

AT A REGULAR 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., MARCH 29, 2022, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

Delma Abalos
Dr. Steve Brown
Carol Gregg
Tammy Hawkins
Dr. Donna C. Smith
Christopher Stanley

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Dr. Lilia Nanez, Deborah Ottmers, Dr. Keeley Simpson, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Alicia Syverson

Others: Mike Atkins, Crystal Day, Kelly Stansell, Betsy Clark, Carla Byrne, Jaime Miller, Gregorio Barajas, Marcia Bell Cleaver, Alyssa & Reyes Vega, Celia Vega, Manuel Vega, Barbara Smith, Nancy Flores, Dave Machuca, Mary Fulton, Margaret and Sam Mata, Aubrey Preston and Family, Michael Hawley, Robin Fawcett, Shannon Davidson, Gloria Ramirez, Candi Sikes, Leticia Cruz, Kim Chancellor, Justin Romero, Allan Romero, Brandon Reyes, Mayra Leyva, Nancy Vanley, Natalie Fitzgerald, Sandra Banda, Reyes Hernandez, Edlin Roman, Gilbert Vasquez, Cynthia Serrano, Rudy Serrano, Cymari Ortega, Celeste Ortega, Mauricio Marquez, Ruth Campbell, Debbie Bynum, Devin Benavides, Mary Franco

25821 **Meeting Called to Order:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

25822 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Tammy Hawkins, Board President, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

25823 **Pledge of Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags:** The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Blackshear Elementary Students Alexander Romero and Madison Tarango.

25824 **Invocation:** The Invocation was led by Dr. Steve Brown, Board Vice-President.

25825 **Special Presentations:**

Recognition of Odessa Student Crime Stoppers State Board Ambassadors: Communication Officer Mike Adkins introduced the Odessa Crime Stoppers State Board Ambassadors. The primary objective of the Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program is to shape young leaders in the Texas Crime Stoppers community. Ambassadors are selected to represent their peers all over the state and serve as the youth voice for Crime Stoppers in Texas. Ambassadors are expected to always exhibit a high degree of maturity, responsibility, flexibility, and leadership. ECISD now has 7 of the 12 state ambassadors. Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri did the honor of swearing-in the new ambassadors.

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| Cooper Aranda | 10 th grade | Odessa High School | selected 2020 |
| Gabriella Meza | 11 th grade | New Tech | selected 2020 |
| Viviana Motta | 11 th grade | Odessa High School | selected 2021 |
| Clarissa Deleon | 9 th grade | Odessa High School | selected 2021 |
| Eli Corrales | 11 th grade | New Tech | selected 2021 |
| Marina Muela | 11 th grade | Odessa High School | selected 2021 |
| Yeileen Barrera | 11 th grade | Odessa High School | selected 2022 |

Recognition of Nationally Certified School Nurses: Communication Officer Mike Adkins introduced Director of Nursing and Health Services Rebecca Rhodes and New Tech Odessa Campus Nurse Ali Hernandez as Nationally Certified School Nurses. Established in 1985, the NCSN strives to assure the public that nationally certified school nurses meet standards of professional knowledge and skills. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in nursing, a minimum of 1,000 hours as a school nurse, and pass a rigorous exam.

Introduction of Scripps National Spelling Bee Qualifier: Communications Officer Mike Adkins introduced Bowie MS student Shijay Sivakumar as the Regional Spelling Bee champ. For the second year in a row Shijay has been the Regional Spelling Bee champ and will represent the Permian Basin at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. in June.

Announcement of SSEP Mission 16 Winners: Communications Officer Mike Adkins announced the Science Project and Mission Patch Winners whose work will be sent to the International Space Station later this year for the third year in a row. The students will be sending a science experiment to the International Space Station (ISS) through the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP) Mission 16. The winning experiment proposal from ECISD is Swetha Kesavan's proposal studying biofilm in microgravity. Her experiment is undergoing further testing on Earth and a final flight safety review before launching to the ISS later this year.

An additional component of SSEP is the Mission Patch competition. Students in all grade levels can participate in SSEP by creating mission patch art. Two mission patches will fly to the ISS with the winning team's experiment, and return to Earth certified as flown in space. Our ECISD Innovation Department hosts a mission patch design contest and the following were recognized as the district winners:

Naele Perez, Wilson & Young MS – 2nd Place Secondary
Fernando Flores, Odessa HS – 3rd Place Secondary
Aubrey Preston, Buice Elementary – 2nd Place Elementary
Yetsi Muniz, Milam Elementary – 3rd Place Elementary
Uriah Lopez, Fly Elementary – 3rd Place Elementary

Mission 16 Patch Art & Design – Fly to International Space Station

Celeste Ortega, E.K. Downing Elementary – 1st Place Elementary

Vivian Hernandez, Crockett MS – 1st Place Secondary

25826 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In Dr. Muri's opening remarks, he shared that the State had just announced it would grant school districts leeway on attendance for this school year. This is a concession to the negative effect COVID had on school attendance throughout Texas for a large part of the year. Details are not fully known at this time.

25827 **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 was no public comment.

