



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of Board Minutes for the Month of August 2018

SUBMITTED BY: Alejandra Salinas **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: October 17, 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees approve the Board Meeting Minutes for:

1. Public Hearing – August 22, 2018
2. Regular Board Meeting – August 22, 2018

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting Govt. Code § 551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

POLICY REFERENCE & COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

Public Hearing
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

August 22, 2018

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Aliza Flores Oliveros - President – PRESENT
Ramiro Veliz, III – Vice President –PRESENT
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary – PRESENT
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian –PRESENT
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member – ABSENT
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Member – ABSENT
Judd Gilpin – Member – PRESENT

A Public Hearing to discuss 2018-2019 Budget and Proposed 2018 Tax Rate of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

- II. An announcement was made by the Board President, calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:09 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.**

Aliza Flores Oliveros – I would like to welcome everybody to the 2018-2019 United Independent School District School Year and on top of that I would like to congratulate everyone on a job well done. I think I speak on behalf of my colleagues, you make us shine. I appreciate that and for me you are the “A” in Team Work. Congratulations and thank you.

We will skip Agenda Item II and we’re going to go to Agenda Item III – Public comments regarding the 2018-2019 Budget and Proposed 2018 Tax Rate

- III. Public Comments regarding 2018-2019 Budget and Proposed 2018 Tax Rate: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute.**

Juan Cruz – there are no comments

Laida Benavides – I would like to explain that notice of this Public Hearing was published in the Laredo Morning Times 10 days ago on August 12th so we are complying with the law there. You can see there that our budget, the three funds that we need to adopt this evening in the Regular Board Meeting and the tax rate will be also adopted within the Regular Board Meeting. We see that our budget is balanced and that it takes care of all the needs of our campuses and departments for this coming school year. It has compensation, it has coverage of health insurance and of course it has the support of the three new campuses that we opened and I think it has the support to continue the good things that we see in our schools too so we think that's enough money.

Aliza Flores Oliveros – thank you, we appreciate it.

Juan Cruz – we would have to adjourn this meeting and then proceed with the regular meeting.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Public Hearing of August 22, 2018, was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Seconded by: Judd Gilpin

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

Aliza Flores Oliveros, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary

Regular Board Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

August 22, 2018

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Aliza Flores Oliveros - President – PRESENT
Ramiro Veliz, III – Vice President –PRESENT
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary – PRESENT
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian –PRESENT
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member – ABSENT
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Member – ABSENT
Judd Gilpin – Member – PRESENT

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 in the United ISD – Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

- I. **An announcement was made by the Board President, calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:13 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - A. **Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.**

Roberto Santos – I would like to see if the board would consider moving the Individual Agenda Item VIII-H

Aliza Flores Oliveros – Item VIII-A – Approval of donations, Mr. Santos

Juan Cruz – I think we’re just going to do Item VIII-H – which is the Public Hearing on the District Accountability Rating

Roberto Santos – before Mr. Gonzalez addresses the board, there’s a couple of comments I’d like to make. Number one, obviously we are an A rated district and he’ll give you some data that I think is very impressive but I really want to thank the board for the support that you all always give us in all things at United ISD. All the way from the campus administration to staffing, facilities, all the way around and we feel that this is a complete united effort, not only the campus administration but I think everybody works in one direction to hopefully get our campuses ready, get our administrators ready, get our teachers ready and at the end of the day the product is how well our students have done. We also want to thank the parents for their support in helping by bringing the students in and at the end of the day we’re one of the very few

districts in the state of Texas this size that's rated an A and there's more to come and I really want to thank the board. I want to thank staff that's here for what they do and the board, thank you very much.

Juan Cruz – Ms. Oliveros needs to open the Public Hearing

Motion: So Move
Moved by: Aliza Flores Oliveros
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

David Gonzalez – good evening members of the board, Mr. Santos, UISD administrators and staff at UISD.

Mr. Gonzalez proceeded with a powerpoint presentation of the District Accountability Rating – Presentation is available upon request.

Emma Leza – presented information on District Accountability Rating – Presentation available on request.

Judd Gilpin – I would recommend that, there's a big team, we have obviously a team leadership here in this building but there's so many people, all of our staff members throughout UISD, every single one of them contributes to the success and it would be very nice to prepare a letter and send it out on behalf of the board expressing our appreciation for that success.

