



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC _____ Board Minutes for the Month of December 2015

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

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____ January 20, 2016

RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. Public Hearing – December 8, 2015
2. Regular Board Meeting – December 16, 2015

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).

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

December 8, 2015

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

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

A Public Hearing to Discuss Schools FIRST, Financial Rating System of the Board of Trustees of United I.S.D. was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at the United ISD – Boardroom, 201 Lindenwood Dr., Laredo, TX 78045.

- I. **Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order**
- II. **An announcement was made by the Board President, Javier Montemayor, calling the Public Hearing of the United Independent School District to order at 6:21 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. **Overview of the School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)**

Mrs. Laida Benavides addressed the board and stated they were presenting information on the FIRST report as required by the Texas Education Agency. She stated that one of the requirements was to advertise the Public Hearing in the newspaper which they did and went on to present the information. (Presentation is attached as part of the minutes)

Ms. Benavides stated that the district received a Pass rating which was previously considered "Superior Achievement" but TEA is changing the way they are doing the ratings. She explained that this rating is based on 16-30 points on the different indicators and a "yes" answer to every single Critical Indicator and United ISD received 30 points on this rating. She commented that this was a joint effort from the board and all the different departments present at the meeting.

Ms. Benavides further explained the Critical Indicators (4) and the Financial Competence Indicators (3) and stated that this is the 13th straight year that we passed and thanked all the departments for their cooperation.

Mr. Roberto Santos addressed the board and stated he would like to thank Mr. Zuniga, Laida, Sam and their staff and the rest of the department for doing their part. He commented that the integrity of the financial system is very important for us.

The board congratulated Ms. Benavides.

IV. School District's Rating – Passed

V. Public Comments on the Report

No Public Comments

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Javier Montemayor adjourned the Public Hearing.

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Public Hearing of December 8, 2015, was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Javier Montemayor, President

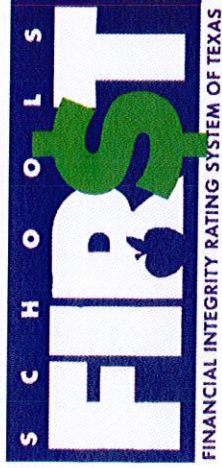
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez, Secretary



The United Independent School District



Annual Financial Management Report 2015



School FIRST:

Financial Integrity Rating
System of Texas

FIRST RATINGS

- Pass
 - “Superior Achievement” in Prior Years
16–30 points and “YES” to Critical Indicators
- Standard Achievement
 - 0–15 points or Fail a Critical Indicator



School FIRST:

Financial Integrity Rating
System of Texas

7 INDICATORS

- Critical Indicators (4)
- Financial Competence (3)



School FIRST:

Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas

CRITICAL INDICATORS 1 - 4

Indicator No.	Indicator Description	Result	Calculation	Result	Calculation
1	Was the complete annual financial report (AFR) and data submitted to the TEA within 30 days of the November 27 or January 28 deadline depending on the school district's fiscal year end date of June 30 or August 31, respectively?	Yes		Yes	
2	Was there an unmodified opinion in the AFR on the financial statements as a whole?	Yes	Date Received 12/18/2014	Days Early 72	52 days early Passed
3	Was the school district in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at fiscal year end?	Yes		Passed	Passed
4	Was the total unrestricted net assets balances (Net of the accretion of interest for capital appreciation bonds) in the governmental activities column in the statement of Net Assets greater than zero?	Yes	Unrestricted Net Assets \$12,243,871	Plus Accretion \$21,114,318	Passed \$33,358,189 \$102,328,053

FINANCIAL COMPETENCE

INDICATORS 1 - 4

Indicator No.	Indicator Description	Result	Calculation	Result	Calculation
5	Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio? (See ranges below.)	10 of 10	District Ratio	State Law	5 of 5
		8.02%	11.05%	Passed	Passed
					7.45%
6	Did the comparison of Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to like information in the school district's AFR result in a total variance of less than 3 percent of all expenditures by function?	10 of 10	No. of Data Error	No. of Data	5 of 5
		832	344,690,186	0.0000%	0.0000%
7	Did the external independent auditor report that the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weakness in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material weakness.)	10 of 10			Yes
			Passed	Passed	Passed



