

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATION BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M., MAY 16, 2023, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

**Present:**

Dr. Steve Brown  
Tammy Hawkins  
Dennis Jones  
Christopher Stanley

**Absent:**

Delma Abalos  
Carol Gregg  
Dr. Donna C. Smith

**School Officials:** Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Dr. Keeley Boyer, Dr. Lilia Nájuez, Deborah Ottmers, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks

**Others:** Tatiana Dennis, Todd Starnes, Karl Miller, Javier Ruiz, Robert Velasco, Ale Garcia, Shannon Davidson, Jalyann Zavala, Rhonda Haley, Ashley Enrriquez, Brandon Young, Jeff Daniels, Casey Hallmark, Annie Stanley, Ramsi Richardson, Shelly Williams, Allie Jarreau, Lindsey Istre, Naomi Fuentes, Brooklyn Arias, Micah Arrott, Margarita Acosta, Aaron Hawley, Heather Lovett, Tracey Borchardt, Mari Willis, Dallas Kennedy, Javier Joven, Sandra Talavera, Wayne Woodall, Jennifer Woodall, Doyle Woodall, Dawn Miller, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

**26300** **Meeting Called to Order:** Dr. Steve Brown, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**26301** **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Dr. Steve Brown, 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.

**26302** **Pledge Allegiance to United States and Texas Flags:** The United States and Texas flag pledges were led by Lamar Early Education Center Students Andrew Ramirez and Ashlynn Salazar.

**26303** **Invocation:** The Invocation was led by Senior Pastor Todd Starnes, First Assembly of God Church.

**26304** **Special Presentations:**

**Recognition of OXY and Ellen Noel Art Museum for Art 2 Go Program for ECISD 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders:** OXY and the Ellen Noel Art Museum were recognized for their commitment to the Art 2 Go program. The generous sponsorship from OXY allows ECISD 2<sup>nd</sup> graders the opportunity to visit the museum free of charge. This program is curriculum aligned for these young learners. Chief Communications Officer Mike Adkins introduced the following representatives from Oxy and the Ellen Noel Art Museum:

- Casey Hallmark, Ellen Noel Art Museum Director of Marketing & Development

- Annie Stanley and Ramsi Richardson from the Ellen Noel Art Museum
- Shelly Williams, OXY Manager Community Relations & Employee Engagement
- Allie Jarreau, OXY Community Relations Advisor
- Lindsey Istre, OXY Employee Engagement Specialist

**Introduction of Principals Selected for Holdsworth Leadership Training:** Chief Communications Officer Mike Adkins introduced a group of seven ECISD principals who through a generous grant from the Permian Strategic Partnership will participate in the Holdsworth Center's Campus Leadership Program.

- Anthony Garcia, Odessa High School
- Jessica Redman, Wilson & Young Medal of Honor Middle School
- Kamyie Smith, Blanton Elementary
- Margarita Acosta, Cameron Elementary
- Micah Arrott, Pease Elementary
- Raquel Rodriguez, Ross Elementary
- Ale Garcia, Travis Elementary

The Holdsworth Center was founded in 2017 by H-E-B Chairman Charles Butt with the belief that great leaders can push student achievement to new heights. The Campus Leadership Program is a two-year journey, designed to build the capacity of leaders to create sustainable change and create a culture of continuous improvement on campuses.

**Announcement of ECISD Memorial Scholarship Winners:** This item was pulled from the agenda and will be presented at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.

