

The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its February Board Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A recap of the agenda is below.

1. Roll Call.
2. Verification of compliance with open meetings requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Pledges of allegiance.
4. Invocation.
5. In a pair of video special presentations, Trustees recognized eight students athletes named [Academic All-State](#), as well as the seven students who earned [All-State Musicians honors](#) from the Texas Music Educators Association.
6. In his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri presented student data from the most recent MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) assessment. He reminded Trustees, the MAP assessment is given three times each year (September, January and April) to show students' growth. This data is one of the ways we monitor the progress of our strategic plan initiatives. Dr. Muri called it a good compliment to STAAR and End of Course exams. The data show students in kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade grew but did not reach projected growth marks in math, while students in grades 3-8 met or exceeded those projections. In reading, students in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade grew but did not reach projected growth marks, while 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders met it. Dr. Muri also presented a brief summary of MAP scores in Opportunity Culture classrooms compared to non-O.C. classrooms. O.C. classrooms scored higher in reading and math at many grade levels (K-8).
7. There was no public comment.
8. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve policy revisions as outlined in TASB Local Policy Update 116. These came as recommendations from the Texas Association of School Boards.
9. Action items
  - A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an application for an appraised value limitation on qualified property from Nacero TX 1 LLC. Acceptance of the application does not bind the district into entering a contract with the applicant, but provides the option to consider the application and potential future contract for a Chapter 313 agreement for property value limitation and revenue. Chapter 313 agreements were created by the 2001 Texas Legislature to allow communities to attract specifically defined companies/projects through limiting the school district's Maintenance & Operations (daily operations) taxable valuation for ten years. The agreement

remains fully taxable for I&S (Debt Service) tax purposes at all times. The agreements stipulate the school district cannot be financially worse off by entering into the agreement. It is an evaluation process that is expected to take several months.

- B. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an application for an appraised value limitation on qualified property from 1PointFive P1 LLC. SEE THE ITEM ABOVE.
- C. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. The items on this list include a contract with SpaceX to provide satellite broadband internet service; professional services agreements with Underwood Law Firm and Culwell Consulting, LLC (for assistance with the previously approved Chapter 313 applications; the companies will reimburse ECISD for this cost), and Cooper Construction for building a new Career & Technical Education greenhouse.
- D. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the quarterly investment report.
- E. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a contract with the Ector County Elections Office to conduct the May 1, 2021 joint election. Four spots on the ECISD school board are on the ballot this spring. Those spots are Position 2, Delma Abalos; Position 4, Chris Stanley; Position 5, Steve Brown; and Position 7, Nelson Minyard.
- F. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the teaching academy dual credit matrix crosswalk. Officially called Future Teachers of Odessa, this expanded teaching academy is a partnership with Odessa College and the University of Texas Permian Basin, intended to grow our own highly-qualified teachers from our ECISD students. Students will have the opportunity to earn nine college hours their freshman year, 9 hours their sophomore year, 25 hours their junior year and 35 hours their senior year for 78 possible college hours toward a Bachelor's degree. This is a rigorous program, but will allow students flexibility with options for entry into the program throughout their high school years. The time of entry into the program will determine the total credit hours a student may earn. FTO is designed as a "school within a school" at Odessa High School and Permian High School. The students will be given a letter of intent to hire by ECISD.**
- G. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve early childhood pre-kindergarten textbooks. After a district committee review and vetting process, the Early Childhood Department recommended, and the board approved, the adoption of Frog Street PreK for our 4-year-old students and Frog Street 3 for our 3-year-old students. Both of these comprehensive, dual-language curriculums are designed to meet the needs of diverse learners while supporting the expectations.