School FIRST:

Financial Integrity Rating
System of Texas

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



“Pass”

(UISD's 13th Straight Year)



School FIRST:

**Financial Integrity Rating
System of Texas**



Thank You for Your Support

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

December 16, 2015

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Javier Montemayor, Jr. – President ABSENT
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Ramiro Veliz, III - Member ABSENT
Aliza Flores Oliveros – Member ABSENT
Judd Gilpin – 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, December 16, 2015, in the Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. Vice President, Juan Roberto Ramirez made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:58 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. Board Announcements:

Ricardo Molina - I would like to congratulate Los Obispos, Clark Middle, United Middle and the UISD Police Dept for helping out at the El Cenizo Community Center with the kids and the community. It takes a lot in helping out the unfortunate/needy children and I would also like to thank the Principals and staff and all the parents that helped in getting gifts for these kids. From the bottom of my heart thank you very much. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Molina Family also, all the staff, administrators, Mr. Santos and Mr. Cruz.

Ricardo Rodriguez - I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Juan Roberto Ramirez – Mr. Molina said everything and I just want to add not to forget how we celebrate the Christmas nativity and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

IV 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, nor shall the time per subject exceed ten minutes. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than one (1) representative to present their views before the Board. Individuals interested in speaking on any matter during the business or instruction committee meetings shall fill out a form no later than seven calendar days prior to the meeting and identify the topic(s) the speaker wishes to address. Any concerns or complaints regarding employees, public officials, students, or parents must be resolved via the appropriate complaint process, as stated in BED (LOCAL). 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 stated 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 matter 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

Belinda Brown – I will give my minutes to my husband Jed Brown.

Jed Brown – Good Evening Members of the Board, my name is Jed Brown I am here with my wife Judge Belinda Mendez Brown and my son William Walker Brown, he goes by Walker. The reason I am here is to speak on an item related to Alexander High School and some improvements being contemplated to be made soon. For those of you I have not met and do not know my son he was the Valedictorian last year for Alexander High School. Walker was also a National Hispanic Scholar, AP Scholar with distinction, President of the Student Counsel, First Team All District, First Team All City Academics. He did lot things there but most things he is proud of are what he did while he was in UIL academics. Specifically, being involved with CX Debate, Public Speaking and One Act Play. He absolutely loved those activities. He made it to State twice last year in CX and took 5th place in the State of Texas for Public Speaking. I believe this is the highest anyone has come out in twenty years in Alexander in that category. I list these things as a platform to address you all today. Academics is tremendously important to me my wife and our son. We don't have a dog in the race anymore. You say a horse in the race, but we refer to these kids as bulldogs. Walker is our only child and what I tell you today is not going to

benefits me or my family. I am here for the students that are there at Alexander now and the students in the future. I am familiar with the conceptual plan for the students at Alexander High School and I applaud you as a Board for what you are doing here. I think its awesome maybe overdue, but its' here now and going to happen real soon. I am excited with everything I see there and I don't have a criticism of any of the items going into that campus. I am a big believer in extracurricular activities. It does not matter if a student participates in football, baseball, tennis, cheerleading, dazzlers, one act play, student council they are all equally important in my eyes. When I look at the plan there is one thing I see missing and that is why I am here to address you this evening. I don't see anything for theatre arts, UIL academics and one act play. I don't think that was necessarily contemplated. Had I known what I know today I would have been an advocate two or three years ago in the planning process. I am hoping that with wisdom and contemplation and really looking hard at the plan that there is a way these students can be accommodated. These are some of the very best and bright students on that campus. They really care about what they do. They go to class each day in English, Math, Science, and Computer Science. And you know what they do afterschool; they go do it all over again in their own time to get prepared to go to tournaments and represent themselves they challenge themselves. I am familiar with the concept that one high school gets they should all get. That's a fallacy. That can't be done when you built at 50 million dollar campus like United High School. That was the best campus at the time. What you all going to do as time progresses is that you get to bring the other campuses up to date and make them all comparable. I would advocate strongly that the plan be visited and that those things are added. You need to be celebrated the young men and women that are here from Alexander are very proud of what they do in UIL academics, one act play and theatre. You need to be celebrated whether it's United HS the biggest stepped up day in town, the mariachi band from LBJ, or United South Jr. ROTC they are all very important.. I would ask to stand up for whoever is here from Alexander to stand up and be considered in this effort.

