



The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its July Board Meeting on the 27th. A recap of the agenda is below.

1. Roll Call. Nelson Minyard was absent.
2. Verification of compliance with open meetings requirements.
3. Pledges of allegiance.
4. Invocation.
5. In his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri congratulated the Board of Trustees on being named the Region 18 nominee for TASA's 2021 Outstanding School Board. TASA stands for Texas Association of School Administrators, and the organization sponsors this recognition program annually. ECISD's Board of Trustees is one of 15 school boards in Texas to earn this nomination this year. He thanked Trustees Tammy Hawkins and Chris Stanley for spending their weekend at a board training session. He said just as with our teachers and other employees, school board members are continuously learning, too. Dr. Muri closed with a reminder that the COVID-19 pandemic is still a reality in our world and our community. In recent weeks, health guidance has been coming very quickly and changing often. He assured Trustees that District leaders are monitoring that guidance closely and are finalizing back-to-school protocols keeping the safety of our staff and students at the forefront of the decision-making. Those protocols will be announced very soon.
6. There was no public comment.
7. Board Policy
 - A. Trustees heard proposed revisions to policy CFB(Local): Accounting Inventories. This revision updates the language in the policy to current terminology and standards. No action was taken, and this item will be brought back for a vote in August.
8. Action items.

- A. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve a partnership with Acceleration Academies for a dropout prevention/dropout recovery program. Acceleration Academies is a nationally accredited high school re-engagement effort based upon 2013 Research: “Dropping Out: Stereotypes, Reality and Recovery.” This program is designed to be personalized with flexible hours and social/emotional supports for students. It provides an alternative for students who are under 21 years of age who have dropped out of school, as well as students who are behind in credits and at risk of dropping out of school. Acceleration Academies and ECISD share the recovered Average Daily Attendance revenue, and as such, there is no cost to the District. Currently, there are ten school districts in four states (almost 1,600 students) partnering with Acceleration Academies. The group believes about 2,300 children in Ector County would be eligible for this program; the goal would be to enroll 200+ in A.A. in the first year. With school board approval, ECISD leaders will now begin negotiations on an agreement with Acceleration Academies.
 - B. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. Included on this list are items pertaining to dropout prevention, academic acceleration, PSAT/APSAT/NMSQT exams, legal fees, utilities, AVID membership, insurance, and tax appraisal/collection services.
 - C. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve budget amendment #1.
 - D. Trustees voted 5-0-1 to approve 2021-22 Student Code of Conduct and revisions to the Student Handbook Fees. Delma Abalos abstained from the vote. The documents will be posted on our [Parents & Students webpage](#).
 - E. Trustees voted to appointment Chris Stanley as the board’s Texas Association of School Boards delegate, and Nelson Minyard as the alternate delegate.
9. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve the Consent Agenda. This month’s Consent Agenda included minutes of previous meetings; bills for payments; acceptance of donations over \$10,000*; a resolution amending investment authorized representatives, an interlocal agreement with the University of Texas for 2021-22 OnRamps Program, an addendum to the interlocal agreement with the City of Odessa for crossing guards, an agreement with National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, an interlocal agreement with Region 18 for Reading Academies, teacher certification waiver for 2021-22, an agreement with Elevate K-12 for 2021-22, School Nutrition meal prices and new meal charging policy, and clarification of 2020-21 budget amendments #8 and #9. Item 9-G was pulled from consideration.
 10. Reports/Discussion items

A. Trustees received a report on 2021 STAAR results. Because all state tests were suspended in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, this is a comparison of the 2021 results vs. 2019 results. On a positive note, ECISD students narrowed the gap with the state in 16 of 22 tested areas. However, the data is clear that students struggled a great deal; every area saw declines. As one example, ECISD's 3rd grade Math scores gained 5 points on the State's results (though both fell). **This presentation is attached with this email.**** These results stayed consistent across special populations like economically disadvantaged, limited English proficiency and Special Education, too. Dr. Muri called local results a powerful example of the hard work our teachers did to keep children engaged and challenge them even under the most difficult circumstances of the pandemic. Please see the set of tables at the conclusion of this recap for full 2021 STAAR results.**

11. Trustees adjourned to closed session to discuss hiring.

A. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve the hiring of the following leaders:

- **Dr. Keeley Simpson, Executive Director of Leadership. Dr. Simpson served as a Regional Superintendent in Portland Public Schools for the past three years, overseeing a region of 35 schools. Before that, she was Houston ISD's School Support Officer, a middle school principal, high school assistant principal and high school teacher**
- **Rosa Cruz, Burlson Elementary Principal. She most recently worked as a curriculum instructor at the collegiate level. She has six years of experience as a principal, five years as an assistant principal, and 11 total years of teaching experience – nine in public school and two as a college instructor.**
- **Beatrice Martinez, Cavazos Elementary Principal. She comes to ECISD from Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District where she was the principal at Anthon Elementary School. That is part of her 14 years of administrative experience as both an assistant principal and principal in addition to seven years of teaching experience.**
- **Nora Gonzalez, West Elementary Principal. She was the assistant principal at Goliad Elementary for the past two years, as well as a Bilingual and Lead Teacher here in ECISD since 2009.**

12. Information items. You can find these items, as well as the descriptions of previous items, here - <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1406?meeting=471241>

13. There were no closing remarks.

14. There was no hearing.

15. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*Austin Montessori Elementary, \$25,154 for the purchase of cafeteria tables.