Mr. Roberto Santos – Absolutely, I think we have over 6,000 employees that have an e-mail and we'll definitely work with Ms. Oliveros and get a letter out on behalf of her and the board. You're right, I think it took a lot of effort district-wide from all the employees and I think we'd also like to, that same letter, somehow we'd like to send it to Laredo Times to have it published on the letters to the editor and I think also some of our campuses have a newsletter to the parents and I think that's important also to work with the campuses and I know Ms. Rendon will work with you to get the letter out.

Aliza Flores Oliveros – thank you Mr. Santos

Roberto Santos – again, I go back and I want to thank the board. If you look at the numbers and the number of districts our size, there are very few and we have to attribute to staff, parents and students. Everybody is a joint effort and we are extremely proud of what we have done.

Aliza Flores Oliveros – thank you Mr. Santos. Definitely include parents in that team work as well. No other public comments. I need a motion to close the public hearing.

Motion: So Move
Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III
Seconded by: Judd Gilpin
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

III. Board Announcements

IV. Recognitions

Mr. Santos – there are no recognitions

V. Superintendent's Report

VI. **Public Comments:** Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy. Additionally, pursuant to board policies BED (LEGAL) and BED (LOCAL), drifting from the stated topic or becoming disruptive shall result in a warning from the board president. A second violation will result in forfeiture of your allotted time and removal from the board meeting. Disruptions include speaking on behalf of or against a person running for political office, promotion of a for-profit organization, or advertisement of products or services to the Board.

Mr. Baldemar Garcia, Jr. – I am here on behalf of Agenda Item X-A-2, the termination of the mini billboard contract with Impacto Media. Mr. Montalvo is here and I had sent a letter to Mr. Cruz and some of Mr. Montalvo's clients have tried to reach out to their respective board members. The reason I'm here is to tell the board that I have a wonderful golden opportunity with this contract that UISD entered into with Impacto Media and when I say golden opportunity, it's one of the rare instances that we have where the school district can have a revenue generating. I know the school district gets most of its funding from the state and that's understandable with public education. But in this unique situation, the school district actually has a revenue center that's going to make money for it as opposed to a cost center and I think that is something very innovative and very creative that the board had the vision to do. That was one of the positive things about it. The other thing, as far as the negatives, we were told that there could be safety concerns with the placement of the mini billboards and aesthetics or the way that the campuses look and Mr. Montalvo, in the letter that we sent to the board, said he is willing to make any changes the school district might want and he probably didn't get a chance to communicate that to the board effectively enough last time. But if there's a problem with the location of the mini billboard he is willing to move it, either remove it or relocate it. The way we would like to effectuate that at each campus reach out to the respective principals and teachers and have a group or a board or an organization that can be involved in the selection of signs, as far as content, location, removing a board all together and so that's one way we would like to get the schools more involved with the process. Mr. Montalvo is willing to retain a traffic engineer if there's any safety issues or meet with the school's traffic department or police department to address any safety concerns. Again with

regards to the appearance at the campuses, he is willing to move the signs and improve the overall look at the schools so he just wants a chance to try to do that, to get the board to reconsider the termination of his contract. It's a terminable at will contract so if he can't address the concerns, the board could always terminate it later. Just give him a chance to try to reach the full potential of this project. The last couple of things I wanted to say is that what's exciting about this opportunity is for a private public joint venture that could be a model for future contracts between the private enterprise and public enterprise. The billboards all have a positive sign. Our idea is also to focus on the positive message and make it more of a public service announcement and less of an advertisement if you will and businesses that are consistent with the school board message or its mission, higher education (TAMU), wellness gyms, doctor's offices, healthy living, those sorts of things. The last point I wanted to make is again it's an exciting onset, this partnering, this joint venturing, if you will, between private enterprise businesses that are advertising through Mr. Montalvo on the school district campuses. It brings those businesses to the school district, they promote a positive message. The children when they're at the school, not only the positive messages that they get from their teachers and administrators and the staff, when they leave the school they see those messages, the parents see those messages. Those are the kinds of businesses we want to see prosper in this community and the fact that they're choosing to advertise with Mr. Montalvo indirectly but really directly with UISD, it's a wonderful opportunity for those businesses to reach out to the students and the parents but also to promote these positive messages so the students see that it's everywhere. It's got a great public message to it, it's a money maker for the school. I know that the board is concerned with maximizing its revenue and reducing its costs and a creative way to create a revenue stream and maybe there's other businesses out there that want to do business with the school district and this is the manner of doing so where we're promoting positive messages like Mr. Montalvo's business. I will end and would ask the board to reconsider the termination as a UISD tax payer, the parent of a former UISD student and current UISD student and a proud former UISD student myself. Thank you very much for your time.

VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval of Budget Amendments
- C. Submission of Appraisal Roll to the Governing Body
- D. Approval of Property Tax Refunds for the Month of July 2018
- E. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- F. Approval of First and Final Reading of CH (LOCAL) Board Policy
- G. Approval of First and Final Reading of DEAB (LOCAL) Board Policy (Compensation Plan Wage and Hour Laws)
- H. Second and Final Reading of Policy Update 111 Affecting Local Policies
- I. Approval of AccElluminate (Language Proficiency Assessment Committee Web-Based System)
- J. Approval of Interlocal Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding Between the Webb County Juvenile Board and United Independent School District for the 2018-2019 School Year

K. Approval of United ISD Appraisal Calendar for the 2018-2019 School Year

L. Approval of Appraisers for the 2018-2019 School Year

Ms. Aliza Oliveros – is there a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: *Mr. Gilpin – so the motion was to approve consent agenda items VII-A through VII-L. Mr. Juan Cruz - Correct*

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

VIII. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Approval of Donations

Mr. Roberto Santos read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$1,250.00

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Seconded by: Judd Gilpin

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

B. Approval of Board Minutes for the Month of July 2018

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

C. Approval of Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Projects/Campuses

Mr. Eduardo Zuniga – besides the requests that are in your packet there are several other requests that I'd like to read into the record. There are seven requests.

- *LBJ High School, Mr. Armando Salazar, Principal, sponsored by each board member for \$5,000.00 each*

- *JB Alexander High School, Mr. Sandoval, Principal, sponsored by Ms. Oliveros for \$8,000.00*
- *United Middle School, Ms. Rebecca Coss Morales, Principal, sponsored by Mr. Javier Montemayor for \$4,000.00*
- *JB Alexander High School, sponsored by Mr. Javier Montemayor for \$4,000.00*
- *United Middle School, Ms. Morales, Principal, co-sponsored by Mr. Javier Montemayor and Mr. Aliza Flores Oliveros for \$3,000.00 each for a total of \$6,000.00*
- *LBJ High School, Mr. Armando Salazar, Principal, sponsored by Mr. Ramiro Veliz in the amount of \$2,500.00*
- *LBJ High School, Mr. Armando Salazar, Principal, co-sponsored by Mr. Ricardo Molina for \$7,000.00 and Mr. Ramiro Veliz, III for \$2,500.00, Juan Roberto Ramirez for \$2,250.00 and Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez for \$2,500.00 for a total of \$14,250.00*

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III
 Seconded by: Judd Gilpin
 Discussion: None
 In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

D. Approval of Board Member Travel for the Month of September 2018

Mr. Roberto Santos – my recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve the board travel for the month of September to attend the 2018 TASA/TASB Convention in Austin.

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III
 Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
 Discussion: None
 In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

E. Adopt Official Budget for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year

Laida Benavides – we are bringing to you the proposed official budget for the 18-19 fiscal year. It was prepared to cover all estimated revenue and proposed expenditures of the district for the following school year. It was prepared by August 20th as required by law and a notice of the public meeting to discuss the budget and propose tax rate was published in the Laredo Morning Times. We have the sections Texas Education Agency code references that we follow to prepare this budget and I'd like to report that it is a balanced budget for all three funds.

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
 Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

Ms. Laida Benavides – I would like to take a minute. I have my staff that helped prepare the budget. We have Ms. Rosa Cabello, Accounting Manager; Belinda Salazar, Budget Manager; Marc Ceballos, Payroll Manager; Felipe Jimenez, Student Activities Manager; Sam Flores, Comptroller; Irene Ruiz, Senior Accountant. I wouldn't be able to bring you this without their help.

Ms. Oliveros – And you as well and congratulations on that 100 out of 100 for fiscal accountability. Congratulations

Ms. Laida Benavides – Yes, Thank you.

Mr. Juan Cruz, stated we need to go to item VIII-F

F. Resolution to Adopt 2018 Tax Rate

Aliza Flores Oliveros – Is there a motion regarding the Resolution to adopt the 2018 Tax Rate as presented?