**Recognition of Class of 2023 Valedictorians and Salutatorians:** Chief Communications Officer Mike Adkins presented the following Class of 2023 Valedictorians and Salutatorians:

**G.H.W.B. New Tech Odessa**

Nisabella Karais, *Valedictorian*  
Katlynn Nevill, *Salutatorian*

**OCTECHS**

Ashley Enrriquez, *Valedictorian*  
Jalynn Zavala, *Salutatorian*

**Odessa Collegiate Academy**

Cielbi Clark, *Valedictorian*  
Tamara Arenivas, *Salutatorian*

**Odessa High School**

Anastacio Pando, *Valedictorian*  
Gabriel Haley, *Salutatorian*

**Permian High School**

Hannah Douglas, *Valedictorian*  
Rodbert Velasco, *Salutatorian*

## STEM Academy

Allison Barnes, *Valedictorian*

Isaac Arellano, *Salutatorian*

**Recognition of ECISD's Graduation from Raise Your Hand Texas' Trustee Advocates Program:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Muri and the ECISD Board of Trustees participated in the Raise Your Hand Texas' Trustee Advocates Program. They were recognized for their outstanding achievement to build a local public education advocacy network that encourages community connectedness and influences state legislative outcomes.

ECISD was among eight school districts from across the state that participated in the inaugural class of the Raise Your Hand Texas' Trustee Advocates Program, an 18-month-long training series developed by the education advocacy nonprofit Raise Your Hand Texas. The Trustee Advocate Program provides Texas School Boards and Superintendents with the tools they need to become more effective advocates for legislative policy that impacts public schools; during the program participants learn how to build a local public education advocacy network with the purpose of encouraging community connectedness, and supporting public education policy solutions at the state level.

**26305**     **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In his opening comments, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Scott Muri thanked outgoing board member Dennis Jones, who was appointed to the school board in 2022, with the "Extra Mile" award. Dr. Muri also talked about last Friday's Teacher Incentive Allotment announcements. This year 258 ECISD teachers, representing 38 schools, earned \$2.4 million in state incentives because of the academic growth of their students. It is a large increase from one year ago.

**26306**     **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)* The following seven citizens participated during this portion of the meeting.

In public comment, Javier Ruiz, Odessa High School teacher and President of Ector County TSTA congratulated the four recently elected school board members and thanked the outgoing Trustees for their service.

## Board Policy

**26307**     **Discussion of Revisions to Local Board Policy: FM(LOCAL): Student Activities:** Associate Superintendent of Human Capital, Operations and Athletics Anthony Sorola, Ed. D. presented this item for discussion. This policy addresses the UIL exemption to no pass, no play provisions. This policy will be brought back for approval at the June 20, 2023 board meeting.

No action required.

### Action Items

- 26308**     **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Purchases over \$50,000:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Stanley to approve the Purchases over \$50,000 as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26309**     **Discussion of and Request for Approval of the Agreement between ECISD and MSB School Services:** Moved by Stanley, seconded by Hawkins to approve the Agreement between ECISD and MSB School Services as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26310**     **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Ector County Appraisal District Board Member to Fill a Vacancy:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Stanley to approve Mari Spivey Willis to fill a Board Member Vacancy to the Ector County Appraisal District as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26311**     **Consent Agenda:** Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Jones to approve the 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
- D. Request for Approval of the Quarterly Investment Report
- E. Request for Approval of Low Attendance Waiver
- F. Request for Approval of Permian High School Choir Student Out-of-State Travel to New York, NY
- G. Request for Approval of Odessa and Permian High School Theatre Students Out-of-State Travel to Bloomington, Indiana
- H. Request for Approval of Career and Technical Education at New Tech Odessa Culinary Students Out-of-State Travel to Greece

Motion unanimously approved as modified.

### Report/Discussion Items

- 26312**     **The ECISD Portrait of a Graduate Report:** Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction Dr. Lilia Náñez and Associate Superintendent of Student and School Support Alicia Syverson presented this item for discussion. They provided Trustees with an update on the creation of the Portrait of an ECISD Graduate. Over the past year, ECISD team members have worked across divisions to create this Portrait of a Graduate which is, simply put, *what every ECISD student should know and be able to do by graduation to help them navigate a rapidly changing future*. The process

included surveys of several key stakeholder groups, identifying the trends in those responses and creating the profile from those major themes. The profile developed the following qualities:

- **Future Focused** – ECISD graduates have the necessary knowledge and skills to: align their futures with their unique interests and talents; navigate continuing education, higher education, and/or armed forces; train and succeed in the workforce
- **Global Citizen** – ECISD world-ready graduates will be open-minded visionaries who are: empowered, empathetic and ethical.
- **Life Ready** – ECISD graduates are prepared to manage their households independently by having the skills to be: self-sufficient, financially responsible, physically and mentally healthy
- **Community Influencer** – ECISD graduates will create positive impact through: engaging in civic action, communicating respectfully, and utilizing strong interpersonal skills.

