



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC _____ Board Minutes _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____ Delia C. Campos _____ **OF:** _____ Board Secretary _____

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____ May 15, 2013 _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

Special Called Meeting – April 9, 2013
Regular Board Meeting – April 17, 2013
Special Called Meeting – April 17, 2013

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

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

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

**Special Called Meeting
April 9, 2013**

**The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb**

In Attendance

Robert J. Santos
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian - Absent
Pat Campos– Member - Absent
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member
Ramiro Veliz, III– Member

The Board of Trustees of United ISD met in a Special Called meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2013, beginning at 7:19 PM in the United ISD Boardroom, Laredo, TX 78045.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Employment Contracts, Addendums, Letters of Assurance for 2013-2014 School/Work Year

Those are just the form documents that we will use for the next year. There is not a legislature session going on so we did not change much on the contracts that we used last year. These are not people just the forms that we will be using for the 2013-2014 school year.

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed

IV. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 7:21 p. m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

**A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against
Personnel**

1. Discussion, including Consultation with Legal Counsel, re: Rescind Proposed Termination of Robert Sanchez' Employment Contract due to Mr. Sanchez' Resignation
2. Discussion, including Consultation with Legal Counsel, in regards to Proposed Non-Renewal of the Term Contract of Classroom Teacher(s); Authorize Superintendent to send notice of same; designate Attorneys to conduct hearings pursuant to Section 21.207 of the Texas Education Code
3. Level III Grievance of L. Rendon
4. Level III Grievance of J. Saenz

Juan Cruz - Mr. Gilpin if we can remain in this room for the grievance. There is only going to be one grievance which is the J. Saenz grievance. The other grievances have been resolved. We would kindly ask the members of the audience if they can step out so we can continue with the meeting.

V. Reconvened from Closed Session at 8:23 p.m., the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session.

A. Action in re: Rescind Proposed Termination of Robert Sanchez' Employment Contract due to Mr. Sanchez' Resignation

Mr. President, Members of the Board the recommendation is to rescind the Proposed Termination of Robert Sanchez' Employment Contract due to Mr. Sanchez' Resignation as discussed in closed session

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Javier Montemayor
Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

B. Action in regards to Proposed Non-Renewal of the Term Contract of Classroom Teacher(s); Authorize Superintendent to send notice of same; designate Attorneys to conduct hearing pursuant to Section 21.207 of the Texas Education Code

There are two motions the first recommendation by the Administration is to propose the Non-Renewal of Mr. Christopher Ryan Aguilera's term contract for the reasons discussed in closed session; and Authorize Superintendent to send notice of same to Mr. Aguilera; designate Madeline Escoto to conduct hearing pursuant to Section 21.207 of the Texas Education Code

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
Seconded by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed

The same agenda item the second recommendation by the Administration is to propose the Non-renewal of Ms. Louise Williams term contract for the reasons discussed in closed session; Authorize Superintendent to send notice to Ms. Williams; designate Madeline Escoto to conduct hearing pursuant to Section 21.207 of the Texas Education Code

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Juan Roberto Ramirez
Seconded by: Javier Montemayor
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed

C. Action in re: Level III Grievance of L. Rendon

In re: to Mr. L. Rendon there is no action taken

Motion: So moved

Motion by:
Seconded by:
Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed

D. Action in re: Level III Grievance of J. Saenz

Juan Cruz – In respect to Mr. Saenz the motion will be made by the school board.

Motion by: Juan Roberto Ramirez – I move to uphold the administration's decision to dismiss Mr. J. Saenz grievance for untimely filing

Seconded by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Ramiro Veliz, III, Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, Juan Roberto Ramirez, Judd Gilpin

Opposed: Javier Montemayor

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Special Called Meeting of April 9, 2013, was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Secretary

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

April 17, 2013

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Pat Campos – Absent
Ramiro Veliz, III – Arrived at 7:00pm
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member

Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order

I. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

II. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, April 17, 2013, in the Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President, Judd Gilpin made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:08 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.

III. 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.

IV. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements**
- B. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications**
- C. Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize, by Resolution, the Extension of the District's Depository Contract for the 2013-2015 Biennium**
- D. Approval of Resolution for Sale of Salvage Equipment**
- E. Approval of Requests from Board Members re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Projects/Campuses**

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committee Members had met and were recommending the approval of items A-E.

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

V. Items for Individual Consideration

- A. Board Minutes for the Month of March 2013**

- 1. Regular Board Meeting – February 20, 2013**

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations into the minutes and requested that the Board accept the generous donations to UISD totaling \$9,635.75.

