



Special Called Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2021

Board Members Present: Al Lopez, Collin Sewell, David Handley, David Earl, Reba C. McNair, Erich Holmsten, Xenia Garza, Dr. Saam Zarrabi, Ryan Vaughan, Ed Rivera

Board Members Not Present: Michael Burke

Board Members of Other Boards: Susan Valverde

Staff and Consultants Present: Dolores Gonzalez, Martin Winchester, Phillip Garza, Samuel Goessling, Leanne Hernandez, Carlo Hershberger, Jessica Hess, Massie Ritsch, Andrew Clarence, Jennifer Meer, Javier Campos, Layne Fisher, Alejandra Loya, Andrew Clarence, Armando Perez, Erika Hernandez, Tita Teran, Joe Hoffer

Audience Present: Adelaida Gonzalez, Frank Garcia, Dave, Sabrina Gonzalez, Valerie Vigil, Jeremy Highton, Joanna Cantu (956) XXX-2948, (512) XXX-9141, (956) XXX-8463, (210) XXX-0774

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Al Lopez, at 12:07 PM CST

Summary of Motions and Approvals

1. The Board passed a motion to approve the Resolution to submit an application for consideration of waiving the requirement to provide high-quality components for prekindergarten classes at IDEA Travis Academy.

Motion by: David Handley

Second by: Ryan Vaughan

Motion passed unanimously.

2. The Board passed a motion to approve the revised Purchasing Policy.

Motion by: David Earl

Second by: Xenia Garza

Motion passed unanimously.

3. The Board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action with the exception of the white fleet acquisition.

a. Contracts

1. Construction & Improvements

2. Non-Construction



- a. Operating Contracts
 - i. Instructional & Related Services
 - ii. Child Nutrition Program Equipment
 - b. Copier Lease Agreements
 - c. Office Lease Agreements
 - d. Transportation
 - i. White Fleet Acquisition – *withdrawn for the consent agenda*
 - ii. Yellow Fleet Acquisition
3. Contract Ratification
- b. Academic Calendar 2021-22 School Year – San Antonio
 - c. Grant Agreements
 - d. May 2021 Budget Amendments
 - e. May 2021 Financial Statements

Motion by: David Earl
Second by: Erich Holmsten
Motion passed unanimously.

4. The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) and invited the legal counsel to join at 1:10 PM. The Board invited Jennifer Meer and Jessica Hess to participate in the beginning portion of the closed session.

Motion by: Ryan Vaughan
Second by: David Earl
Motion passed unanimously.

5. The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 1:19 PM.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
Motion passed unanimously.

6. The Board passed a motion to approve the Acting CEO/Superintendent’s recommendation related to filling the position of Chief Financial Officer as discussed in closed session.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten
Second by: Xenia Garza
Motion passed unanimously.



7. The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 PM.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten

Second by: Collin Sewell

Motion passed unanimously.

Welcome and Call to Order

Al Lopez, Board Chair, welcomed the Board Members to the July 16, 2021, Special Called Board of Directors' meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team that were present as well. Mr. Lopez went on to state that given the Governor's suspension of parts of the Open Meetings Act they are conducting today's meeting via video conference and have a phone line for members of the public to join in the meeting should they wish to do so. Mr. Lopez noted they would be discussing the ESSER grant fund plan along with several items to consider. Mr. Lopez asked for public comment to which Mrs. Jessica Hess indicated she had some and called upon the public.

Public Comment

Jessica Hess confirmed there were requests for public comment.

1. Adelaida Elizabeth Gonzalez introduced herself as a parent to a student in IDEA San Juan. She expressed her opinion regarding the fund's distribution to college matriculation for special education students. She would like to see a special team to help parents navigate special education students to go through college. She would also like more emphasize in making a district-wide program for Special Olympics. She is asking for more funds specifically for special education students. She commended IDEA for doing a great job, but she believes there is still some room for improvement.
2. Frank Garcia notified Jessica Hess he wanted to be included in public comment but was not present when called. He later gave his comment after the ESSER Grant presentation.

