



**SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

1450 Gillette Boulevard · San Antonio, Texas 78224 · (210) 977-7000 · Fax (210) 977-7017

Minutes of Special Meeting

**The Board of Trustees
South San Antonio ISD**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of South San Antonio ISD was held Monday, May 24, 2021, beginning at 6:30 PM in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 1450 Gillette Blvd. San Antonio, Texas 78224.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Trustee	Present	Absent	Late Arrival/Departed Early
Stacey Alderete	X		
Gilbert Rodriguez	X		
Connie Prado	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		6:02 PM
Homer Flores	X		
Ernesto Arellano Jr.	X		
Gina Villagomez	X		

Led by Michelle Martinez, Senior Executive Assistant

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- TEXAS PLEDGE
- PRAYER
- CALL TO ACTION

Led by Brad Domitrovich, Public Relations Consultant

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Rodriguez, Board President, read board meeting rules of decorum aloud.

Jose Pablo Arzola, Bexar County community activist and school board member advisor, addressed the Board regarding the posted agenda being in violation of both Texas Education Code and South San Antonio ISD Board Policy. He references a letter dated November 2, 2020, that was responding to a complaint submitted to TEA that referenced interference with the Superintendent and school governance. He stated that he is prepared to launch an investigation with TEA, as this is illegal. He stated that Trustees continue to micromanage, interfere and practice favoritism and nepotism. He stated again that this meeting is illegal.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)

Mr. Rodriguez addressed the Board and audience regarding misconceptions of the senior parade. He stated that he and Mrs. Alderete are a part of the Paws Up Committee. He said that this year was the 2nd annual senior parade, and was phenomenal. He stated that Mrs. Prado, Mr. Flores and Mr. Arrellano were in attendance. He informed that this is put on by the Paws Up Committee and is not a district sponsored event. He stated that the district including Mrs. Sendejo, Dr. Puig, and relevant staff, go above and beyond to accommodate

their requests so they are able to have the senior parade but everything else regarding sponsors, dates, routes, comes from the Paws Up Committee. He stated that Board members are invited to attend but have no input but hopes it to be an example of how more involved Board members, staff and community members can be. He said sometimes things happen that you have to accept and move forward. He said he remembered Mrs. Prado made pointed comments to Rey Saldana that encouraged what's transpiring today. He informed that the reason we are here today is because Mr. Arrellano delivered a letter sponsored by Mrs. Prado. Mr. Rodriguez read the memo aloud. Mr. Rodriguez read aloud the definition of coups d'état and stated that was what was going on. He referenced the special called meeting on May 12, 2021 when Dr. Puig's contract was extended. He read Mr. Flores' comments aloud from that night. He stated that there have been conversations amongst Board members where Mr. Arrellano will become Board President, Mr. Flores will remain Vice President, and Connie Prado will be Board Secretary.

Mr. Flores stated that Mr. Rodriguez was taking advantage of his position.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that Mr. Flores was out of order.

Mr. Rodriguez continued his remarks stating that he informed Dr. Puig that he was going to call the TEA. He stated that he did that on Sunday and had a detailed conversation with them. He stated that BBF Local is on Board member ethics. He stated that what we will see here tonight is not in the best interest of the district. He stated that he implored TEA in this crisis situation, to elevate our current monitor to a conservator. He stated that Dr. Puig is a phenomenal Superintendent and his body of work warranted an extension. He referenced a letter from a previous Superintendent to TEA. He stated that it justifies why there was a conservator. He said that the new board officers are going to micromanage the Superintendent. He stated that our Superintendent does need protection. He said he would go to any length to protect our kids. He stated what you are seeing here tonight is not focused on kids, it is focused on political power. He stated that this has lit another pilot in him and more passion to do what is right. He stated that this new board is not in favor of supporting West Campus HS. He stated that there is intent to tear West Campus down. He stated that we will see the puppet master fully and deliberately at work to attack Mr. Rodriguez. He stated that he was built for this and he came out ready for this. He stated if you are watching, I don't lose.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion and possible action to elect/reorganize board officers pursuant to Texas Education Code 11.061 and South San Antonio ISD Board Policy BDAA (LEGAL) AND (LOCAL).

Mr. Prado made a motion: I make a motion that we reorganize the board as follows: President Mr. Ernesto Arrellano, Vice President Mr. Homer Flores, and Secretary Ms. Shirley Ibarra, Ms. Ibarra seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/2 to approve. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Stacey Alderete		X	
Gilbert Rodriguez		X	
Connie Prado	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Homer Flores	X		
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Gina Villagomez	X		

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: The Board of Trustees may elect to go into Closed Meeting any time during the meeting to discuss matters listed on the Agenda when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board of

Trustees elects to go into Closed Meeting regarding an Agenda Item, the Board of Trustees will hold a Closed Meeting to discuss individual personnel matters including termination, litigation and other matters the Board deems necessary. Upon completion of Closed Meeting, the Board of Trustees may, in the open session, take such action as appropriate on items discussed in a Closed Meeting. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item listed on the agenda should be held in Closed Meeting, the Board will convene in such Closed Meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code Sections 551.001 - 551.088. The Board members may take action in the open portion of the meeting on items discussed in the Closed Meeting but no action will be taken in closed session.

Mrs. Alderete moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Rodriguez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 PM.

ATTEST

Ernesto Arrellano Jr., Board President

Shirley Ibarra, Board Secretary

NOTICE: This meeting of the Board of Trustees is authorized in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.001 - 551.146. Verification of Notice of Meeting and Agenda are on file in the Office of the Superintendent. Closed meeting, if required and if authorized by the statute, will be conducted prior to the conclusion of the meeting for any item listed on this agenda.