Judd Gilpin – I think the language needs to be a little more specific. I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of the tax rate of 1.251723 dollars which is effectively a 7.89% increase in the tax rate

Juan Cruz – Ms. Madrigal will read the resolution

Monica Madrigal – I will read the rest of the resolution. (Ms. Madrigal read the resolution into the minutes- Resolution is available upon request)

Aliza Flores Oliveros – As a board member and a tax payer, thank you, we appreciate it

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Judd Gilpin
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

G. Discussion/Action to Approve Legal Services Contract with the law firm of Valls & Marroquin, LLP

Juan Cruz – the recommendation is to approve the Legal Services Contract with the law firm of Valls & Marroquin, LLP

Motion: So Move
Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

H. PUBLIC HEARING: District Accountability Rating

IX. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session pursuant to the following sessions of the Texas Open Meetings Act

The Board adjourned into closed session at 6:48 p.m.

A. TGC 551.071(1).(A) Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation

1. Discussion, including consultation with Board's attorney, regarding authorizing the District's legal counsel to pursue an appeal of the Commissioner of Education decisions in the cases of Lina Volpe v. United ISD, Docket Nos. 012-R10-11-2017 and 023-R10-01-2018 and Paul Kane v. United ISD, Docket Nos. 013-R10-11-2017 and 024-R10-01-2018, currently pending before the Commissioner of Education of the State of Texas, and any other matter incident thereto.

2. Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Impacto Media Contract

B. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Attorney
TGC 551.072 Deliberation Regarding Real Property

1. Report regarding the costs arising from the Agreement of Sale and Purchase between ALS Holdings of Laredo, LLC and UISD and issues that have arisen with respect to the sanitary sewer line servicing the property purchased pursuant to such Agreement. The Property is a 15.39 acre tract described in deed filed in the deed records in Vol. 3719, Page 127 of the Deed Records of Webb County, Texas

2. Status Report regarding the platting of Aquero Subdivision Middle School and the City of Laredo traffic lane requirements for the Ninety (90') foot Right-of-Way fronting the proposed Aquero Middle School.

C. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Attorney
TGC 551.074 Personnel Matters

1. Discussion Re: Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities

D. TGC 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting
TGC 551.076 Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits; Closed Meeting

1. Student Activity Funds Audits: Elementary Schools – Arndt, Col. Santos Benavides, Ruiz, Trautmann, Cuellar and Prada

2. Student Activity Funds Audits: Middle and High Schools – United South MS and AHS 9th Grade Campus
3. Special Education Department – PEIMS Coding and FTE's
4. Migrant Education Program NGS Student Identification
5. Health Services Department State Requirements
6. District Advertising Agreements
7. Musical Instruments Inventory – Spring 2018
8. Student Travel Audit
9. Police and Security Department Overtime
10. Status of On-Going Audits

X. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 7:59 p.m.

- A. Discussion and Possible Action to authorize the District's legal counsel to pursue and appeal of the Commissioner of Education decisions in the cases of Lina Volpe v. United ISD, Docket Nos. 012-R10-11-2017 and 023-R10-01-2018 and Paul Kane v. United ISD, Docket Nos. 013-R10-11-2017 and 024-R10-01-2018, currently pending before the Commissioner of Education of the State of Texas

Juan Cruz – Madam President and members of the board, the recommendation on Agenda Item X-A is not to pursue an appeal of the Commissioner of Education decisions in the cases of Lina Volpe and Paul Kane v. UISD as presented in closed session

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Seconded by: Judd Gilpin

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

- B. Action Regarding Invoking or Waiving Mediation Clause in the Contract Between UISD and Impacto Media

Juan Cruz – the recommendation on this item is to table it

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Ricardo Molina

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion: *Aliza Flores Oliveros – I just wanted to let Impacto Media know that we have many ideas that we would like to discuss with you. We do not have a full board right now and the board members that are missing, we know that they have ideas that they would want to contribute to the contract so for that reason we are going to table this*

In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION PASSES

- C. Possible Action regarding the costs arising from the Agreement of Sale and Purchase between ALS Holdings of Laredo, LLC and UISD

Juan Cruz – for agenda item X-C, there is no action to be taken at this point

Roberto Santos – before we adjourn can I make one announcement please?

Aliza Flores Oliveros – Yes

Roberto Santos – I would like to announce, obviously with board approval, the recommendation to promote Mr. David Garcia to Associate Superintendent for Human Resources

Aliza Flores Oliveros – Congratulations Mr. Garcia

Roberto Santos – Well Deserved

Juan Roberto Ramirez – Congratulations Mr. Garcia, you have to work more

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Meeting of August 22, 2018 was adjourned at 8: 01 p.m.

Motion: So Move

Moved by: Judd Gilpin

Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Discussion: None

In Favor: Unanimous

Aliza Flores Oliveros, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez, Secretary