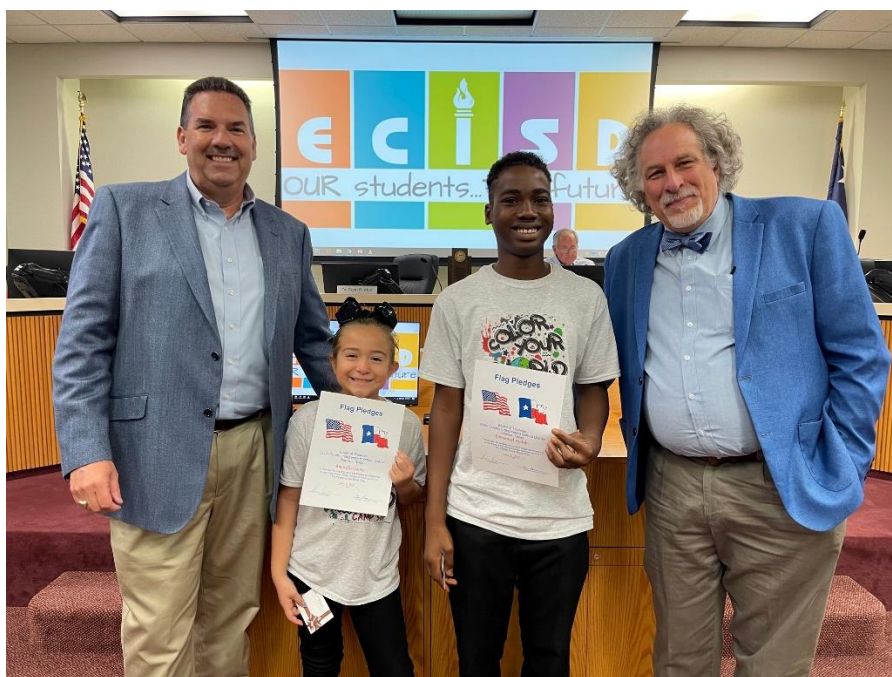


The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its June Board Meeting on the 21st. A recap of the agenda is below.

1. Roll Call. Tammy Hawkins was absent.
2. Verification of compliance with open meetings requirements.
3. There were no opening remarks from the superintendent here.
4. Trustees moved to closed session to hear a Level III Grievance. At the conclusion of the hearing, Trustees upheld the earlier grievance decision.
5. Camp SIP students Amaralis Gomez, 4th-grader from Reagan Elementary, & Emmanuel Afolabi, 7th-grader from Nimitz Middle School, led the pledges of allegiance.



6. School board president Dr. Steve Brown gave the invocation.
7. Special presentations included the introduction of [the 12 students](#) who qualified for State VASE (Visual Arts Scholastic Event), and recognition of Bowie MS's Shijay Sivakumar following his tie for 9th place at the Scripps National Spelling Bee (look for his story to be published soon).

8. There were no opening comments.

9. There was no public comment.

10. Board policy

A. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve revisions to local board policies for the District of Innovation (DOI) renewal plan. The Board of Trustees recently approved the ECISD District of Innovation Plan and the related exemptions from state statutes. Texas Association of School Boards Policy Service assisted the District in proposing revisions and additions to ECISD board policy.

11. Trustees held a public hearing for, and voted 5-0 to approve, Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value between the District and 1PointFive P1, LLC, Texas Comptroller Application Number 1570, Pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code.

12. Trustees held a public hearing for the adoption of the 2022-23 budget. They are anticipating the overall tax rate will stay the same as it is now - \$1.17792 per \$100 valuation. A school board in Texas is legally required to approve three separate budgets: the General Fund budget which is projected to be \$338,720,000; the Debt Service budget projected at \$27,547,576; and the School Nutrition budget at \$18,115,065. All are balanced budgets. The highlights of the General Fund budget come from the 2022-23 Compensation Plan which Trustees approved last month:

- **Starting teacher salary raised to \$58,750** (NOTE: in 2017-18, ECISD's starting teacher salary was just \$44,500)
- **Everyone on the teacher pay scale will get a minimum increase of \$2,000**
- **4% general pay increase at midpoint for hourly employees (campus-based and central office)**
- **3% (of midpoint) pay increase for all professional employees (campus-based and central office)**
- **Raise minimum wage to \$15/hour** (this is up from \$10/hour two years ago)
- **The pay increases come at a cost of approximately \$9.3 million to the District's budget.**

During the discussion it was noted, the two largest expenditures, by function, are Instruction, which is 60% of the General Fund budget and Maintenance & Operations, which is 10% of the General Fund budget.

13. Action Items

A. **Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the 2022-2023 official budget.** See Item 12 above.

B. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve a resolution to calculate the property tax rates. This is a new state requirement for a school district to name a position to work directly with the local appraisal district on calculation of property taxes. As has been the practice, that position is the chief financial officer.

C. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. The list this month included roof removal & replacement for Odessa High School, professional development services targeted to Leadership development, virtual speech therapy for approximately 400 qualifying students, insurance coverage

through the TASB (Texas Association of School Boards) Risk Fund, College Career and Military Readiness supports, and technology infrastructure and systems projects.