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

VI. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session at 6:13 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel

1. Conduct Annual Evaluation of Internal Auditor and Contract Extension

B. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel

551.076 Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of, security personnel or devices

1. Status of on-going Audits

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:01 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

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

Javier Montemayor – Mr. President, I move that we approve the Annual Evaluation of the Internal Auditor and to Extend the Contract of Mrs. Stahl our External Auditor.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Javier Montemayor

Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2013 was adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary

Special Called Meeting
April 17, 2013

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

In Attendance

Robert J. Santos
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramírez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Pat Campos – Member - **Absent**
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member
Ramiro Veliz, III - Member

The Board of Trustees of United ISD met in a Special Called meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2013, beginning at 7:13 PM in the United ISD – Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building #1, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043.

- I. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings 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.
- III. Informational Item
 - A. Presentation by Raymond Turco and Associates on results from the “Employee and Public Bond Awareness Survey

Mr. Raymond Turco made a presentation on the results of the survey. A copy of the presentation is available for your review.

Mr. Gilpin – we will also entertain questions from the audience if anyone raises their hand.

I have a general question. I notice that you mentioned we are in good standing in our community with seniors compared with other we looked at. We have looked at your qualifications. What are our opportunities compared to other projects you have worked on?

Mt. Turco – The opportunities for this bond election at this moment is excellent.

Mr. Gilpin – So you would consider our public compared to others to be pretty receptive.

Mr. Turco – Very receptive

Mr. Gilpin - The other question that I touched upon was the other sources we would utilize to get the information out. Obviously, you talked about the swing being 8 to 10 percentage points for the voting public. There is some improvement to get more information. Going back to the sources we are pretty high in television both with our employees and the voting in general.

Mr. Turco – I believe the opportunity to inform the public through newspaper and television is in the best to the district ability. It's more critical, because in the television and newspaper because there is a lot of information the district can give is limited. Where in the website and mailers is almost unlimited in the information the district can give.

The district can distribute information, answer any questions, share information but the newspaper and television will address in their way. The district sources are addressing the district only.

Mr. Roberto J Santos - Can you share a little bit on the teachers and the impact they have based on the survey?

Mr. Turco – If we look at the voters and we know that all the voters are voting we don't necessarily know that all the employees are voting. We look for the teachers for information. Among staff is not as important a source.

Mr. Montemayor – Where did you pick these priorities? The technology, the safety, security measures were those just generic?

Mr. Turco - We started thinking about how to design your survey and those were items that we had and in some instances those were items that we used in other school districts. The technology and the safety issues were information we used in other surveys.

Every question was presented and read off a sheet and each question was read off a sheet in Spanish and English. All I did was to rank them.

Mr. Roberto Santos – Can you share with the Board what other districts you have worked with?

Mr. Turco – I have done this since 1982. I have worked with the Arlington School District, they have had a Bond Election fail and we were brought in to sample the voters. We did that and took the information we found out and were able to turn that information around for a positive cause way back when we still had issues with astro turf, and issues on how you formatted an item and the election passed. We have worked with the Northside School District in San Antonio for the last three years and have passed over 2/3 billion in bond elections. I went to see them back in 1980 and they were getting ready to have a billion dollar bond election and they said we don't need your help. We have done a lot of work with McAllen, Northside ISD and Plano ISD

Any questions from the audience –

Mrs. Pat Lanes -on the questionnaires that the parents did, did you keep a count as to how many you interviewed in Spanish and in English.

Mr. Turco - We have those questionnaires, but we don't have the information calculated.

Mrs. Pat Lanes- Could that be something you could calculate so we know that the information that we are publicizing is correct. Are the senior's mostly English speakers, Spanish speakers or half and half?

Roberto J Santos - probably we will have to do it in both languages. I think.

Judd Gilpin – I have a couple of comments I would like to share with the board and utilize to inform the public on the sources that are in our control which is the newspaper and television. Consider getting someone on board that specializes in this kind of projects. What I am looking at if 80% of the general public and 70% of our employees are looking at the television we can't ignore that. We need to do our best in that. And the same thing goes for the newspaper. This is a very specialized project and is very critical.

Mr. Roberto J. Santos – we can begin to look for someone with the expertise in public education awareness.

IV. Action Item

- A. Discussion of results of the "Employee and Public Bond Awareness Survey" with possible direction from the Board of Trustees to Administration based on survey results

Motion: Javier Montemayor made two motions:

1. One is to create a Special Committee to study the awareness results that were presented to us and the determination of the makeup of Board President according to BBD (LOCAL) policy that we have.
2. Second motion is to give Administration the authority to identify the awareness consultant and at the same time to come back with a timeline before the next board meeting.

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

Roberto Santos – I want to thank the Board for supporting this and also thank the staff, principals, directors and the rest of the staff to be able to hear what our paras and our employees are saying.

Judd Gilpin – The results show that our staff showed lot of bearing on the outcome of this survey.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Special Called Meeting of April 17, 2013, was adjourned at 8:10 pm

Judd Gilpin, President

Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, Secretary