

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., SEPTEMBER 15, 2020, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

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

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Dr. Stephanie Howard, Dr. Lilia Nanez, Jason Osborne, Deborah Ottmers, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks, Patrick Young

Others: Mike Atkins, Dr. Corey Seymour, Dr. Stacy Johnson, Robert Cedillo, Alicia Press, Andrea Martin, Annette Macias, Nancy Vanley, David Duree, Ruth Campbell, Thomas Demarco, Albert Anchondo, Mary Franco

25225 **Meeting Called to Order:** Delma Abalos, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

25226 **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.

25227 **Pledge of Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags:** The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Tammy Hawkins, ECISD Board Member.

25228 **Invocation:** The Invocation was led by Dr. Steve Brown, ECISD Board Secretary.

25229 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In Dr. Muri's opening remarks, he reminded those in the audience that Phase IV (the final phase) of students returning to school was last week. He said enrollment numbers are below the projection of about 34,000 and sits closer to 32,000. The largest drop is with Pre-kindergarten students, which is something being seen across Texas. It appears parents are keeping these little kids at home. Dr. Muri said next week the District will kick off a Pre-K blitz to encourage parents to send those kids to school. He said we really need the youngest kids in face-to-face environments for them to reap the benefits of early childhood education. Dr. Muri added he is pleased with how things are going so far this school year. He said we are changing 100 years of educational routines and our staff is working very hard to keep learning going. Dr. Muri reminded Trustees the ECISD Opening of Schools Plan last week was one of five plans nationally, held up as examples for other school districts to see.

He also said he is proud of the work done by the planning committee under the leadership of Deputy Superintendent Dr. Stephanie Howard. He closed by saying the work is far from finished, we will continue to work to improve as the year progresses.

25230 **Public Comment**: There was no public comment.

Action Items

25231 **Discuss and Consider Adoption of a Resolution Directing the Redemption of a Portion of the District's Outstanding Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2013; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating to the Subject**: Moved by Minyard, seconded by Brown to approve the Adoption of a Resolution Directing the Redemption of a Portion of the District's Outstanding Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2013; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating to the Subject as presented. Trustees unanimously voted to prepay \$5,235,000 of its existing bonds (Series 2013) that are due in 2038. By doing so, the District will save Ector County taxpayers more than 3.2 million in future interest payments.

Motion unanimously approved.

25232 **Discuss and Consider Adoption of an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Establishing Sale Parameters, Authorization the Execution of a Bond Purchase Contract and Escrow Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating to the Subject**: Moved by Minyard, seconded by Hawkins to approve the Adoption of an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Establishing Sale Parameters, Authorization the Execution of a Bond Purchase Contract and Escrow Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; and Enacting Other Provisions Relating to the Subject as presented. Trustees unanimously voted to refinance certain Bonds due between 2020-2036. This refinancing will save Ector County taxpayers approximately \$13.6 million.

Motion unanimously approved.

25233 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Ordinance to Set 2020 Tax Rate for 2020-2021**: Moved by Brown, seconded by Minyard to approve Ordinance to Set 2020 Tax Rate for 2020-2021 as presented. The total tax rate adopted is \$1.17792, the same as last year.

Motion unanimously approved.

25234 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of 2020-2021 Budget Amendment #3**: Moved by Smith, seconded by Hawkins to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Amendment #3 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25235 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$50,000:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Smith to approve the Purchases over \$50,000 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25236 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of TASB Local Policy Update 115:** Moved by Brown, seconded by Minyard to approve TASB Local Policy Update 115 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25237 **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the 2020-2021 ECISD Campus Improvement Plans:** Moved by Smith, seconded by Hawkins to approve the 2020-2021 ECISD Campus Improvement Plans as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25238 **Discussion and Board Approval of ECISD's Asynchronous Plan, which will be Submitted to the Texas Education Agency for Approval:** Moved by Brown, seconded by Hawkins to approve ECISD's Asynchronous Plan, which will be Submitted to the Texas Education Agency for Approval as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25239 **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Gregg, seconded by Brown to approve Consent Agenda as modified. Item L was pulled from the Consent Agenda to be discussed and voted on independently.

- A. Request for Approval of Minutes
- B. Request for Approval of Bills for Payment
- C. Request for Approval of Agreement Between Ector County Independent School District and the Downtown Lions Club of Odessa
- D. Request for Approval of Additional 2020-2021 T-TESS Appraisers
- E. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between ECISD and Education Foundation of Odessa, Inc.
- F. Request for Approval of Head Start Vehicle Service Contract between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin, Inc.
- G. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Parent Power Program
- H. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Children with Disabilities
- I. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Ector County ISD and Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (GOPB), Inc. Head Start School Readiness Academy – Transition
- J. Request for Approval of Extracurricular Status 4-H Organization Resolution

- K. Request for Approval of Public School District and Open-Enrollment Charter School Agreement 2020-2021 between Ector County ISD and Texas Virtual School Network
- ~~L. Request for Approval of Class Size Waiver for Fall Semester (2020-2021 School Year)~~
- M. Request for Approval of 2020-2021 Cooperative Program Agreement and Data Sharing Agreement between ECISD and University of Texas at Austin

Motion unanimously approved.

25240 **Request for Approval of Class Size Waiver for Fall Semester (2020-2021 School Year)**: Moved by Smith, seconded by Brown to approve the Class Size Waiver for Fall Semester (2020-2021 School Year) as presented.

Report/Discussion Items

25241 **Report from TRE Budget Advisory Committee**: Trustees heard a final update from the TRE Budget Advisory Committee. David Duree represented the community committee that oversaw how the District spent the money gained from the Tax Ratification Election in 2018. The TRE promised raises for all employees, controlled access entrances and fencing for open wings of elementary schools, new buses, and roofing projects to repair hail damage.

No action required.

25242 **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 officer or employee of the District; or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.] (Discussion of Superintendent's Appraisal and Contract)**:

Board President Delma Abalos convened the Board of Trustees to closed session at 8:17 p.m.

Board President Delma Abalos reconvened the Board of Trustees to open session at 9:04 p.m.

25243 **Possible Action on Superintendent's Contract**: Donna Smith, I move that we modify the Superintendent's Employment Contract as follows:

- 1) That its term be extended by one (1) year, to end on June 30, 2025
- 2) That Pursuant to the terms of his contract, his salary be increased 2% which is the same percentage increase that we are giving all full-time classroom teachers.
- 3) That the additional retirement contributions provided for in Paragraph 3.16 of his current contract be increased from 60% to 80%.

Motion seconded by Brown to approve the modification of Superintendent's Contract as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

25244 **Information Items**: The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items: District Safety and Security Audit Report, Financials, Information Report for August 2020, Purchasing Report and Routine Personnel Report.

25245 **Closing Remarks by the Superintendent**: There were no closing.

25246 **Adjournment**: Board President Delma Abalos adjourned the Board meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Board President
Delma Abalos

Board Secretary
Dr. Steve Brown