



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, September 20, 2023, 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/Early Departure
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		Arrived at 6:03 PM
Shirley Ibarra	X		Arrived at 6:03 PM
Joe Araiza	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.	X		Departed at 8:19 PM
Homer Flores Jr.	X		Departed at 8:17 PM
Manuel Lopez	X		

Led by Michelle Martinez, Senior Executive Assistant

- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- TEXAS PLEDGE
- PRAYER

Led by Alexis LaFosse, Director of Communications

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Tom Cummins, AFT Representative, addressed the Board regarding the AFT’s Professional Journal. Yvonne Saldivar, Parent, addressed the Board regarding the concerns she had last month being addressed and she asked who will be responsible since the Facilities and Budget Committees were dissolved.

Angelita Olvera, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding her opposition against the renaming the SSHA Athletic Center to Ron Durbon Athletic Center.

Mrs. Rodriguez, Parent, addressed the Board regarding the \$70,000 donation that was given to West Campus High School athletics.

Hector Saenz, parent, addressed the Board regarding the \$70,000 donation that was given to West Campus High School athletics.

Gilbert Rodriguez, parent, addressed the Board regarding the names of the Veterans Memorial and the \$70,000 donation that was given to West Campus.

TEA MONITOR REMARKS/REPORT

Dr. Abe Saavedra, TEA Monitor: Thank you, thank you Mr. Lopez and good evening members of the Board. First I apologize for not being able to be with you this evening other than on the screen. I’m traveling, and my wife and I are traveling, and are out of town and will not return until next week. But I do want to commend the Board, the August Monitors Report I believe was probably one of the most positive reports that this Board has received since my appointment almost 2 years ago, so I would encourage you to continue the good work that you’ve been doing. And agreeing

with Mr. Rodriguez, continue to do the right things that are right for children. I encourage you to do the right things. Also, my last comment is to remind you that you still continue with a deficit and that deficit will never go away until the Board acts on specific recommendations to be able to bring the budget back within the revenue that comes in. So I encourage you to continue to work on that. Those are all of my remarks, and I thank you for the opportunity. Thank you.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS (NO ACTION / REPORT ONLY)

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board and audience thanking the parents for the great attendance in the recent month. He stated that our attendance is going up. He spoke on the states accountability rating, which is how the state grades us, stating we were supposed to be given the ratings on September 26th but now it will be released towards the end of October. He stated that we would be in the Express News because our Domain 1 (student achievement scores) made a lot of progress. He added that we met with a reporter last week. He stated that we are seeking a demographer to get accurate community data. He stated that our state implemented campus security audits will be starting this week and will be year round. He informed that a new radio system was rolled out between campuses and departments. He highlighted the child nutrition program as they had an administrative review through the Texas Ag Dept., and the report shows no findings. He said it is not an easy audit, and he thanked Mrs. Rice and her team for their hard work. He stated that we received a \$70, 000 donation for West Campus HS.

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

Manuel Lopez, Board President, addressed the Board and audience reminding Board members that there is a convention next week, and anyone lacking hours, he stated that he would like for them to start looking online or figuring out how they can pick up some hours.

1. South San Antonio High School Student Heroes

Alexis LaFosse, Director of Communications, and Jose Guereca, Family & Community Engagement Specialist, were called to recognize three students.

PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

1. August 2023 Interim Financials

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

2. August 2023 Quarterly Investment Report

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

3. "Attendance Matters"

Kathleen Antoon, Director of Accountability & Assessment, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

4. Academic Health Report

Millicent Marcha, Chief Academic Officer, and Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, were 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. August 16, 2023 Regular Called

B. August 26, 2023 Special Called

C. August 27, 2023 Special Called

D. September 6, 2023 Special Called

2. Approve the Memorandum with City of San Antonio (Miles of Smiles)

3. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding Between South San Antonio ISD and JOVEN.