Action Items

25828 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$50,000:** Moved by Abalos, seconded by Stanley to approve the Purchases over \$50,000 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25829 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of District of Innovation (DOI) Plan for ECISD Through Spring of 2027:** Moved by Abalos, seconded by Brown to approve the District of Innovation (DOI) plan for ECISD through Spring of 2027 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25830 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of 2022-2023 Gifted and Talented Plan:** Moved by Abalos, seconded by Gregg to approve the 2022-2023 Gifted and Talented Plan as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25831 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Physical Education and Health Education Textbook Adoption:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Smith to approve the Physical Education and Health Education Textbook Adoption as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25832 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Resolution to Nominate Dr. Scott Muri for 2022 Superintendent of the Year:** Moved by Smith, seconded by Stanley to approve Resolution to Nominate Dr. Scott Muri for the 2022 Superintendent of the Year as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 25833** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the Naming of Blackshear Elementary School's Auditorium:** Moved by Smith, seconded by Stanley to approve the Naming of Blackshear Elementary School's Auditorium for Ms. Frizella C. Whitaker as presented.

Ms. Whitaker moved to Odessa to teach in ECISD Blackshear High School, now Blackshear Magnet Elementary. She was a vital part of the Blackshear High School choir. She later taught at Ector Junior High School as an English teacher. She retired from teaching in 1986.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 25834** **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the Naming of Bonham Middle School's Football Field:** Moved by Smith, seconded by Abalos to approve the Naming of Bonham Middle School's Football Field for J.T. King as presented.

Coach King moved to Odessa in the late 1940's. He was hired by ECISD to coach and teach at Crockett Junior High. He became the head coach at Bonham Junior High in 1959 and spent the next 25 years there compiling a record of 150 wins, 43 losses, and 6 ties. At one time he had a 36-game winning streak! J.T. King coached and taught in the community he loved for 33 years before retiring in 1985. Coach King passed away in 2004.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 25835** **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Abalos to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes of Meetings
- B. Request for Approval of Bills for Payment
- C. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Donations Over \$10,000

Motion unanimously approved.

Report/Discussion Items

- 25836** **Budget Update Discussion:** Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers presented this item for discussion. Trustees continued budget discussions with a review of estimated revenues for the coming year. Trustees are required by law to adopt three separate budgets by June 30 (which is the end of ECISD's fiscal year): A General Fund budget, a School Nutrition budget and a Debt Service budget. In estimating potential revenue, school district leaders are anticipating an increase in enrollment of 960 students, 93% attendance, 62% economically disadvantaged, 11% Bilingual and 10% Special Education students. The Maintenance & Operation side of the tax rate is expected to decline due to compression by the State of Texas, while the Interest & Sinking (Debt Service) side of the tax rate would increase if the bond proposition are approved by local voters.

No action required.

- 25837** **Discussion of Appointment Process and Timeline for Filling the Ector County ISD Single-Member District 7 Board of Trustee Vacancy:** Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri presented this item for discussion. The school board is in the process of appointing a replacement for Trustee Nelson Minyard who resigned in January. They are seeking more detailed information about board member redistricting which is currently being evaluated. The board chose to wait until April to continue this discussion.

No action required.

- 25838** **Talent Development Presentation:** Executive Director of Talent Development Ashley Osborne presented this item for discussion. Talent Development is one of the three priority themes of our ECISD Strategic Plan. The department's specific goals are to attract and recruit talent as well as support and encourage employees to reach their full potential through professional learning. They work to create pipelines and pathways to find and develop our team members, such as:

- Odessa Pathway to Teaching is one of just three school-district authorized certification programs in Texas. Open to those who have a bachelor's degree and want to become a teacher, 36 people are currently enrolled in the OPT program.
- One piece of our Opportunity Culture staffing model is a year-long teacher residency program. There were 6 teacher residents in ECISD in 2020-21, with 12 now in 2021-22, and 20 projected for the 2022-23 school year.
- Future Teachers of Odessa is a CTE program that identifies high school students interested in becoming teachers and puts them on a pathway to teacher certification. This year there are 34 students in FTO right now with another 57 projected for 2022-23.
- Para to Teacher is a brand-new effort that provides funding for a paraprofessional to complete their degree and certification. The first 6 applicants were recently accepted to the program.
- The Principal Fellowship with Texas Tech University is a residency designed to build the capacity and skills of aspiring principals.

Coaching is another key focus of the Talent Development Department. Twenty-nine campus coaches, and 49 Multi-classroom Leaders (MCLs) from Opportunity Culture provide daily, real-time coaching and feedback for teachers. Compensation is also at the forefront of the department's work: Opportunity Culture MCLs can earn \$15,000-\$17,000 stipends and National Board Certification can mean up to an additional \$9,000 stipend. The strategic work of ECISD's Talent Development Department has gained attention of state and national audiences.

No action required.

25839 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District; or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.] Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board’s Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.] (The Board of Trustees will discuss Performance Agreement with UTPB.):**

Board President Tammy Hawkins convened the Board of Trustees to closed session at 7:27 p.m.

Board President Tammy Hawkins reconvened the Board of Trustees to open session at 7:57 p.m.

25840 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of UTPB STEM Performance Agreement:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Brown to approve the UTPB STEM Performance Agreement as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25841 **Information Items:** The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items: Financials, Purchasing Report, and Routine Personnel Report.

25842 **Closing Remarks by the Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

25843 **Adjournment:** Board President Tammy Hawkins adjourned the Board meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Board President
Tammy Hawkins

Board Member
Carol Gregg