

# Agenda of Special Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Southwest ISD

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A Special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Southwest ISD will be held Tuesday, October 3, 2023, beginning at 11:30 AM in the Central Office Building No. 400, 11914 Dragon Lane, San Antonio, TX 78252.

An electronic copy of the agenda may be viewed at [www.swisd.net/board\\_of\\_trustees](http://www.swisd.net/board_of_trustees). A recording of the meeting will be available for viewing on the District's website.

Members of the public who desire to address the board regarding general comments or an item on this agenda must sign up in person at least 10 minutes before meeting start time. The board president or designee will call for public comments at the beginning of the meeting. All other public comment rules will be followed. After the close of public comment, the Board will proceed with the rest of the agenda.

The public may access this meeting by clicking on the following link: [http://youtube.com/channel/UC\\_bEJcktTOZtDm0hIYvWmQw/live](http://youtube.com/channel/UC_bEJcktTOZtDm0hIYvWmQw/live)

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

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|------|--|----|
| I.   | Call meeting to order  |    |
| II.  | Invocation and Pledges to Allegiance   |    |
| III. | Public comments related to posted agenda items   | 3  |
| IV.  | Consider award of RFP 2223-129 Construction Manager at Risk Contract for the SWHS Stadium Press Box renovation.      | 4  |
| V.   | Consider and possible passage of Board Resolution to join Intervenor's Suit regarding School Accountability Ratings. | 5  |
| VI.  | Items of Information   |    |
|      | A. Conceptual Design of the Central Office/Professional Development Building   | 8  |
|      | B. Raise Your Hand Texas (RYHT) Champions award and Trustee Advocate program application.                            | 9  |
| VII. | Closed session   | 10 |
|      | As permitted by Sections, 551.001-551.146 of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Law).                      |    |

A.	Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, attorney consultation regarding lawsuits filed related to School Accountability Ratings.	11
VIII.	Convene in open session and take appropriate action on items discussed in closed session.	12
A.	Consider and possible passage of Board Resolution to join Intervenor's Suit regarding School Accountability Ratings.	
IX.	Other business	13
X.	Adjournment	14

Public comments related to posted board agenda items.

Citizens wishing to address the Board will be heard at this time.

Consider award of RFP 2223-129  
Construction Manager at Risk Contract for the  
SWHS Stadium Press Box renovation

1. Background:

District staff will present this item at the meeting on Tuesday.

2. Process:

The District accepted bids for the CMAR contract on September 19, 2023 and 5 bids were submitted.

3. Fiscal Impact:

N/A

4. Recommendation:

N/A.

5. Required:

Board action

Consider and possible passage of Board Resolution to join Intervenor's Suit regarding School Accountability Ratings.

1. Background:

This resolution is to authorize the District to join the litigation against the Texas Education Agency challenging lack of transparency in calculation of school district accountability ratings.

2. Process:

N/A

3. Fiscal Impact:

N/A

4. Recommendation:

Board Decision.

5. Required:

Board action.

**Resolution Authorizing the District to Join Litigation Against the Texas Education Agency Challenging Lack of Transparency in Calculation of School District Accountability Ratings**

WHEREAS, the A–F Accountability System is a statewide rating system established by the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”) that evaluates the academic performance of Texas public schools and assigns letter grades A–F to districts and campuses;

WHEREAS, the TEA has substantially changed the accountability ratings system in a manner that will impact every school district and campus in the state, meaning that the ratings expected to be issued in Fall 2023 for the 2022–2023 school year will be based on a different set of rules than previous A–F ratings, and making it impossible to compare the ratings issued by the TEA in 2022 and 2023 side by side;

WHEREAS, in violation of state law, the TEA did not provide the Southwest Independent School District (the “District”) information regarding the changes to the A–F Accountability System prior to the start of the 2022–2023 school year and, indeed, still has not provided a full explanation of the rules and methodologies that are being used to determine district and campus ratings;

WHEREAS, the Southwest Independent School District’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) understands that certain school districts throughout the state have filed a lawsuit against the TEA to challenge the lack of transparency in the criteria used as part of the A–F Accountability System and to prohibit the TEA from issuing performance ratings for the 2022–2023 school year that are based on measures, methods, and procedures that were not provided to school districts prior to the start of the 2022–2023 school year, in violation of state law; and,

WHEREAS, the District has been harmed by the lack of advance notice of the criteria and methods the TEA is applying as part of the A–F Accountability System for the 2022–2023 school year, because the District does not know the expectations set by the State of Texas for schools districts and has been unable to adjust to the TEA’s new accountability measures and allocate District resources in a manner required to meet state standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board authorizes the District administration to join the litigation against the TEA as an intervener to challenge the TEA’s failure to provide the District advance notice of the accountability performance measures, methods, and procedures that are being applied as part of the A–F Accountability System for the 2022–2023 school year before the start of that school year, in violation of state law. The Board authorizes the District administration to engage legal counsel to represent the District in the lawsuit against the TEA.

Adopted by the vote of the majority of members of the Board of Trustees of the Southwest Independent School District present and voting at an open meeting of the Board on the 3rd day of October, 2023, at which a quorum was present.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

Update on the conceptual design of the Central Office and Professional Development Center

1. Background:  
District staff and RVK Architecture will present an update on the conceptual design of the Central Office and Professional Development Center.
  
2. Process:  
N/A
  
3. Fiscal Impact:  
N/A
  
4. Recommendation:  
N/A.
  
5. Required:  
N/A.

Discussion of Raise Your Hand Texas Program :

1. Background:

Trustee Advocates Program participants learn how to build an advocacy system within their school district that supports local community connectedness and influences state legislative outcomes. All Texas school districts are invited to apply for the competitive Cohort Offer that opens on Friday, August 25, 2023. Raise Your Hand Texas teaches and coaches trustees and superintendents from Texas school districts in six sessions over 18 months. Session 1 takes the form of a 3-hour local Team of eight training for the entire school board and superintendent that will occur within each individual cohort school district. Sessions 2 to 5 occur in Austin over approximately two days with the superintendent and up to three (3) of the school board members. Session 6 will occur in an online format. Texas school districts that want to build an advocacy system that includes a community engagement model and learn how to influence education policy are invited to apply for this cohort offer. All of the work will be issue-based, non-partisan, and in alignment with the Open Meetings Act.

2. Process:

Raise Your Hand Texas recognizes the need for local flexibility and adaptation, each school district will be expected to develop and complete the following deliverables over the course of the program:

Shared Team of 8 advocacy agreement  
Community Engagement Advocacy Model  
Community-generated legislative priority recommendations  
Board-adopted legislative priorities  
Nonpartisan voter education plan

3. Fiscal Impact:

NA

4. Recommendation:

Item of Information

5. Required:

NA

## Closed Session

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, attorney consultation regarding lawsuits filed related to School Accountability Ratings.

Any required action by the Board concerning matters considered in closed meeting will be taken in open session.

Convene in open session and take appropriate action on items discussed in closed session.

- A. Consider and possible passage of Board Resolution to join Intervenor's Suit regarding School Accountability Ratings.

Other business

## Adjournment