

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2024
The Board of Trustees
SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT was held on **November 18, 2024**, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Wayne F. Schaper, Sr. Leadership Center, Board Room, 955 Campbell Rd, Houston, TX 77024, with the following Board Members present: Lisa Andrews Alpe, Courtney Anderson, Caroline H. Bennett, Chris Earnest, Shannon Mahan, John Perez, and David Slattery.

Board President Lisa Andrews Alpe called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and noted that a quorum of Board Members was present.

President Alpe certified that the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.041, had been complied with in connection with public notice of the meeting.

1. **Pledge: Trustee Chris Earnest**
2. **Opening Remarks by the Superintendent**

President Alpe expressed condolences on the tragic death of SBISD Police dispatcher Jose Torres.

Superintendent Jennifer Blaine expressed gratitude to the SBISD family, highlighted the Good Reason Houston data showing SBISD's top rankings, shared the success of Northbrook High School's RISE College Academy, announced the launch of Spring Woods High School's Tiger College Academy next year, discussed the selection of K-8 literacy materials for 2025-26, and noted an upcoming school finance advocacy team meeting.

3. **Public Comment on Special Presentations**

No one signed up to speak.

4. **Special Presentations**

- A. Sights and Sounds Around SBISD

A video presentation was shown featuring the district's Athletes in Action series, highlighting outstanding student-athletes from Spring Branch ISD.

- B. Recognition of #IAMSIBISD Award Recipients

SBISD Police Officer Tim Gierke was recognized with an award for his exceptional leadership and dedication.

5. **Public Comment on Agenda Items or Non-Agenda Items**

The following constituents addressed the board:

Michael Falick – Item 7A Request for Approval of 2023-2024 Audit

Chris Gonzalez - Item 7A Request for Approval of 2023-2024 Audit

Jennifer Hyland – Signed up to speak but did not attend

Lauren Walker - Signed up to speak but did not attend

J. Alison Chapin – Educator’s Bill of Rights

Juan Jose Reyes - Signed up to speak but did not attend

6. **Reports and Discussions**

A. Presentation of Audit Report by Whitley Penn

Lupe Garcia, CPA, Engagement Partner from Whitley Penn, presented.

B. Annual Report of Bond Oversight Committee (BOC)

Bond Oversight Committee Co-Chairs Kathy Goss and Lewis Gissel presented.

C. Discussion of Legislative Priorities

Vice President Courtney Anderson and Trustee David Slattery facilitated the discussion.

7. **Action**

A. Request for Approval of the 2023-2024 Audit

Motion made by Trustee Earnest and seconded by Vice President Anderson that the Board of Trustees approve the 2023-2024 audit.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

B. Request for Approval of the Chapter 49 Contract Option 3 (Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credit) and Board Delegation of Authority to Obligate the School District Under Chapter 49 to the Superintendent

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

C. Request for Approval of the Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Spring Branch Independent School District Casting its Ballot for the Election of Directors to the Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors

Motion made by Vice President Anderson and seconded by Trustee Slattery for the Board of Trustees to approve the Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Spring Branch Independent School District casting its ballot for the election of directors to the Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors, allocating 128 votes to Bill Frazer and 42 votes to Mark Sullivan.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

8. **Discussion and Possible Action**

A. Discussion and Possible Action on DIT's Academic Calendar Recommendations for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027

Motion made by Secretary Shannon Mahan and seconded by Trustee Earnest for the Board of Trustees to approve the DIT's academic calendar recommendations for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

9. Executive Session

President Alpe recessed the Board into Executive Session at 7:24 PM in accordance with the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act for the purposes listed below.

- A. The Board Will Meet in Closed Session Under Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act Regarding Routine Personnel Matters and Other Personnel Matters including Duties of Employees and Public Officers
- B. The Board Will Meet in Closed Session Under Section 551.0821 of the Texas Open Meetings Act Regarding Deliberation of Personally Identifiable Information of a Public School Student
- C. The Board Will meet in Closed Session Under Section 551.076 of the Texas Open Meetings Act Regarding Deliberation of the Deployment, or Specific Occasions for Implementation of Security Personnel or Devices, or Deliberation of a Security Audit
- D. The Board Will Meet in Closed Session Under Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act in Consultation with the Board's Attorney Regarding All Matters as Authorized by Law, including Legal Issues Surrounding Public Finance

President Alpe reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:31 PM and noted that no action was taken while in the closed session.

10. Action as Needed from Executive Session

- A. Request for Approval of Routine Personnel Items

Motion made by Trustee John Perez and seconded by Trustee Caroline H. Bennett that the Board of Trustees approve the routine personnel items as recommended.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

11. Consent Agenda Action Items

- A. Request for Approval of Budget Status Summary Report with Budget Amendment as of October 31, 2024
- B. Request for Approval of Facility Improvement Program Monthly Status Report with Project Budget Changes as of October 31, 2024
- C. Request for Approval of Contract Awards
 - 1. Contract for Sherwood Elementary School Replacement
 - 2. Contract for Spring Woods Middle School Mechanical - HVAC JOC Project
 - 3. Contract for Micro Buses
 - 4. Contract for Playground Installation, Services, Replacement and Parts
 - 5. RFP for Contract for Internet Services
 - 6. RFP for Contract for Professional Development
 - 7. Contract for Risk/Insurance Management Services
 - 8. Contract with Pope Consulting, LLC

- D. Request for Approval of Student Absences to Participate in Activities Sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Service (4H) as Extracurricular Absences and Recognition of the County Extension as Adjunct Staff Members
- E. Request for Approval of the 2025 Texas Association of School Boards Annual Membership Fee
- F. Request for Approval of the 2025 Texas Association of School Boards Legal Assistance Fund Participation Fee
- G. Request for Approval of Acceptance of Gifts
- H. Request for Approval of Grant Awards and Other Services
- I. Request for Approval of Payroll and Operating Expenses - October 2024
- J. Request for Approval of Tax Overpayment Refunds (Sec. 31.11)
- K. Request for Approval of Minutes for School Board Meetings
 - 1. October 07, 2024 - Workshop Meeting
 - 2. October 21, 2024 - Regular Meeting
 - 3. October 30, 2024 - Special Meeting

President Alpe read the rules for adopting the consent agenda action items. Trustee Perez requested that item 11C6 be removed from the consent agenda for separate discussion and vote, and Trustee Bennett recused herself from voting on item 11G.

Motion made by Trustee Perez and seconded by Trustee Bennett that the Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda action items with the exception of items 11C6 and 11G.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

11C6 – Trustee Perez inquired about the staff development allocation. Associate Superintendent for Finance, Christine Porter, provided the requested information. Trustee Perez made a motion to table item 11C6 to re-estimate the requested staff development allocation. Trustee Earnest seconded.

Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

11G - Motion made by Trustee Perez and seconded by Trustee Earnest that the Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda action item 11G.

Motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

Trustee Bennett recused herself from voting on item 11G.

12. Report

- A. Update on Campus Safety Detection Audit Findings
Pam Metcalfe, Executive Director for Administration, Safety, and Security, presented.

13. Closing Remarks by the Superintendent

Dr. Blaine wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a restful break.

14. Meeting Adjourned

President Alpe adjourned the Regular meeting at 9:03 PM.

Lisa Andrews Alpe
President, Board of Trustees

Shannon Mahan
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Approved: December 13, 2024