- H. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the [2021-22 academic calendars](#). The district calendar committee helped design these calendars for the next school year. This academic calendar provides students with 180 instructional days, which will qualify the district for funding for our Additional Days School Year (ADSY) Summer Learning for PreK through 5th grade students. In addition, special features in the new calendar included:
- Phase in for 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12th grade students. This allows 6th and 9th grade students to transition to middle and high school with extra support and guidance. Two days will be used to transition 6th and 9th grade students in 2021-2022;
  - Five half-day early release days. As required by the Texas Education Agency, our district may instruct students for a minimum of 240 minutes and receive full ADA funding for the day, and may release students early so teachers can engage in Professional Learning.
  - OCA/OCTECHS academic calendar will run the same days, with the exception of the bad weather days and early release days, which will be on Fridays to align with the Odessa College calendar.
- I. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve Third Future Schools as the new charter partner for Ector Middle School. Third Future is a four-year old network and runs schools in Colorado and Texas (Midland). In a presentation last week, leaders of Third Future told the ECISD board they have a unique instructional model and a track record of success. They said, with a focus on rigorous academics and extracurricular activities, all Third Future Schools are on track to attain approximately 1.5 times the growth the average student in the U.S. made prior to COVID. They said some of the key features of the Third Future model are learning how to learn, developing personal habits of success, setting high expectations for all students and giving students valuable experiences (such as electives, labs and travel). Also, the model focuses on differentiated, personalized learning for students; learning at or above grade level every day; and highly competitive educator salaries with embedded professional development, coaching and support. Additionally, the doors of the school are open 6:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for families.
- J. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a resolution for remote learning and pay for employees. The resolution stipulates that all regular employees, contractual and non-contractual, salaried and non-salaried, shall receive their regular rate of pay during the period of Inclement Weather; that all temporary replacement substitute teachers who had previously been scheduled to work during the days of Inclement Weather shall receive their regular rate of pay for any said day of Inclement Weather, that they worked by remote learning. Additionally, any employees who had previously taken leave days for any period of time during the Inclement Weather shall have said leave reinstated, and all non-exempt employees who were required to physically report to work during the Inclement Weather shall be paid at the premium rate of 1 and 1/2 times their regular rate of

pay for all hours worked, up to 40 hours per week, rather than their regular rate of pay.

**K. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a Texas Education Agency waiver for remote learning and school closure.**

10. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda is a group of routine or previously reviewed items that are approved all together. This month's Consent Agenda included minutes of previous meetings; bills for payment; acceptance of donations over \$10,000\*.

11. Reports/Discussion items

**A. Trustees discussed the School Action Fund Restart plan for Burnet Elementary School and Bowie Middle School. The plan is a bold step forward in our District's continuing effort to provide an excellent educational experience for every student, every day. Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, Burnet Elementary and Bowie Middle School will be transformed into RISE program schools; RISE standing for Rapidly Improving School Effectiveness. Burnet and Bowie were identified for immediate intervention due to multiple years of low ratings and declining academic performance. RISE is similar to a program called ACE that has been implemented with impressive success at high-needs campuses across Texas. This model creates an environment for students that completely provides for their academic, social/emotional, nutritional and support needs. The school day will be modified to accommodate additional learning time for reading and math instruction, tutoring and personalized academic support, and meals including an end-of-day super snack. Staff members at the school will be able to reapply for positions for the two schools. The RISE model staffs strategically, focusing on high-achieving educators with a demonstrated track record of student success. RISE teachers will have unique scheduling and significant financial incentives. You can read more about this RISE opportunity at this web page [www.ectorcountysd.org/RISE](http://www.ectorcountysd.org/RISE).**

**B. Trustees heard an updated on the Bonham Middle School turnaround efforts. In October, the District announced plans to seek a turnaround partner for Bonham because the school is currently in its fifth year with an "F" rating. However, because of COVID, the state has paused accountability ratings for the second year in a row. The pause gives Bonham an opportunity to turnaround its academic achievement without a charter partner. The school is going to take on a rigorous turnaround process that will include strategic staffing, expanded recruiting that targets experience educators with a track record of success, additional days of professional development, extended instructional days, high dosage tutoring for students and summer learning. Staff members selected to be part of the Bonham MS team will receive additional financial**

**incentives. If Bonham maintains its F status for another year (when accountability ratings resume), the District faces state intervention in the form of school closure or a board of managers for the school district.**

- C. Dr. Muri gave Trustees a brief legislative update on discussions taking place among the House and Senate finance committees and talk of the Average Daily Attendance “hold harmless” provision that was put in place for the fall semester but is still under discussion for the spring semester.
- 12. Trustees spent approximately 25 minutes in closed session discussing contract renewals for administrators Pay Grade 6-12. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve those contract renewals. NOTE: remaining administrative contracts and teacher contracts will be presented to the school board in April.
- 13. Information items. You can find these items, as well as the descriptions of previous items, here - <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1406?meeting=456659>
- 14. There were no closing remarks.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

\* \$10,000 from the Hermine Hemphill Foundation for supplies and services for students in need.

\$50,000 from the Moody Foundation designated for the SpaceX program to help bridge the digital divide for 135 families.

<https://bit.ly/3bw6lhz>