

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 23, 2021, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

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

Absent:

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

Others: Mike Atkins, Dr. Stacy Johnson, Alicia Press, Robert Cedillo, Dr. Corey Seymour, Andrea Martin, Tania Haygood, Vanessa Bersosa-Martinez, Albert Marquez, Cecilia Kellar, Josette Dobbins, Hank Herrick, Debbie Lieb, Ruth Campbell, Daniel Alvarado, Erin Fleet, Eliav Gabay, Bethany Solis, Becca Myers, Seth Rau, Zach Craddock, Berry Borchardt, Tracey Borchardt, Lou Mireles, Mike Miles, Collin Sewell, Evel Zubiate, Amanda Bivins, Albert Anchondo, Mary Franco

25417 Meeting Called to Order: Delma Abalos, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

25418 Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law: Delma Abalos, 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.

25419 Pledge of Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags: The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Tammy Hawkins, Board Vice-President.

25420 Invocation: The Invocation was led by Dr. Steve Brown, Board Secretary.

25421 Special Presentations:

Recognition of ECISD Nursing Director: ECISD Nursing Director Becky Rhodes was recognized for her outstanding leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recognition of State Board of Employer for Education Excellence Gold Award: Collin Sewell of Sewell Family of Companies was honored for receiving the Employer for Educational Excellence Gold Award from the State Board of Education. The Employers for Education Excellence (EEE) award was established in 2007 by the Texas Legislature. Its purpose is to recognize Texas employers that encourage and support employees who actively participate in school activities and promote volunteerism in the public schools.

Recognition of United Way Top Fundraisers: ECISD contributed a total of \$85,163 to United Way 2020 Campaign. The following Department and Campuses were recognized as the United Way Campaign's top fundraisers:

- Curriculum & Instruction - \$3,485
- Travis Elementary School - \$5,103
- Crockett Middle School - \$7,099
- Odessa High School - \$11,840

TASB Purchasing Cooperative BuyBoard Rebate: Because of ECISD's commitment to competitive procurement practices, the Local Government Purchasing Cooperative Board awarded a rebate in the amount of \$100,157 to ECISD for purchases made through BuyBoard in 2019-2020. TASB Purchasing Cooperative BuyBoard Representative Lou Mireles presented ECISD with the rebate check.

25422 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In Dr. Muri's opening comments, he congratulated Trustee Carol Gregg on her recent retirement as a judge. He thanked her for her years as an attorney and a judge, serving the people of Odessa and Ector County. He presented her with a bouquet of flowers to honor her work.

25423 **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)*

Becca Myers addressed agenda item 11-E, she spoke in support of the proposal to partner with IDEA, making it possible for the campus to offer Pre-kindergarten services at its new campus on Yukon Road.

Board Policy

25424 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the Deletion of Board Policy GNC(LOCAL): Relations with Educational Entities Colleges and Universities:** Moved by Minyard, seconded by Brown to approve the Deletion of Board Policy GNC(LOCAL): Relations with Educational Entities Colleges and Universities as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

Report/Discussion Items

25425 **Budget Revenue Discussion:** Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers presented this item for discussion. This presentation focused on the estimated revenues for the coming year.

Based on General Fund revenues, the cost to educate one student in ECISD is about \$54 per day. The District is anticipating an increase in student enrollment of 850 for next year and is projecting an average daily attendance rate of 93% attendance, with 55% economically disadvantaged, 10% Bilingual, and 10% Special Education populations as a basis for funding. The district does not anticipate a change in the tax rate which is currently \$1.17729 (\$1.05470 for Maintenance & Operations and \$.12322 for Debt Service). Gross revenue per penny of tax is \$1,478,008. Total estimated revenues amount to a little more than \$318 million of which 53% comes from local property tax revenue and 40% comes from state funding formulas. Guidance can change as the Texas Legislative session continues.

No action required.

25426 **Legislative Update:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Scott Muri provided Trustees with a brief legislative update. Dr. Muri talked about his recent visit to Austin and his conversations with a variety of Texas Legislators in regard to federal CARES Act funding designated for public schools. He said he and several superintendents talked with a number of legislators about the cost of making up the learning loss created by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that the federal designations would mean up to \$100 million for ECISD to use over the next few years, however, Dr. Muri said the talks he had in Austin lead him to believe state leaders plan to use much of that money to plug other gaps in the budget, not for public education. He and the Trustees talked about different ways to make their wishes known, that they want the Texas Legislature to use the federal money for its intended purpose and that is for funding public education. ECISD is targeting Additional Days School Year (during the summer), high dosage tutoring, professional development and coaching, and personalized learning as the key strategies for recovery of learning loss. The federal dollars would go a long way to paying for it; that money is not part of the regular ECISD budget.

No action required.

25427 **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Brown, seconded by Minyard to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes
- B. Request for Approval of Bills for Payment
- C. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Donations Over \$10K
- D. Request for Approval of the Waiver for the Graduation Requirement for Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- E. Request for Approval of Adding Buena Vista ISD as a Member District of the Ector County Regional Day School Program for the Deaf Shared Services Arrangement Agreement
- F. Request for Approval of the Hybrid Instruction during District-Scheduled Testing Days for K-8 Students Waiver

Motion unanimously approved.

