



**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 Regular Meeting

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

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of South San Antonio ISD was held Wednesday, August 21, 2024, beginning at 6:00 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
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Shirley Ibarra		X	
Joe Araiza	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		
Homer Flores Jr.		X	
Manuel Lopez	X		

Led by Michelle Martinez, Senior Executive Assistant

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- TEXAS PLEDGE
- PRAYER

Led by Alexis LaFosse, Director of Communications

MISSION

Led by Trustee Arrellano

VISION

Led by Trustee

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing to discuss the 2024-2025 Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Tom Cummins, AFT Representative, addressed the Board regarding the budget agenda item and asked for consideration of a TRE.

TEA REMARKS

Dr. Abe Saavedra, TEA: Mr. Lopez, Members of the Board, first of all congratulations on the successful start of another school year. I congratulate of course the Board, the administration, the school staff, the teachers and everybody. You had a very successful Convocation, I attended that, it was a great way to start off the school year. I also congratulate the re-elected board members that are returning. I think that the fact that no other individual challenged incumbent board members suggests that the community is satisfied with how you are dealing with the school system and decision you're making and so forth. It could also communicate lack of involvement on the part of your community. So I would encourage the board to consider that so that in future elections there's a stronger effort made to bring the community in. We had talked about it one time, you may recall, to have information meetings. A democracy works when the community is involved and so I would encourage you to consider that. Also, congrats on what seems to be a balanced budget that you will adopt later tonight. It's one of the requirements that TEA had put out there as well as a 3-month fund balance which seems to be in place as well so things seem to be going well, always room for improvement but things seem to be going well at this point. Thank you.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board and audience, he congratulated all staff on the good start this school year. He informed that our athletics are underway. He acknowledged that it is hot outside and he said that precautions are being made to keep students and staff safe. He stated that we are monitoring and participating in CPS curtailments and advised that we do not shut down during

the school day. He congratulated Mr. Gutierrez and his operations team certain for their response when needed. He discussed attendance, stating that last year on school day 8 we had 7,254 students and this year day 8 we had 7,326. The Superintendent recognized HR as they put in a lot of time and effort this summer. He recognized Mr. Gutierrez's and Mr. Rocha's staff for getting the schools ready for the year, and he recognized the Board completing their Head Start governance training.

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

Manuel Lopez, Board President, addressed the Board and audience regarding having an excellent year last year and stated that he expects better this year. He congratulated Mr. Flores, Mr. Araiza and Mr. Arrellano as well as Gonzalez for being unopposed. He stated that we have hard working people in our area. He stated that we have not been in the media for a while. He stated that the Board makes hard decisions such as balanced budgets and he said that things will get better.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Assistance League of San Antonio Gives \$13,000 Grant to Madla Elementary
Alexis LaFosse, Director of Communications, and Assistance League were called to recognize students for their achievements.
2. SSAISD Celebrates Arts Integration at Armstrong Elementary and select teachers at all SSAISD Elementary Campuses
Vanessa Dominguez, Director, was called to recognize students for their achievements.

.PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. Annual Cooperative Management Fees 2024-2025
Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, and Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.
2. July 2024 Financials
Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

CONSENT

Policy BE (Local) states that the consent agenda shall include items of a routine and/or recurring nature grouped together under one action item. All such items shall be acted upon by one vote without separate discussion, unless a Board Member requests that an item be withdrawn for individual consideration. The remaining items shall be adopted under a single motion and vote.

1. Approve the Board Meeting Minutes
 - A. July 17, 2024 Regular Called
 - B. July 31, 2024 Workshop
2. Approval of Region 20 Commitments for SY 2024-2025
3. Budget Amendment
4. Approve Memorandum of Understanding Program Agreement Between South San Antonio ISD and SA Youth
5. Approve the initiation of agreement with San Antonio College Nursing
6. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between San Antonio Council on Alcohol & Drug Awareness and SSAISD.
7. 2024-2025 T-TESS Appraiser List
8. Board Resolution - Appoints the District's Chief Financial Officer as the designated officer responsible for calculating and reporting the no-new-revenue tax rate and the voter-approval tax rate as determined by state law
9. Approve the 2024-2025 Collaboration Statement between the Boys Scouts of America, Alamo Area Council, Inc. and South San Antonio ISD
10. Interlocal Agreement with The University of Texas at Austin Institute for Public Schools Initiatives for GEAR UP Grant

Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the consent agenda items 1 – 10 as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		

Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. Approval of Board Operating Procedures Amendment

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mrs. Ramirez moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

2. Superintendent’s Constraints Progress Measure 2.1 - Safe Schools

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

3. Lone Star Governance Student Outcome Goal Report

Millicent Marcha, Chief Academic Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt an order, ordinance, or resolution adopting a tax rate for South San Antonio ISD for tax year 2025 that includes an additional \$0.03 of Tier I tax effort as authorized by Texas Tax Code Section 26.042(e), otherwise known as a disaster pennies tax increase.

Mr. Lopez stated: Discussion and possible action to adopt an order, ordinance, or resolution adopting a tax rate for South San Antonio ISD for tax year 2024 that includes an additional \$0.03 of Tier II tax effort as authorized by Texas Tax Code Section 26.042, otherwise known as a disaster pennies increase.

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr. Kingman stated the recommendation from TASBO and other advisor is basically we seek the Board to approve a Resolution to basically saying that we will adopt the 3 cent increase for the Tier II tax rate. Mr. Yzaguirre stated that the recommendation is to approve as presented.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion to approve as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		

Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

5. Discussion and possible action to accept the Certified Appraisal Roll for Tax Year 2024 for South San Antonio Independent School District.

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr. Araiza moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

6. Discussion and possible action to adopt the Annual Budget for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr. Araiza moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

7. Order by the Board of Trustees of South San Antonio Independent School District authorizing the defeasance and redemption of certain outstanding bonds; approving and authorizing execution of an escrow agreement; authorizing the engagement of a verification agent; and containing other provisions relating thereto

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Araiza moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

8. Discussion and possible action to accept the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate and Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Year 2024 for South San Antonio ISD

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Ramirez moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		

Manuel Lopez	X		
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9. Discussion and possible action to approve the Resolution Adopting the Tax Rate for the 2024-2025 School Year

Tony Kingman, Chief Financial Officer, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.1959 which is effectively a 3.57% increase in the tax rate, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

10. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposal from Garza Bomberger and Associates to design and develop the construction documents for the exterior fence projects for South San Antonio ISD per RFQ#2023-17.

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, and Andy Rocha, Executive Director of Operations, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

11. Discussion and possible action to approve the competitive sealed proposal construction method for the exterior fence installation district wide.

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, Andy Rocha, Executive Director of Operations, and Elizabeth Martinez, Director of Federal Programs, were called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Ramirez moved to approve the item as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

12. Discussion and possible action to accept Trustee Shirley Ibarra's resignation from the position of Board Secretary

Mark Sanchez, Legal Counsel, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mrs. Ramirez made a motion: to approve Trustee Shirley Ibarra's resignation from the position of Board Secretary, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

13. Discussion and possible action to elect Board Secretary.

Mark Sanchez, Legal Counsel, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Araiza made a motion: I would like to make a motion to appoint Ernest Arrellano Jr. to be our new Secretary to the Board for South San ISD, Mr. Lopez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

14. Discussion and possible action to accept the resignation of Shirley Ibarra, Trustee District 4.

Mark Sanchez, Legal Counsel, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano moved to table item# 14, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION

*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. **The Board will return to open session and take appropriate action, if any, on items discussed in closed session. No Action will be taken in closed session. Further, Board Members are reminded that all items discussed in closed session must remain confidential so as to avoid liability to the district. The Board will consider and discuss, the following items:** Closed Meeting pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code §§ 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, and 551.0821*

1. Discussion concerning personnel matters pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

2. Consultation with attorney regarding Superintendent Evaluation Instrument and revision of Superintendent’s Contract

3. Personnel: deliberation of possible censure against Shirley Ibarra, Trustee District 4, for incompetency arising from gross carelessness, unfitness or inability to promptly and properly discharge official duties, official misconduct, neglect of duty, and dereliction of duty.

Start time: 7:36 PM.

End time: 8:34 PM.

OPEN SESSION

1. Discussion and possible action to censure Shirley Ibarra, Trustee District 4, for incompetency arising from gross carelessness, unfitness or inability to promptly and properly discharge official duties, official misconduct, neglect of duty, and dereliction of duty.

Mr. Flores made a motion: I move that the South San Board of Trustees adopt the Resolution of censure against Trustee Shirley Ibarra for incompetence and dereliction of duty, Mr. Araiza seconded, Mr. Lopez read the Resolution into the record:

RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES CENSURING TRUSTEE SHIRLEY IBARRA

WHEREAS, the South San Antonio Independent School District (“District”) Board of Trustees affirms that education is the most important function of state and local governments. The Board of Trustees epitomizes representative and participatory government — citizens elected from our community making decisions about educational programs based on our community needs, values, and expectations; and

WHEREAS, upon election, Trustees take the oath of office in which they solemnly swear to faithfully execute the duties of Trustee and will preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code mandates that Trustees oversee the management of the District and ensure that the Superintendent implements and monitors plans, procedures, programs, and systems to achieve appropriate, clearly defined, and desired results in the major areas of district operations; and

WHEREAS, according to the Texas Education Code, the Board of Trustees may act only by majority vote of the members present at a meeting held in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, at which a quorum is present and voting; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code mandates that Trustees complete all continuing education requirements, including evaluating student academic performance, identifying and reporting abuse, and school safety; and

WHEREAS, District Policy BBD mandates that Trustees, not later than the 90th day after taking the oath of office, shall complete training of not less than one and not more than two hours regarding the responsibilities of the board and its members under the Texas Open Meetings Act and the Texas Public Information Act; and

WHEREAS, District Policy BBD mandates that Trustees shall complete all training required by the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, District Policy BBD mandates that Trustees shall complete local district orientation, Texas Education Code orientation, legislative update orientation, and engage in team building with the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Shirley Ibarra and former Secretary of the Board of Trustees, has failed to attend 74% of the regular meetings, special meetings, Board training sessions, and workshops called by the Board of Trustees since August 9, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Shirley Ibarra and former Secretary of the Board of Trustees, has failed to complete minimum training requirements in the areas of cybersecurity, team building, and additional training requirements; and

WHEREAS, because of chronic absences, Trustee Shirley Ibarra has been and continues to be in serious violation of Texas state law and District policy; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Agency ("TEA") has specifically identified Trustee Shirley Ibarra's failure to execute the duties of Trustee as a serious obstacle to effective Board governance; and

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code §87.011 and District policy BBC defines "incompetency" as the gross ignorance of official duties; gross carelessness in the discharge of those duties; or unfitness or inability to promptly and properly discharge official duties because of a serious physical or mental defect that did not exist at the time of the officer's election; and

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code §87.011 and District policy BBC defines "official misconduct" as intentional, unlawful behavior relating to the official duties by an officer entrusted with the administration of justice or the execution of the law including an intentional or corrupt failure, refusal, or neglect of an officer to perform a duty imposed on the officer by law; and

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code §87.012, §87.013, and District policy BBC state that a Trustee is subject to removal from office for incompetency or official misconduct; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the District hereby deems Trustee Shirley Ibarra as incompetent, grossly ignorant, grossly careless, and unfit for office, as defined by the Texas Local Government Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees does hereby publicly censure Trustee Shirley Ibarra for incompetency and official misconduct for her intentional, unlawful dereliction of duty, and for her intentional failure or refusal to perform the duties of Trustee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the District does hereby publicly censure Trustee Shirley Ibarra for violating her oath of office by failing to execute the duties of her office, betraying the trust of the constituents of District Four, and failing to serve as their elected representative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees does hereby demand that Trustee Shirley Ibarra immediately tender her written resignation from the Board of Trustees to allow another public servant to serve the constituents of District Four; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees direct legal counsel to file a formal complaint on behalf of the Board of Trustees with the Office of the Attorney General and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 87; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this formal censure repudiating Trustee Shirley Ibarra's behavior and actions described herein will be read into the official minutes of the District's proceedings, as required by Board Operating Procedure 8.2.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 21st day of August 2024.

and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Homer Flores Jr.	X		
Manuel Lopez	X		

2. Reconvene from Executive Session for action relative to items considered during ExecutiveSession

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Ramirez moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Arrellano seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM.

ATTEST

Manuel Lopez, Board President

Ernesto Arrellano Jr., 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.

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.