



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

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2023

Board Members Present: Collin Sewell, Ed Rivera, Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Reba C. McNair, Dr. Nanette Cocero, Erich Holmsten, Gary Lindgren, Michael Adams

Board Members Not Present: Theresa Barrera-Shaw

Legal Counsel, Staff, and Consultants Present: Dr. David Lee, Jessica Hess, Leanne Hernandez, Cody Grindle, Layne Fisher, Dr. Ernesto Cantu, Dr. Jeffrey Cottrill, Martin Winchester, Mike Higgins, Joe Hoffer, Jennifer White, Dr. Monique Morgan, Fidel Ozuna, Kevin Branch, Alejandra Loya, Javier Campos, Matin Winchester, Sandra Sotelo, Karla Casas, Pablo Mejia, Sandra Aguliar, Dolores Gonzales, Erika Hernandez, Genevieve Cheng, Linda Parga, Jorge Chipres-Castaneda, Sidney Lewis, Kerry Villareal, Kathey Mitchell, Andrew Clarence

Audience Present: None

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, Collin Sewell, at 9:31 AM CST.

Welcome and Call to Order

Collin Sewell, Board Chair, welcomed the Board Members to the August 25, 2023, 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 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, Chief Governance Officer, confirmed there were no prior requests for employee and staff comments.

Agenda Item Comment

Collin Sewell stated that the public, employees, and staff have three (3) minutes each to comment on items that are on the agenda for this meeting if they wish to do so. Jessica Hess confirmed that no prior requests to comment on a specific agenda item were made. She provided the opportunity for anyone for the meeting and in the public line, but no requests to comment were made.

Organizational Update

Dolores Gonzales, Chief Program Officer, shared an academic update. Pablo Mejia, Sr. VP of Program Innovation, shared an update on the athletic programs. Layne Fisher, Chief Operations Officer shared an update on enrollment data.

Committee Updates

Erich Holmsten, Committee Chair, provided the Finance update.

The IDEA Finance Committee met on Friday, August 18, 2023, and reviewed a cash update and recommended the financial statements for July 2023. In the budgetary segment of the meeting, we recommended the July 2023 budget

amendments and the August 2023 proposed budget amendments. Regarding compliance, the items recommended were the travel policy exceptions. We considered revisions to the Authority over Fiscal Matters policy, discussed the July 2023 corporate card report, and an update on grants and contributions. Additional discussions included the 2022-23 Preliminary Charter FIRST Rating based on FY 2022 data, the real estate divestiture update, and the 2024 Bond series.

Collin Sewell, Board Chair, presented the Executive update.

The Executive Committee met on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, and considered the residency policy exemptions, residency policy implementation, compensation, and consulted with legal. The next Executive Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 21, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Resolution New Bus Requirements

Layne Fisher, Chief Operations Officer, presented the Resolution related to new bus requirements.

The Board passed a motion to take no action on the Resolution related to new bus requirements and defer the item.

Motion by: Dr. Nanette Cocero

Second by: Erich Holmsten

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Working Capital Loan

Leanne Hernandez, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Resolution ratifying a First Amendment to the 2022 Amended and Restated Regions Bank Taxable Revolving Loan (Working Capital). The Board passed a motion to approve the Resolution ratifying a First Amendment to the 2022 Amended and Restated Regions Bank Taxable Revolving Loan (Working Capital).

Motion by: Dr. Nannette Cocero

Second by: Erich Holmsten

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Policy Recommendations

The Board approved in one board action the policy recommendations.

- a. 23-24 Employee Handbook
- b. Whistleblower Policy
- c. Authority over Fiscal Matters policy

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan

Second by: Ed Rivera

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Signature Authority

Jessica Hess, Chief Governance Officer, presented the Resolution related to Signature Authority. The Board passed a motion to approve the Resolution related to Signature Authority.

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan

Second by: Erich Holmsten

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. Sewell called for a motion to move to Executive Session pursuant to Tex. Govt. Code 551.071 Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal matters, Tex. Govt. Code 551.072, Tex. Govt. Code 551.074 Personnel Matters, Tex. Govt. Code 551.076 Security Personnel and/or Security Audit, and Tex. Govt. Code 551.082 School Children, School District Employees, Disciplinary matter, or complaint.

Executive Session

The Board passed a motion to move to Executive Session.

Motion by: Dr. Nannette Cocero

Second by: Reba C. McNair

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:42 am CST.

Open Session

Mr. Sewell called for a motion to reconvene in Open Session. The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session.

Motion by: Reba C. McNair

Second by: Ed Rivera

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 12:45 P.M. CST. No action was taken during Executive Session.

Votes on Closed Session Items

Organizational Program Update

The Board approved the Organizational Program update.

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan

Second by: Reba C. McNair

All in favor: Collin Sewell, Ed Rivera, Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Reba C. McNair, Dr. Nanette Cocero, Erich Holmsten, Gary Lindgren

All opposed: Michael Admas

Motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Operations Plan

The Board approved the Emergency Operations Plan.

Motion by: Eric Holmsten

Second by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution Good Cause Exception

The Board approved the Resolution for Good cause exception.

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan

Second by: Gary Lindgren

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Information Officer Compensation

The Board approved the Chief Information Officer Compensation, but adopted the following findings for the record:

- 1) The Board obtained and relied on appropriate comparability data in making its Determination, specifically the Mercer Executive Compensation Analysis;
- 2) The total compensation package is now being approved in advance by the Board, and no individuals who had an actual or potential conflict of interest with respect to the compensation arrangement participated in deliberations; and
- 3) The Board is herein adequately and contemporaneously documented the basis for its determination.

The compensation provided for the Chief Information Officer role stated above is fair, reasonable, and not excessive and appropriately in line with the individual's education, experience, prior salary history, the job duties actually performed, and what a typical person with similar skills, experience, and job duties would earn.

Motion by: Reba C. McNair

Second by: Gary Lindgren

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Collin Sewell, Board Chair read all items under the consent agenda and asked if Board Members had questions or wanted to discuss further any of the items on the list. The Board did not have questions and proceeded to vote.

- a) Contracts
 - (1) Construction & Improvements
 - (2) Non-Construction
 - (a) Contracted Services
 - (b) Software Services
 - (c) Testing Materials
 - (d) Professional Development
 - (e) Interlocal Agreements
 - (3) Contract Ratifications
 - (a) Settlement agreement, J.I.

(b) Ratification of settlement agreement, N.O.

- b) Travel Policy exceptions (Finance Committee, August 18, 2023)
- c) Budget Amendments (Finance Committee, August 18, 2023)
- d) Proposed Budget amendments (Finance Committee, August 18, 2023)
- e) Financial Statements (Finance Committee, August 18, 2023)
- f) Residency Exemptions (Executive Committee, August 22, 2023)
- g) Ratification of 22-23 District Safety and Security Committee Meeting Minutes
- h) July 28, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
- i) August Committee Meeting Minutes
- j) January 20, 2023 IDEA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- k) April 4, 2023 IDEA Audit Committee Meeting Minutes
- l) April 14, 2023 IDEA Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

The Board passed a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan
Second by: Eric Holmsten
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 PM CST.

Motion by: Anthony Ryan Vaughan
Second by: Gary Lindgren
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of IDEA Public Schools held on August 25, 2023.

DocuSigned by:
A. Ryan Vaughan
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Anthony Ryan Vaughan, Board Secretary

9/30/2023

Date