



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

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2024

Board Members Present: Collin Sewell, Ed Rivera, Erich Holmsten, Gary Lindgren, Constanza Miner, Theresa Barrera-Shaw

Theresa Barrera-Shaw joined 10:28 am CST

Board Members Not Present: Dr. Nanette Cocero, Michael Adams

Legal Counsel, Staff, and Consultants Present: Dr. Jeffrey Cottrill, Cody Grindle, Jessica Hess, Jennifer White, Kathleen Zimmermann, Dr. Ernesto Cantu, Dolores Gonzalez, Alejandra Loya, Andrea Fernandez, Christopher Gonzalez, Denise Jasso, Genevieve Cheng, Jacklyn Verdin, Javier Campos, Jennifer Meer, Layne Fisher, Linda Parga, Macy Torres, Marlon Shears, Martin Winchester, Michael Higgins, Raquel Sanchez, Sandra Sotelo, Tanika Isaac, Dr. David Lee, Christopher Ruszkowski, Fidel Ozuna III, Elizabeth Valades.

Audience Present: Paula Garcia, left at 9:53 am CST.

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, Board Chair Collin Sewell 9:19 AM CST.

Welcome and Call to Order

Board Chair Collin Sewell welcomed the Board Members to the April 26, 2024, Board of Directors' meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team. Board Chair Sewell, as presiding officer, conducted the meeting in Weslaco, 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.

General Comment

Jessica Hess, Chief Governance Officer, confirmed there were no prior requests for employee and staff comments. Three members were present on the public line.

Agenda Item Comment

Board Chair 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. Ms. 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

Christopher Gonzalez, VP of Accountability, began by sharing a Mock Exam Update. Layne Fisher, Chief Operating Officer, continues by providing an Enrollment Update. Lastly, Megan Arenas Grossen, Managing

Director- Authorizer Strategy, presented the Charter School Performance Framework.

Committee Updates

Ed Rivera, provided the Audit Committee Update.

The IDEA Audit Committee met on Tuesday April 16, 2024. The committee received reports regarding Grants Compliance Monitoring, Quarter 2 Corporate Card Report, and the corporate card violations for February and March 2024. The committee also received audit updates related to the Child Nutrition Program and Employee Retention and Staffing. The committee also reviewed, discussed an external auditor, and recommended a selected auditor for the board to approve at today’s meeting. The next Audit Committee meeting will be held on May 17, 2024.

Erich Holmsten, provided the Finance Committee Update.

The IDEA Finance Committee met on Friday April 19, 2024. The committee received various reports from members of the management team regarding the February and March 2024 Financial statements, a cash update, a variance report, proposed April budget amendments, requests for 24-25 advanced budget approval, the February and March 2024 corporate card report, travel policy exceptions, as well as a travel policy memo for the upcoming Texas Public Charter School Association conference, which were recommended for approval at today’s board meeting via the consent agenda. The board received a Form 990 review from Barbara Murphy from Blazek & Vetterling. The committee considered and recommended other action items which included a revision to the Bank Signature Resolution, the Intellectual Property Agreement between IDEA and IPS Enterprises, Inc. which are also on today’s consent agenda. The committee also recommended a Borrower’s Resolution, which will be discussed in today’s Finance Updates. Our next Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 24, 2024.

Collin Sewell, Committee Chair, provided the Executive Committee Update.

The Executive Committee met on Monday, April 22. The committee received an update regarding revisions to the Foundations Policy, and then recommended those revisions for board approval. We also received an update on the approach to successfully launching IDEA in Southern Dallas from Dr. Cottrill, as well as recommended for approval a resolution for adding Pre-K to the IDEA AW Brown campus. We conferred with legal counsel regarding pending matters and personnel, including an incentive agreement and a Mercer Compensation Analysis for the Deputy Superintendent role, which we have recommended for the board to consider in today’s meeting. We also recommended an OCR agreement and a settlement agreement for approval in the consent agenda.

Borrower’s Resolution

The Board passed a motion to consider and approve the Resolution Authorizing a Borrowing from the Clifton Higher Education Finance Corporation to Finance and Refinance Educational Facilities; Approving the Issuance of Bonds; Delegating Authority to Approve the Terms of the Bonds, Effect the Sale, Issuance and Delivery of Bonds and Execute and Deliver Documents Related Thereto; And Containing Other Related Matters

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Gary Lindgren
All in favor: All

All opposed None
Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The Board passed a motion to approve Consent Agenda in one board action.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten
Second by: Gary Lindgren
All in favor: All
All opposed None
Motion passed unanimously.

Intruder Detection & Exterior Door Audit

Jorge Chipres Castaneda, Director of Safety and Security, provided an Intruder Detection and Exterior Door Audit presentation.

Executive Session

Board Chair 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 Real Estate Matters, 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: Ed Rivera
Second by: Gary Lindgren
All in favor: All
All opposed None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:37 AM CST.

Open Session

Board Chair Sewell called for a motion to reconvene in Open Session.

Open Session

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Gary Lindgren
All in favor: All
All opposed None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 12:34 PM CST. No action was taken during Executive Session.

The Board passed a motion to consider and approve Incentive Agreement – SC

Motion by: Erich Holmsten

Second by: Gary Lindgren

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to consider and approve the Mercer Compensation Analysis for Deputy Superintendent role.

Motion by: Gary Lindgren

Second by: Constanza Miner

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to consider and approve delegation to the Superintendent to negotiate and reach agreement with MISD 1882 partnership for real estate, campus matters, operations fees, and other authorizer relations.

Motion by: Ed Rivera

Second by: Gary Lindgren

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to approve the non-expansion amendment and resolution related to address change and effective date change for PB4 Academy and PB4 College Prep

Motion by: Gary Lindgren

Second by: Erich Holmsten

All in favor: All

All opposed: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:37 PM CST.

Motion by: Theresa Barrera-Shaw

Second by: Erich Holmsten

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 Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on April 26, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

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Ed Rivera, Board Secretary

4/26/2024

Date