Employee and Staff Comment

Jessica Hess confirmed there were no requests for employee and staff comments and asked if any employees would like to make any comments to which none were expressed.

Public Hearing for Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Grant (ESSER Grant)

Leanne Hernandez proceeded to present information on the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Grant also known as the ESSER Grant. She indicated that she would be talking about the timelines, the different types of ESSER strings, provide an overview of the plans, touch on the allowable and unallowable expenses, prioritization, and the focus areas. She then explained that the



presentation would focus on the ESSER III part of the grant. She presented the ESSER Funding Allotments, Strategy, and Spending Plan. For ESSER III, the award was \$157MM and \$104MM is immediately available and gave the requirements for this part. For the use of funds, she indicated that they are required to allow parents to provide their comments and opinions among other requirements. She continued to explain the draft plan for a safe return and protecting the health of students and staff and following CDC guidelines. She indicated that IDEA does not plan to use any of these funds for construction as that is an unallowable expense. She indicated prioritization is being given to closing the gaps for students. She talked about the results of the IDEA Public Schools' ESSER Student, Family, Staff and Community Survey where she indicated that the responses were primarily from parents at 69 % and staff members at 28%. She indicated that they had also reviewed the open-ended questions to get a better understanding of surveyor's opinions.

ESSER Comment

Sabrina Gonzalez introduced herself as a founding student and alumni of IDEA San Juan College Prep. She expressed her opinion with regard to the draft plan and how she would like to see more funding used for college matriculation for special education students.

Jessica Hess called on the rest of the individuals who were part of the call.

Valerie Vigil provided her comment regarding virtual learning for small children who are not vaccinated and expressed a concern that an option is not available.

Frank Garcia introduced himself as an IDEA Judson parent and provided his comment regarding mental health and how he would like IDEA to consider the emotional impact that the pandemic has had in students and allocate funding for behavioral specialists, social workers, and workers to help with mental health.

Jessica Hess once again called on the rest of the individuals who were part of the call to ask if they wanted to provide a public comment.

The Board Chair thanked everyone who participated in public comment and indicated there would be more information regarding the ESSER Grant in the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 23rd.

Resolution: High-Quality Components for PreK at IDEA Travis

Joseph Hoffer, Board Counsel, presented on the resolution to waive the high-quality requirement components for prekindergarten at IDEA Travis to be consistent with all other IDEA campuses. The Board passed a motion to approve the Resolution to submit an application for consideration of waiving the requirement to provide high-quality components for prekindergarten classes at IDEA



Travis Academy.

Motion by: David Handley
 Second by: Ryan Vaughan
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Public Policy Update

Ashley Westbrook and Carlo Hershberger presented on the recommended revisions to the purchasing policy to make it more compliant with the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) requirements as a result to changes made by the Department of Education. The Board passed a motion to approve the revised Purchasing Policy as presented today.

Motion by: David Earl
 Second by: Xenia Garza
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action with the exception of the white fleet acquisition.

- a. Contracts
 - 1. Construction & Improvements
 - 2. Non-Construction
 - a. Operating Contracts
 - i. Instructional & Related Services
 - ii. Child Nutrition Program Equipment
 - b. Copier Lease Agreements
 - c. Office Lease Agreements
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 - i. White Fleet Acquisition – *withdrawn for the consent agenda*
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 - 3. Contract Ratification
- b. Academic Calendar 2021-22 School Year – San Antonio
- c. Grant Agreements
- d. May 2021 Budget Amendments
- e. May 2021 Financial Statements



Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Erich Holmsten
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) at 1:10 PM. The Board invited Jennifer Meer and Jessica Hess to participate in the beginning portion of the closed session.

Motion by: Ryan Vaughan
Second by: David Earl
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board Chair announced that no action occurred in Executive Session.

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 1:19 PM.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to approve the Acting CEO/Superintendent's recommendation related to filling the position of Chief Financial Officer as discussed in closed session.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.



Adjourn

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 PM.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten

Second by: Collin Sewell

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the meeting of the Special Called Board Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on July 16, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

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Ryan Vaughan, Board Secretary

8/24/2021

Date