4. Superintendent Goals

5. Mastery Prep Contract for GEAR UP Cohort
6. GEAR UP Interlocal Year Six Contract
7. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Board Operating Procedures as discussed at the September 6, 2023 Special Called Meeting.
8. Board Policy Updates
9. 2023-2024 Pay and Compensation Plan Amendment
10. Discussion and possible action to accept the West Campus High School Athletics Program \$70,000 Donation

Mr. Yzaguirre made a recommendation: to approve all items in consent with an amendment to item#8, the Board Policy Updates, I'd like to pull policy DGB local. I believe that's the policy in reference to our current employee organization. I would like to have a little more time to review it and to actually have a discussion with that organization in regards to that policy but everything else I'd like to make a recommendation for approval as presented.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: the motion is to accept the recommendation from the Superintendent as stated, Mrs. Ramirez seconded.

Mr. Flores pulled items #4, #7, #8 and #10.

Mr. Arrellano amended his motion: what the Superintendent recommended aside from items #4, 7, 8, and 10, seconded by Ramirez.

Mr. Martinez pulled item #9.

Mr. Arrellano amended his amended motion: to accept the recommendation from the Superintendent as stated but pulling items 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 6/0/1 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

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

CONSENT Items pulled

Item #- 4 *Superintendent Goals*

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Flores moved to approve the consent agenda item #4 as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 7/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

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

Item #- 7 *Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Board Operating Procedures as discussed at the September 6, 2023 Special Called Meeting.*

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano moved to approve the consent agenda item #7 as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/1/1 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed. Trustees Homer Flores and Abel Martinez refused to sign the approved Board Operating Procedures.

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

Item #- 8 *Board Policy Updates*

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, recited his previous recommendation to approve the Policy Updates with the exception of DGB local.

Mr. Arrellano moved to approve as presented, Mr. Araiza seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0/2 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

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

Item #- 9 *2023-2024 Pay and Compensation Plan 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 7/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

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

Item #- 10 *Discussion and possible action to accept the West Campus High School Athletics Program \$70,000 Donation*

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item. Mr.

Flores moved to approve the item as presented, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 7/0 to approve the item as presented. Motion passed.

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. Discussion and possible action to rename the South San Athletic Center to Ron Durbon Athletic Center

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I make a motion that we approve the naming of the South San Athletic Center back to the Ron Durbon Athletic Center, seconded by Mrs. Ramirez, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/2. Motion passed.

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

2. Discussion and possible action to accept the Veterans Memorial Criteria of Recognition of Name Placement as discussed at the September 6, 2023 Special Called Meeting.

Henry Yzaguirre, Superintendent, was called to present and answer questions related to this item.

Mr. Arrellano made a motion: I make a motion that we approve item #2 Discussion and Possible Action as presented

Mark Sanchez, Legal Counsel, advised that the motion does not clarify what the selection is.

Mr. Arrellano stated: I move that we move to approve the naming of the Veterans memorial that the names that would go on that memorial are for service members that died in service (in wartime *clarified by Mr. Sanchez), Mrs. Ramirez seconded

Mr. Flores made a substitute motion: that we include all alumni that are enlisted, Veteran's killed in action, or missing in action, Mr. Martinez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 2/5. Motion failed.

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

The Board of Trustees voted on the original motion by Mr. Arrellano 5/2. Motion passed.

Vote:	Yes	No	Abstained
Ernesto Arrellano Jr.	X		
Cyndi Ramirez	X		
Shirley Ibarra	X		
Joe Araiza	X		
Abel Martinez Jr.		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 re: status of TEA Investigation and all matters related thereto. (551.071)

Start time: 8:11 PM.

End time: 9:05 PM.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

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

Consultation with Attorney re: status of TEA Investigation and all matters related thereto.(551.071)

Ms. Ibarra made a motion: I move that the South San Antonio Board of Trustees accepts the Resolution offered by the Texas Education Agency regarding all pending investigations and direct legal to proceed as discussed in Executive Session, Mrs. Ramirez seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted 5/0. Motion passed.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Ramirez moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Ibarra seconded, and the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM.

ATTEST

Manuel Lopez, Board President

Shirley Ibarra, 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.