The next steps in this process are to break these graduate level characteristics into grade bands that progress from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Then create measurement tools to support growth and provide transparency for our community.

No action required.

**26313**     **Budget Update Discussion:** Dr. Muri briefly talked with school board members about the fact our school district is usually very deep into budget plans for the coming year but there is much more unknown with the Texas legislature this year, so the process locally has slowed. He talked of bills being passed back and forth from the Senate to the House and many pertaining to public school funding are vastly different and will mean the difference of millions of dollars for Texas school districts. He mentioned dollars earmarked for school safety being cut drastically over the weekend, and potential raises for teachers being proposed as minimal one-time bonuses. He said too much is unknown right now to put together a detailed budget for 2023-24; the discussion will move to June after the session in Austin adjourns.

No action required.

**26314**     **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 the Principal at New Tech Odessa High School, Executive Director of Leadership, and Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction.) Security Personnel, Devices or Security Audits – Section 551.076 of the Texas Government Code (The Board will receive and deliberate a School Safety Audit Report.) 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.]:**

Board President Dr. Steve Brown convened the Board of Trustees to closed session at 7:21 p.m.

Board President Dr. Steve Brown reconvened the Board of Trustees to open session at 7:38 p.m.

- 26315**     **Request for Approval of Recommendation to Hire Principal at New Tech Odessa High School**: Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Stanley to approve the recommendation to hire Abel Avila as Principal at New Tech Odessa High School as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26316**     **Request for Approval of Personnel Recommendation to Hire Executive Director of Leadership**: Moved by Stanley, seconded by Hawkins to approve the recommendation to hire Dr. Melissa Skinner as Executive Director of Leadership as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26317**     **Request for Approval of Personnel Recommendation for the Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction**: Moved by Stanley, seconded by Hawkins to approve the recommendation to hire Dr. Andrea Moreno-Hewitt as Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26318**     **Information Items**: The Board of Trustees were provided with the following information items Financials, Purchasing Report, and Routine Personnel Report.

#### **Action Items**

- 26319**     **Discussion of and Request for Approval of Order Canvassing the May 6, 2023 Board of Trustees Election Returns**: Moved by Hawkins, seconded by Stanley to approve the Order Canvassing the May 6, 2023 Trustees Election Returns as presented. These are the final cumulative and precinct by precinct results from each polling place where a trustee position was contested.

Motion unanimously approved.

- 26320**     **Issuance of Board of Trustees Certificates of Election, Filing of Statements of Officer and Administration of the Oath of Office**: Administrative Assistant Sandra Talavera issued the Board of Trustees Certificates of Election, Filing of Statements of Officer and Administration of the Oath of Office for Dawn Miller (SMD-Position 1), Wayne Woodall (SMD-Position 3) and Tammy Hawkins (SMD-Position 6).

Dawn Miller and Tammy Hawkins were both certified as Unopposed Candidates "Elected" on March 28, 2023. Wayne Woodall (SMD-Position 3) is a newly elected school board member replacing Dr. Donna C. Smith.

Robert Thayer (SMD-Position 7) was not in attendance and will be sworn-in at the

**Regular Board Meeting**  
**May 16, 2023**

**7**

June 13, 2023 Board Workshop meeting. Mr. Thayer is also a newly elected school board member and he is replacing Dennis Jones.

Motion unanimously approved.

**26321**     **Closing Remarks by the Superintendent:** There were no closing remarks.

**26322**     **Adjournment:** Board President Dr. Steve Brown adjourned the Board meeting at 7:46 p.m.

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**Board President**  
*Dr. Steve Brown*

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**Board Secretary**  
*Christopher Stanley*