Action Items

25428 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$50,000:** Moved by Minyard, seconded by Brown to approve Purchases over \$50,000 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25429 **Discussion of and Request for Approval to Cancel May 1, 2021 Single Member District Position 2, Position 5, and Position 7 Elections and Certify the Unopposed Candidates “Elected”** **Discusión Y Solicitud De Aprobación Para Cancelar Las Elecciones Del Puesto Posición Numero 2, Posición Numero 5 Y Posición Numero 7 Del Distrito De Un Solo Miembro Del 1 De Mayo De 2021 Y Certificar A Los Candidatos Electos Sin Oposición:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Smith to approve the cancellation of the May 1, 2021 Single Member District Position 2, Position 5, and Position 7 Elections and Certify the Unopposed Candidates “Elected” as presented. The Ector County Elections office has certified Delma Abalos (Position 2), Steve Brown (Position 5), and Nelson Minyard (Position 7) as unopposed for election on May 1, 2021.

Motion unanimously approved.

25430 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Expansion at Austin Montessori Elementary:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Brown to approve the Expansion at Austin Montessori Elementary to include 6th Grade as presented. Austin Montessori is a Choice School serving students from 3-year-old prekindergarten through 5th grade. Adding 6th grade to the model would allow students to have a culminating year of Montessori and provide students an opportunity to complete the final three-year Montessori cycle (currently PK-3, PK-4, PK/ 1st, 2nd, 3rd/ 4th & 5th). As it is a Choice School, Austin receives students from throughout the community and sends students to all six middle schools.

Motion unanimously approved.

25431 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Board of Trustees CARES Act Funding Resolution:** Moved by Smith, seconded by Hawkins to approve the Board of Trustees CARES Act Funding Resolution as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25432 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of IDEA Public Schools Performance Agreement:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Hawkins to approve the IDEA Public Performance Agreement as presented. This agreement allows IDEA Public Schools to partner with ECISD as an Innovation Partner to serve Kindergarten through 2nd grades, and 6th grade in ECISD beginning with the 2021-22 school year. The new IDEA campus is located at 7300 E. Yukon Road.

For:	Against:
Brown	Abalos
Gregg	
Hawkins	
Minyard	
Smith	
Stanley	

Motion carried.

25433 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Third Future Schools – Texas Performance Agreement:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Brown to approve the Third Future Schools – Texas Performance Agreement as presented. This agreement allows Third Future Schools-Texas to partner with ECISD as the Operating Partner of Ector College Prep Success Academy beginning July 1, 2021.

Motion unanimously approved.

25434 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Odessa Family YMCA Performance Agreement:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Stanley to approve the Odessa Family YMCA Performance Agreement as presented. This agreement allows Odessa Family YMCA to partner with ECISD as an Innovation Partner to serve PK3 year old students in ECISD beginning July 1, 2021.

Motion unanimously approved.

25435 **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.] (The Board of Trustees will deliberate the hiring of Executive Director of Athletics.)**
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.] and Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code [Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.] (The Board of Trustees will discuss performance agreements with IDEA Public Schools, Third Future Schools and Odessa Family YMCA.)

Board President Delma Abalos convened the Board of Trustees to closed session at 7:35 p.m.

Board President Delma Abalos reconvened the Board of Trustees to open session at 8:50 p.m.

25436 **Request for Approval of Recommendation to Hire Executive Director of Athletics:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Smith to approve to hire Tracey Borchardt as the Executive Director of Athletics as presented.

Tracey Borchardt began her career in ECISD in 1989 as a Physical Education Teacher and Head Coach at Crockett Middle School. Little did she know it would lead her to become the first female Executive Director of Athletics in the school district's history. Coach Borchardt's hiring was approved unanimously by the Ector County ISD Board of Trustees Tuesday night. After six years at Crockett MS, Coach Borchardt moved to Odessa High School in 1996 and spent 21 years there teaching PE, Health, and AVID and coaching the Lady Bronchos Cross Country and Track & Field teams. In addition to being the Head Cross County and Track & Field coach, she led the girls' athletic programs as the campus athletic coordinator for 16 years. Coach Borchardt is a product of ECISD schools having attended Gonzales Elementary, Nimitz Middle School and Permian High School. She earned her degree from the University of Texas Permian Basin. She will officially start as the Executive Director of Athletics on July 1.

Motion unanimously approved.

25437 **Information Items:** The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items: Financials, Purchasing Report and the Routine Personnel Report.

25438 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

25439 **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.] (Level III Grievance Hearing – Lashaun Perkins)**

Board President Delma Abalos convened the Board of Trustees to closed session at 8:55 p.m.

Board President Delma Abalos reconvened the Board of Trustees to open session at 9:58 p.m.

25440 **Possible Action Concerning Level III Grievance Hearing – Lashaun Perkins:** Moved by Minyard, seconded by Brown to take no action.

Motion unanimously approved.

25441 **Adjournment:** Board President Delma Abalos adjourned the Board meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Board President
Delma Abalos

Board Secretary
Dr. Steve Brown