

# **Board Meeting Minutes** January 21, 2022

**Board Members Present:** Al Lopez, Collin Sewell, Reba C. McNair, Erich Holmsten, Xenia Garza, David Earl, Michael Adams, Ed Rivera, Gary Lindgren, Dr. Saam Zarrabi, Anthony Ryan Vaughan

## Board Members Not Present: None

**Staff and Consultants Present:** Joseph Hoffer, Lisa Garza, Dolores Gonzalez, Martin Winchester, Phillip Garza, Samuel Goessling, Leanne Hernandez, Cody Grindle, Jessica Hess, Layne Fisher, Ernest Cantu, Amir Roohi, Jazmin Leon-Wing, Javier Campos, Christopher Gonzalez, Megan Heron, Yadhira Flores, Male Barrientos, Melisa Abascal-Anzaldua, Tita Teran

## Audience Present: Alan A. Gomez

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Al Lopez, at 11:59 AM CST

### Summary of Motions and Approvals

1. The Board passed a motion to approve the 2021-22 COVID leave extension ratification.

Motion by:Erich HolmstenSecond by:Xenia GarzaMotion passed unanimously.

2. The Board passed a motion to approve the nepotism in hiring and the records retention and management in one board action.

Motion by:Xenia GarzaSecond by:Erich HolmstenMotion passed unanimously.

3. The Board passed a motion to approve the nepotism in hiring and the records retention and management in one board action.

Motion by:Xenia GarzaSecond by:Erich HolmstenMotion passed unanimously.



4. The Board passed a motion to approve the resolution amending the authorized representative for the Texpool activity.

Motion by:Erich HolmstenSecond by:David EarlMotion passed unanimously.

5. The Board passed a motion to approve the resolution to delegate authority for the Regions Institutional services in regard to the investment account to the individuals named by Leanne Hernandez.

Motion by:Xenia GarzaSecond by:Erich HolmstenMotion passed unanimously.

6. The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to Govt. Code 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters), 551.074 (personnel) at 1:21 PM CST. The Board invited the management to join the closed Session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Erich HolmstenMotion passed unanimously.

7. The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 2:47 PM CST.

Motion by: David Earl Second by: Collin Sewell *Motion passed unanimously.* 

8. The Board passed a motion approve to direct staff and legal counsel, both inside and special legal counsel, to move forward pursuant to option #2 as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Michael AdamsMotion passed unanimously.



9. The Board passed a motion to move forward with regard to uniform acquisitions as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Xenia GarzaMotion passed unanimously.

10. The Board passed a motion to approve the Northbridge contract as discussed in executive session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Collin SewellMotion passed unanimously.

11. The Board passed a motion to approve the disposition of Del Valle Eastern property as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Michael AdamsMotion passed unanimously.

- 12. The Board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action.
  - a. Contracts
    - 1. Construction & Improvements
    - 2. Non-Construction
      - (a) Copier Agreements
      - (b) Contracted Services
      - (c) Software Agreements
      - (d) Interlocal Agreements
    - 3. Contract Ratifications
  - b. November 12, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
  - c. November 19, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting Minutes
  - d. December 10, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
  - e. December Committee Meeting Minutes
  - f. Annual PFIA Resolution administrative error correction
  - g. ADA Manual Update, 2021-22
  - h. Low Attendance Day Waiver, IDEA Mays



Motion by:Collin SewellSecond by:Ed RiveraMotion passed unanimously.

13. The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 PM CST.

Motion by: Collin Sewell Second by: Ed Rivera Motion passed unanimously.

## Welcome and Call to Order

Al Lopez, Board Chair, welcomed the Board Members to the January 21, 2022 Board of Directors' meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team. Mr. Lopez, as presiding officer, conducted the meeting in the headquarters offices in Weslaco, Texas, as posted. He further indicated some members joined via videoconference and a phone line was available for members of the public to join in the meeting if they wish to do so.

## <u>Public Comment</u>

Al Lopez, Board Chair, indicated there were no request for public comment, but technical difficulties occurred with merging the public line into the meeting. As such, Al Lopez waited for the merging of the lines to occur to ensure everyone had an opportunity to request the opportunity to provide public comment. After technical difficulties were resolved, Jessica Hess, Chief Compliance and Administrative Officer, confirmed that no prior requests for public comment were received.

### **Employee and Staff Comment**

Jessica Hess, Chief Compliance and Administrative Officer, confirmed there were no requests for employee and staff comments.

### Organizational Update

Al Lopez, Acting CEO/Superintendent assisted by Lisa Garza, Chief Schools Officer; Dolores Gonzalez, Chief Program Officer; Cody Grindle, Chief Information Office; Christopher Gonzalez, VP of Accountability provided the organizational update related to academic outcomes by subject, and school projected letter grades.

Cody Grindle presented the average daily attendance (ADA) data and indicated that they have implemented a new campaign called "Mondays Matter", which emphasizes on the importance of attendance on Mondays. Layne Fisher, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the COVID case rates and how it continues to affect the average daily attendance.