Ector County ISD closes gap on state in 16 of 22 areas; work still needed to recover COVID losses

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) released spring 2021 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results. The results include exams in mathematics and reading for grades 3–8, 4th & 7th grade writing, 5th and 8th grade science, 8th grade social studies, and high school end-of-course (EOC) exams in Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History.

The number of students not meeting grade level increased as a result of the learning disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Scores dropped across all English tested subject areas—both statewide and at ECISD—with the exception of English I and English II end-of-course scores, where minor improvements statewide were made between 2019 and 2021.

ECISD STAAR results reflect that the achievement gap between the state and the district decreased in 16 of the 22 tested areas when comparing the meets standard year over year results.

ECISD also outscored state averages on the Spanish math test in grades 3-5 for students achieving the approaches performance standard and for students in grades 3-4 for students achieving the meets grade level performance standard.

Table 1

STAAR All Versions (E&S 3-5, E 6-EOC)		Approaches - %				Meets - %				Masters - %			
Subject	Grade	State		ECISD		State		ECISD		State		ECISD	
		2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021	2019	2021
Mathematics	3	78	61	65	51	47	29	34	21	24	14	15	8
Mathematics	4	74	58	63	50	46	34	32	24	27	21	17	12
Mathematics	5	83	69	72	62	55	42	41	35	35	24	23	18
Mathematics	6	79	66	63	50	45	34	25	19	20	14	7	6
Mathematics	7	73	54	59	40	41	25	26	15	16	11	8	5
Mathematics	8	81	60	55	29	55	35	22	8	16	10	2	0
Algebra I	EOC	84	72	67	54	62	41	32	22	39	23	13	9
Reading	3	75	66	66	55	43	37	34	25	27	19	19	12
Reading	4	73	62	63	47	43	35	32	22	21	17	14	9
Reading	5	77	72	64	60	51	45	36	32	28	30	16	19
Reading	6	66	61	47	47	35	31	19	18	17	14	7	7
Reading	7	74	68	57	51	47	44	29	28	28	25	14	13
Reading	8	77	72	59	57	53	45	32	27	27	21	14	9
English I	EOC	63	66	49	48	49	50	31	31	12	12	4	3
English II	EOC	67	70	56	52	51	57	37	37	8	11	3	3
Science	5	73	60	58	48	47	29	31	19	23	12	14	7
Science	8	79	67	64	45	49	42	27	21	24	23	10	9
Biology	EOC	88	81	83	70	63	54	48	37	26	22	12	11
Writing	4	65	52	53	41	34	26	21	16	10	8	5	3
Writing	7	69	61	49	47	40	31	21	18	17	9	6	3
Social Studies	8	67	56	42	29	35	27	12	8	20	13	5	2
U.S. History	EOC	93	88	91	81	75	69	64	52	47	43	35	25

Source: Texas Assessment Management System Analytic Portal

Table 2

Group Summary: Performance Levels: STAAR 3-5, Spring 2021								
Version	Subject	Grade	Approaches - %		Meets - %		Masters - %	
			State	ECISD	State	ECISD	State	ECISD
STAAR	Reading	3	68	56	38	26	19	11
STAAR	Reading	4	63	48	36	23	18	9
STAAR	Reading	5	72	60	45	32	30	19
STAAR	Mathematics	3	61	52	30	22	14	8
STAAR	Mathematics	4	58	51	35	25	21	12
STAAR	Mathematics	5	69	62	43	35	24	18
STAAR	Writing	4	53	42	26	17	8	4
STAAR	Science	5	61	48	30	19	12	7
STAAR Spanish	Reading	3	52	50	24	21	15	14
STAAR Spanish	Reading	4	46	36	24	19	12	8
STAAR Spanish	Reading	5	75	68	45	35	21	17
STAAR Spanish	Mathematics	3	42	46	14	14	5	7
STAAR Spanish	Mathematics	4	32	42	13	15	6	4
STAAR Spanish	Mathematics	5	42	49	17	16	7	4
STAAR Spanish	Writing	4	35	25	14	9	4	1
STAAR Spanish	Science	5	31	26	8	2	2	0

Source: Texas Assessment Management System Analytic Portal

Table 3

Group Summary: Performance Levels: STAAR 6-8, Spring 2021								
Version	Subject	Grade	Approaches - %		Meets - %		Masters - %	
			State	ECISD	State	ECISD	State	ECISD
STAAR	Reading	6	61	47	31	18	14	7
STAAR	Reading	7	68	51	44	28	25	13
STAAR	Reading	8	72	57	45	27	21	9
STAAR	Mathematics	6	66	50	34	19	14	6
STAAR	Mathematics	7	54	40	25	15	11	5
STAAR	Mathematics	8	60	29	35	8	10	0
STAAR	Writing	7	61	47	31	18	9	3
STAAR	Science	8	67	45	42	21	23	9
STAAR	Social Studies	8	56	29	27	8	13	2

Source: Texas Assessment Management System Analytic Portal

Table 4

Group Summary: Performance Levels: STAAR EOC, Spring 2021							
		Approaches - %		Meets - %		Masters - %	
		State	ECISD	State	ECISD	State	ECISD
STAAR EOC	Algebra I	72	54	41	22	23	9
STAAR EOC	Biology	81	70	54	37	22	11
STAAR EOC	English I	66	48	50	31	12	3
STAAR EOC	English II	70	52	57	37	11	3
STAAR EOC	U.S. History	88	81	69	52	43	25

Source: Texas Assessment Management System Analytic Portal