA successfully completed a rigorous process conducted by a diverse committee. This innovative partnership with the YMCA will help ECISD expand its pre-kindergarten program to serve more 3-year-olds beginning August 2021. The YMCA currently serves children 6-weeks-old to 12-years-old at its existing three locations. It plans to utilize its new building on Pagewood as the site for 150 3-year-olds with potential for expansion. The YMCA has a 'whole child' educational plan and academic model designed for literacy development and logical math discovery that lead to kindergarten readiness – one of the primary tenets of ECISD's strategic plan. The school board must still approve this partnership at next week's meeting and then negotiate a contract with the YMCA.

No action required.

25340 **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 a public officer or employee of the District; or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.] Consultation 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.

25341 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** In his closing remarks, Dr. Muri called attention to January being School Board Appreciation and thanked the Odessa City Council and new Mayor Javier Joven for reading a proclamation at the beginning of the City Council meeting declaring this to be ECISD School Board Month in Odessa. Trustees will receive the proclamation at next week's board meeting.

25342 **Adjournment:** Delma Abalos, Board President, adjourned the Board meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Board President
Delma Abalos

Board Secretary
Dr. Steve Brown