## Safety and Health Training

Layne Fisher, Chief Operations Officer, and Megan Heron; Managing Director of Health and Wellness, provided a training on the goals and progress for the State of Texas immunization and screening requirements and reviewed updates to state COVID guidance, IDEA COVID protocols and resources provide to the IDEA community.

### 2021-22 COVID Leave Extension

Al Lopez, Acting CEO/Superintended, presented the item indicating that he had extended the 2021-22 COVID leave and needed board approval to ratify the decision made.

1. The Board passed a motion to approve the 2021-22 COVID leave extension ratification.

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

### Elementary & Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)

Leanne Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the ESSER plan update and review and indicated they would be requesting public comment for revisions being made to the plan in the February meeting. Layne Fisher, Chief Operations Officer, added further information on changes made as a result of constant change in the COVID 19 situation.

### Committee Reports:

### **Governance Committee by Collin Sewell**

The Governance Committee met on January 11, 2022. The Committee reviewed the records retention and records management policy adjustments brought by the Risk Management team and recommended for approval, provided feedback, guidance and approved the direction for the nepotism in hiring and management policy being presented for approval today. Collin thanked the HR team for their collaboration and thoughtfulness on this policy and plan for implementation. The Committee also reviewed board training progress to date and received an update on the CEO/Superintendent search. The next governance committee meeting is February 9, 2022.

### Academic Committee by Anthony Ryan Vaughan

The Academic Committee met on January 13, 2022 and received an overall update on IDEA



Rundberg academy improvement plan, received an overview of the changes the State of Texas will implement in 2022-23 school year for district ratings and adjustments, and discussed the college matriculation audit. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2022 at 10:00 am.

## **Real Estate Committee by David Earl**

The Real Estate Committee met on January 11<sup>th</sup> reviewed the desired campus launch schedule, were provided an update on sites that were approved for consideration for divestment and discussed commercial realtor request for qualification to obtain a proper realtor for the various regions. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2022 at 10:00 am.

## Policy Updates

Al Lopez, Acting CEO/Superintended presented the policy update recommendations.

The Board passed a motion to approve the nepotism in hiring and the records retention and management in one board action.

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

### **Resolutions: Texpool and Regions Bank**

Leanne Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer, presented the recommendation to give staff authority to have full access and backup for the accounts.

The Board passed a motion to approve the resolution amending the authorized representative for the Texpool activity.

Motion by:	Erich Holmsten
Second by:	David Earl
All in favor:	All
All opposed	None

The Board passed a motion to approve the resolution to delegate authority for the Regions



Institutional services in regard to the investment account to the individuals named by Leanne Hernandez.

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

### Executive Session

The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to Govt. Code 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters), 551.074 (personnel) at 1:21 PM CST.

Motion by:	David Earl
Second by:	Erich Holmsten
All in favor:	All
All opposed	None
Motion passed unanimously.	

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 2:47 PM CST.

Motion by:	David Earl	
Second by:	Collin Sewell	
All in favor:	All	
All opposed:	None	
Motion passed unanimously.		

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

#### Tax Matters

The Board passed a motion to approve to direct staff and legal counsel, both inside and special legal counsel, to move forward pursuant to option #2 as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:	David Earl
Second by:	Michael Adams
All in favor:	All
All opposed	None



Motion passed unanimously.

## **Uniform and Supply Purchase**

The Board passed a motion to move forward with regard to uniform acquisitions as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Xenia GarzaAll in favor:AllAll opposedNoneMotion passed unanimously.

Board Member David Earl made a clarification on his motion indicating that the uniform purchase involved discussions regarding settlement of a legal dispute and wanted to make it part of the record as to why it was discussed in closed session and voted in open session.

## <u>Real Estate</u>

The Board passed a motion to approve the Northbridge contract as discussed in executive session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Collin SewellAll in favor:AllAll opposed:NoneMotion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to disposition of Del Valle Eastern property as discussed in closed session.

Motion by:David EarlSecond by:Michael AdamsAll in favor:AllAll opposed:NoneMotion passed unanimously.

## <u>Consent Agenda</u>

The board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action:

- a. Contracts
  - 1. Construction & Improvements



- 2. Non-Construction
  - (a) Copier Agreements
  - (b) Contracted Services
  - (c) Software Agreements
  - (d) Interlocal Agreements
- 3. Contract Ratifications
- b. November 12, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- c. November 19, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting Minutes
- d. December 10, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- e. December Committee Meeting Minutes
- f. Annual PFIA Resolution administrative error correction
- g. ADA Manual Update, 2021-22
- h. Low Attendance Day Waiver, IDEA Mays

Motion by:	Collin Sewell	
Second by:	Ed Rivera	
All in favor:	All	
All opposed	None	
Motion passed unanimously.		

## <u>Adjourn</u>

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:56 PM CST.

Motion by:Collin SewellSecond by:Ed RiveraAll in favor:AllAll opposed:NoneMotion passed unanimously.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the meeting of the Board Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on January 21, 2022.

Inthony Vaughan D8651776BD7A4C2...

Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Board Secretary

2/18/2022

Date