

The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its August Board Meeting on the 18<sup>th</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 his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Muri announced that earlier in the day district leaders learned ECISD's application for the Teacher Incentive Allotment has been accepted. The TIA provides additional, potentially significant, compensation to highly effective teachers whose students show measurable improvement in academic growth. Dr. Muri told Trustees this will be a data-gathering year, and in 2021-22 teachers will be eligible for the pay. ECISD is one of 47 school districts in Texas that applied for TIA this spring. He reminded the school board that even in times of crisis, the District must stay focused on innovative efforts like this. [Learn more about ECISD's TIA plan.](#)
6. There was no public comment.
7. Action Items
  - A. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. The three items on this list are emergency personal protective equipment (PPE) ordered for ECISD staff members, an agreement with Region 18 Education Service Center to consult on the new Texas Reading Academies, and a contract with Public Impact, LLC, to partner with ECISD on Opportunity Culture implementation. [Learn more about ECISD's Opportunity Culture.](#)
  - B. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve budget amendment #2. The largest part of this budget amendment is for Chromebooks, iPads and Mifi internet hotspots for students and families. It also includes construction of a fiber network throughout the District.
  - C. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve a Texas Education Agency (TEA) Waiver from the annual financial report due date requirements for fiscal year 2019-20.
  - D. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve required waivers to TEA.

- E. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve the [2020-21 Gifted and Talented Plan](#). Three new aspects of the plan are a requirement to create an advisory group that includes community members in addition to school staff; a committee reviews a student holistically before moving them out of the GT program; and evidence of GT strategies embedded in lesson plans.
  
8. Trustees voted 6-0 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; additional T-TESS appraisers, the UIL Exemption list for the 2020-21 school year, and the annual investment report.
  
9. Reports/Discussion items
  - A. **Trustees heard an update on the opening of schools. Dr. Muri gave the board some numbers: on the first day of school enrollment was 23,067 with 4,200 kids attending in person and 779 calls made to the ECISD Technology Help Desk. After five days, enrollment now stands at 30,465 and more than 4,700 students are attending in person (about 14%), and nearly 3,800 calls to the Technology Help Desk. He showed pictures from classrooms around the district that highlighted distancing between desks and cleaning being done by our custodial teams. He reminded Trustees that Phase II for students to return to school in person on August 26 and Phase III is on schedule for September 1. You will find information at our Back-to-School web page - [www.ectorcountyisd.org/BackToSchool](http://www.ectorcountyisd.org/BackToSchool).**
  
10. Trustees spent a little more than two hours in closed session reviewing applications and conducting interviews to fill the Position 4 vacancy. Three people applied for this position: Michaela Johnson, Jesse Christesson, and Chris Stanley.
  - A. **Trustees voted 6-0 to appoint Chris Stanley to fill Position 4 until the next regular election in May 2021. Mr. Stanley is an associate professor of fine art at the University of Texas Permian Basin, where he has worked since 1992. The board members thanked all three of the candidates for taking an interest in the position and going through the interview process.**
  
11. Information items. You can find these items, as well as the descriptions of previous items, [in the Board Book](#).
  
12. There were no closing remarks.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.