Judd Gilpin – Did we have Walker on the sign up? Everyone that came to support these items please stand up. Thank you guys you deserve a lot of credit for being here supporting this item. Thank you for coming.

Walker Brown – I will be open to questions just like we are in debate. I am Walker Brown and currently a freshman at Stanford University I am an Alexander High School alumni. I am here to speak on the benefits of UIL academics, one act play and speech/ debate. UIL academics, especially one act play and speech/debate really fosters and encourages competitiveness, creativity and long term plans for success. I am in a unique position to show you all how this carried over right after completing my freshman first quarter at Stanford University. This is very evident first and foremost in my knowledge of world events and comes from constantly cross examination debate and exemplary speaking. I was able to participate in lectures talk with peers about what is going on in the world and have a well informed teaming about this. I was also able to make very well defined comprehensive reports for papers and research reports which allowed me both to turn in adequate work to my professors. Also, have healthy debates with student in my dorm or student in my classes about the state with economy and what going on in Russia and Syria. Moving forward what helped me the most possibly was one act play specifically with time management. I was able to manage homework, studying for tests and social life which is very important at a university where no one knows each other. One act plays is consistently against

time they have to find creative ways to solve problems in a very small time limit because there frame is essentially the spring quarter. They are putting on a whole play. This was made plainly oblivious when I was traveling with them last year. Seeing how school in the Valley had very large auditoriums and they had their only prep systems and make up set ups ready when we just had our small auditorium with subpar lighting and minimal storage that caused props to spill out on the stage. We even got pushed out on the cafeteria floor because our stage props required being large scale and detailed. So, if UIL academics and one act play were specifically to have more space to start attracting a larger audience to receive benefits and that of which helped me in college. They have been competing at an international level with other high caliber universities and they would be very well prepared to compete with these students.

Juan Roberto Ramirez – I don't have any questions.

Judd Gilpin – I want to complement you on coming back and trying to help your school out.

Gloria Olvera – not present

V. President's Report

A. Report on Completion of the Required Continuing Education Training doe School Board Members

Juan Roberto Ramirez read the continuing Board Hours into the minutes

As of January 1, 2015, through November 30, 2015 School Board Members have received the following hours of training:

- *Javier Montemayor – 6.00*
- *Juan Roberto Ramirez – 22.25*
- *Ricardo Molina, Sr. – 15.00*
- *Judd Gilpin – 11.75*
- *Ricardo Rodriguez – 13.75*
- *Ramiro Veliz, III – 18.00*
- *Aliza Flores Oliveros – 12.50*

VI. Recognitions:

The Board then recognized the following organizations, students and employees for outstanding accomplishments:

- A. TEXAS SPECIAL OLYMPICS COMMUNITY LEADER OF THE YEAR**
- B. TEXAS TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM – SUPER HERO TEACHER ART CONTEST – STATEWIDE WINNER**
- C. INSTRUCTIONAL TELEVISION DEPARTMENT – VIDEO CONTESTS**
- D. AP SCHOLARS**
 - **ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL**
 - **UNITED HIGH SCHOOL**

- UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL
- LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL
- E. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY – REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- F. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM – DISTRICT 29-6A CO-CHAMPIONS – REGIONAL QUARTERFINALIST
- G. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS TEAM – AREA CHAMPIONS – REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- H. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM – REGIONAL FINALISTS
- I. UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL – GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY – REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- J. UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY – DISTRICT 29-6A CHAMPIONS – REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- K. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL–GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY–REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- L. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL–BOYS CROSS COUNTRY–REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
- M. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM – 29-6A CO-CHAMPIONS – BI-DISTRICT CHAMPIONS – AREA FINALIST
- N. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM – BI-DISTRICT CHAMPIONS – AREA FINALIST
- O. LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL – GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM – BI-DISTRICT FINALISTS
- P. UNITED MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA – QUALIFIED TO THE MUSIC REGION XIV REGION MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA
- Q. ALEXANDER HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA – QUALIFIED TO THE MUSIC REGION XIV REGION HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA
- R. LBJ HIGH SCHOOL WOLF BAND – 1ST DIVISION RATING IN MUSIC REGION XIV UIL MARCHING CONTEST
- S. UNITED SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL PANTHER BAND – 1ST DIVISION RATING IN MUSIC REGION XIV UIL MARCHING CONTEST
- T. UNITED HIGH SCHOOL LONGHORN BAND – 1ST DIVISION RATING IN MUSIC REGION XIV UIL MARCHING CONTEST

VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval of Independent audit Report for the Year Ended August 31, 2015
- C. Approval of Property Tax Refunds for the Month of November 2015
- D. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- E. Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for Design and Construction of San Isidro Elementary School

Item E was Tabled

- F. Approval of Requests from Board Members in re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Projects/Campuses
- G. Approval of Resolution approving the Project Scope Amendment and Intention to Reimburse Certain Expenditures with Borrowing Proceeds
- H. Approval of the Reallocation of Funds from the 2013 Bond Proceeds for Various Facilities Improvements and Upgrades at JB Alexander High and the Related Budget Amendment to Cover Costs of Aforementioned Project
- I. Approval of Innovative Courses for Seniors
- J. Approval of High School Practicum for Local Credit
- K. First and Final Reading of Policy DGBA (LOCAL) – Personnel-Management Relations – Employee Complainants/Grievances
- L. First and Final Reading of Policy FNG (LOCAL) – Student Rights and Responsibilities – Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances
- M. Second Reading of LOCAL Policies in TASB Update 103

Motion by: Rick Rodriguez advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committee Members had met and were recommending the approval of the following items: A-M excluding E that was tabled.

Seconded by: Judd Gilpin

Discussion: Mr. Zuniga read 5 discretionary funds that were not included in the actual requests.

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

VIII. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

- 1. Regular Board Meeting – November 18, 2015

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo Molina

Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

B. Donations

Mr. Roberto Santos read the donations into the minutes for a total of \$13,332.86.

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

IX Closed Session: Board will adjourn 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
- B. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.072 Discussion on the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property
Discussion of Proposals for Sale and/or Acquisition of Real Property
 - 1. Report regarding the approval by North House Inc. of the conditional offer by the United Independent School District to acquire the property described as approximately 1.6492 acres adjacent to Kazen Elementary School located within Lot 1 Block 1, Quail Creek, IV, Laredo, Webb County, Texas.
- C. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel
 - 1. Consideration of Appointment for the Tax Assessor Collector
- D. 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. Student Activity Fund Elementary Schools – Matias De Llano, Kennedy/Zapata, Muller and Perez Elem.
 - 2. Student Activity Funds Middle and High Schools – United South HS, United HS, STEP Academy, Clark Middle and Los Obispos Middle
 - 3. Mobile Learning Devices Audit

4. Procurement Process Audit
5. Status of on-going Audits

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:55 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

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

A. Appointment of Tax Assessor Collector

Roberto J Santos – My Recommendation is to appoint Elva Monica Madrigal the Tax Assessor Collector for United ISD.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Ricardo Molina

Seconded by: Ricardo Rodriguez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

- B.** Discussion and possible action regarding the approval by North House Inc. of the conditional offer by the United Independent School District to acquire the property described as approximately 1.6492 acres adjacent to Kazen Elementary School located within Lot 1 Block 1, Quail Creek, IV, Laredo, Webb County, Texas. As well as possible action with respect to closing such acquisition.

Juan J. Cruz – Recommendation is to approve for legal counsel and administration to close and conduct possible survey on the 1.6492 acres adjacent to Kazen Elementary School located within Lot 1 Block 1, Quail Creek, IV, Laredo, Webb County, Texas as presented in close session.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Judd Gilpin

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2015, was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Javier Montemayor, Jr. – President

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary