



**IDEA Public Schools**  
**2115 W. Pike Blvd.**  
**Weslaco, Texas 78596**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

September 16, 2022

**Board Members Present:** Collin Sewell, Ed Rivera, Reba C. McNair, David Earl, Theresa Barrera-Shaw, Erich Holmsten, Saam Zarrabi, Gary Lindgren, Michael Adams

**Board Members Not Present:** Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Ovidio Vitas

**Staff, Counsel, and Consultants Present:** Joseph Hoffer, Jeffrey Cottrill, Dr. David Lee, Dolores Gonzalez, Martin Winchester, Aisha Gayle Turner, Layne Fisher, Leanne Hernandez, Jessica Hess, Cody Grindle, Javier Campos, Alejandra Loya, Monique Morgan, Ernie Cantu, Victoria Stockstill, Osvaldo Ramos, Yasmin Vasquez, Fidel Ozuna, III

**Audience Present:** None

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Collin Sewell, at 10:22 AM CST

### **Welcome and Call to Order**

Collin Sewell, Board Chair, welcomed the Board Members to the September 16, 2022, Board of Directors' meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team. Mr. Sewell, as presiding officer, conducted the meeting in the headquarters offices in Odessa, Texas, as duly 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.

### **Public Comment**

Jessica Hess, Sr. Chief of Staff and Administrative Officer, confirmed there were no prior requests for employee and staff comments, but made an announcement if anyone on the public line would like to participate.

### **Employee and Staff Comment**

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

### **Executive Session**

The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.074 (personnel) at 10:24 AM CST.

Motion by: David Earl  
Second by: Saam Zarrabi  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 1:13 PM CST and announced no action occurred in Executive Session.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten  
Second by: Michael Adams  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Grievance Appeal**

The Board passed a motion to uphold the actions related to the grievance appeal as discussed in closed session.

Motion by: David Earl  
Second by: Michael Adams  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Personnel Agreements**

The Board passed a motion to approve the personnel agreements as discussed in closed session.

**Committee Updates**

Jeff Cottrill, Superintendent, provided the Academic update. The Committee met on September 8, 2022 and reviewed the academic data for all regions. The Committee also reviewed the updated 2022-23 student handbook. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2022.

Erich Holmsten, Committee Chair, provided the Finance update. The Committee met on September 9, 2022 and reviewed the finance results for the month of May, the YTD variance report, the June budget amendments, the proposed July budget amendments, the child nutrition update, and the marketing RFP. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2022.

Ed Rivera, Committee Chair, presented the Audit update. The Audit Committee met on September 13, 2022. The accounts payable audit Internal was presented which highlighted some control and system issues that the accounts payable department resolving. The Corporate Card Quarterly Report 4th Quarter and the Corporate Card Violations Report (Business Office) was presented. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2022.

David Earl, Committee Chair, presented the Real Estate update. The Committee met on September 14, 2022 and reviewed the plans and recommendation on actions for future planning. Looked at an offer at the Saratoga site October 12, 2022.

Collin Sewell, Committee Chair, provided the Governance update. The IDEA Governance Committee met on September 7, 2022 and reviewed the Goal Attainment and Superintendent Goals. Both items are being presented today for your consideration. Also reviewed were the board evaluation results and determined the next steps and recommendations which was be considered. The next scheduled governance committee meeting is October 4, 2022, at 9:00 am.

**Policy Recommendations**

Jessica Hess, Sr. Chief of Staff and Administrative Officer, presented an overview of the policy recommendations that have been previously reviewed by the Board Committees and legal counsel. The Board passed a motion to approve the policy recommendations:

**a. Grant Accounting Policy**

Motion by: Erich Holmsten  
Second by: Saam Zarrabi  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Board Officer Elections**

The Board passed a motion to approve that Reba Cardenas McNair be renewed for one year and Collin Sewell for another 3-year term. Additionally, the following officers, Collin Sewel-Chair; Ed Rivera-Vice Chair/Treasurer; and Anthony Ryan Vaughan as Secretary.

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

**Committee Assignments and Staff Co-Chair for Committees**

The Board passed a motion to approve the committee assignments as presented.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten  
Second by: Saam Zarrabi  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Resolution- IDEA Lake Houston**

Jeff Cottrill, Superintendent, presented on the Resolution related to payment during closure for IDEA Lake Houston. The Board passed a motion to approve the payment during closure for IDEA Lake Houston.

Motion by: Ed Rivera  
Second by: Saam Zarrabi  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Consent Agenda**

The Board chair read all items under the consent agenda and asked if anyone had questions or wanted to discuss further discuss any of the items on the list. The Board did not have questions and proceeded to vote. The Board passed a motion to approve the following items under the consent agenda:

- a. Contracts
  - 1. Construction & Improvements
  - 2. Non-Construction
    - (a) Cooperative Agreements
    - (b) Interlocal Agreements
    - (c) Lease Agreements
    - (d) Contracted services
    - (e) Software services
    - (f) Copier agreements
    - (g) Marketing
    - (h) Data sharing agreements
  - 3. Contract Ratifications
- b. Travel Policy Exceptions
- c. Purchasing Policy Exceptions
- d. Public Funds Investment Act – Quarter 4
- e. Budget Amendments – August 2022

- f. Proposed Budget Amendments – September 2022
- g. ADA Waivers

Motion by: Michael Adams  
Second by: Erich Holmsten  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Goal Attainment**

The Board passed a motion to approve the 2021-22 goal attainment for senior leadership, as recommended by governance committee.

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

**Superintendent Goals**

The superintendent goals align to the goals established for IDEA Texas. The Board passed a motion to approve the Superintendent Goals as discussed and recommended by governance committee.

Motion by: Saam Zarrabi  
Second by: Michael Adams  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Midland ISD Contract**

The Board passed a motion to approve the contract with Midland ISD as discussed with academic committee to allow the expansion of IDEA Travis to 9-12 grade and will allow any update to be held by the CEA and legal team.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten  
Second by: Michael Adams  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Organizational Update**

Dolores, Chief Program Officer, shared the academic data and persistence report. Osvaldo Ramos, VP of Enrollment and Launch Operations, presented the enrollment update.

**Campus Improvement Plans**

Dr. Jeff Cottrill, Superintendent, provided an update relating to the district campus improvement plans.

**Endowment Committee Update**

Victoria Stockstill, Managing Director of Regional Development, presented an update on the Endowment Committee and the work regarding the AI and Judy Lopez Scholarship Endowment. Collin Sewell, CEO/Board Chair also recommended that board members contribute to the Endowment Principal pledged next month.

**Adjourn**

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 PM CST.

Motion by: David Earl  
Second by: Ed Rivera  
All in favor: All  
All opposed: None  
Motion passed unanimously.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on September 16, 2022.

DocuSigned by:  
*Anthony Vaughan*  
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Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Board Secretary

11/18/2022

Date