- D. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve a resolution committing fund balance in accordance with GASB 54. According to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) the school board must approve categories for fund balance commitment or assignment for the coming year.
 - E. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the end-of- year budget amendment #7.
 - F. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the 2022-23 District Improvement Plan. The DIP aligns to the major themes of the strategic plan, and the district goals align to the Board of Trustees' goals. A few elements of the DIP that have been of particular focus over the past year are distribution and use of technology to enhance anywhere/anytime learning for students; the district's commitment to social-emotional learning resources that will help students and staff recover from the effects of the pandemic and school closures, but also create a culture of safety and respect in each school; personalized learning for students (which includes the high-impact tutoring used during this past year) and for staff members' professional development; the expansion of Prekindergarten to increase Kindergarten Readiness; dropout recovery efforts like the Virtual Academy and the new partnership with [Acceleration Academy](#); and the Talent Development work to create pipelines for hiring new teachers and strategic compensation for those most effective in leading/coaching colleagues and growing student achievement, i.e. Teacher Incentive Allotment, Opportunity Culture and National Board certification.
 - G. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the 2022-23 Student Code of Conduct with no revisions, and the addition of fines or fees for lost/damaged fine arts uniforms and instruments to be added to the student handbook.
 - H. Trustees voted 5-0 to delegate hiring authority to the superintendent for contractual personnel stipulated in board policy DC (Local) through the end of August 2022.
 - I. Trustees voted 5-0 to adopt a resolution authorizing payment to all employees assigned to work during the disruption of normal district operations last week during the emergency closure because of the local water system crisis.
14. Trustees voted 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda. This month's Consent Agenda included minutes of previous meetings; bills for payments; a shared services agreement for students with autism grant award; Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Odessa College for OCTECHS and Odessa Collegiate Academy; a MOU with the University of Texas Permian Basin for dual credit courses; an MOU and articulation agreement with Odessa College for Continuing Education class offerings; an MOU with Angelo State University for a School Counseling Pathway; an interlocal agreement with the University of Texas for the 2022-23 OnRamps program; out-of-state travel for Future Teachers of Odessa from OHS to go to Washington D.C. for a conference; the UIL Exemption List for 2022-23; a resolution to designate an investment officer; an agreement with Texas Tech University for the Principal Fellowship; and interlocal agreements for various purchasing co-ops.
- 15. Reports/Discussion items – Trustees received a report on STAAR and End of Course exam results. Superintendent Dr. Muri presented a look at grade level results compared to last year's scores. In 3rd grade, 4th grade and 5th grade Math scores improved in 8 of 9 areas (each grade level is measured in**

three ways: Approaches, Meets and Masters), with a high of a ten-point increase. In 3rd grade, 4th grade, and 5th grade Reading Language Arts (RLA) improved in all 9 areas, a couple of them by as much as 17 and 18 points (below).

STAAR DATA - RLA 2021 VS 2022 3RD-5TH

RLA	<u>3RD</u> (2021)	<u>3RD</u> (2022)	<u>4TH</u> (2021)	<u>4TH</u> (2022)	<u>5TH</u> (2021)	<u>5TH</u> (2022)
APPROACHES	55%	64%	47%	65%	61%	64%
MEETS	25%	36%	22%	39%	33%	43%
MASTERS	12%	19%	9%	17%	20%	24%

Fifth-grade and 8th grade Science increased in all measures. Sixth-grade, 7th grade and 8th grade math saw double-digit gains in many areas and as much as a 16-point increase with 8 of 9 increasing. Middle school Reading Language Arts went up in all nine areas with solid gains of 14 and 16 points (below). Overall, middle school results were strong.

STAAR DATA - RLA 2021 VS 2022 6TH - 8TH

RLA	<u>6TH</u> (2021)	<u>6TH</u> (2022)	<u>7TH</u> (2021)	<u>7TH</u> (2022)	<u>8TH</u> (2021)	<u>8TH</u> (2022)
APPROACHES	47%	56%	51%	67%	58%	70%
MEETS	18%	29%	28%	39%	28%	42%
MASTERS	7%	12%	13%	23%	10%	25%

Eighth-grade social studies decreased by a couple of points. Several high school scores did not show the same growth – English I was down two points, English II down one point and US History showed the same results. However, Algebra I and Biology increased in all three measures (below).

STAAR DATA - BIOLOGY 2021 VS 2022

BIOLOGY EOC	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
APPROACHES	71%	76%
MEETS	36%	43%
MASTERS	11%	12%

Dr. Muri closed the presentation with his “exclamation point”, showing that scores for middle school Reading Language Arts have recovered, and even surpassed, the results shown in 2019 before the pandemic began. He told Trustees he is exceptionally proud of the district’s 4,200 employees who made this improvement happen. He said teachers and principals are exhausted from their efforts, and he called the students ‘resilient’. He added this is the result of an enormous amount of intentional, targeted work, that it did not happen by accident. A separate press release showing all results will be published on the ECISD website.

16. Trustees moved to closed session to discuss personnel matters. When they returned:

- Trustees voted 5-0 to approve William Iker as the new principal for Jordan Elementary. William is an assistant principal at Wilson & Young Medal of Honor Middle School and has served in that same role at Bonham Middle School. He taught for five years at Ector Middle School where he was also the athletic coordinator. In addition to his education background, he boasts 20 years of military experience in the United State Army.
- Trustees voted 5-0 to appoint Dennis Jones as the new representative for school board Position 7. Mr. Jones has lived and worked in Odessa for 17 years as a prosecutor, Judge and now a private practice lawyer. While working as a Municipal Judge for the City of Odessa he was actively involved in the truancy program for 13 years. He also has previous teaching experience at Angelina College and Odessa College. The school board held a special meeting on Monday, June 20, at which time the Trustees interviewed all 8 applicants for the spot. Trustees called this a very difficult decision and they expressed their appreciation to everyone who showed interest in the position, applied and took the time to interview with the school board.

17. Information items. You can find these items, as well as the descriptions of previous items, here – <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1406?meeting=529982>.

18. In his closing remarks, Dr. Muri reminded Trustees there are no board meeting scheduled for July.

19. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.