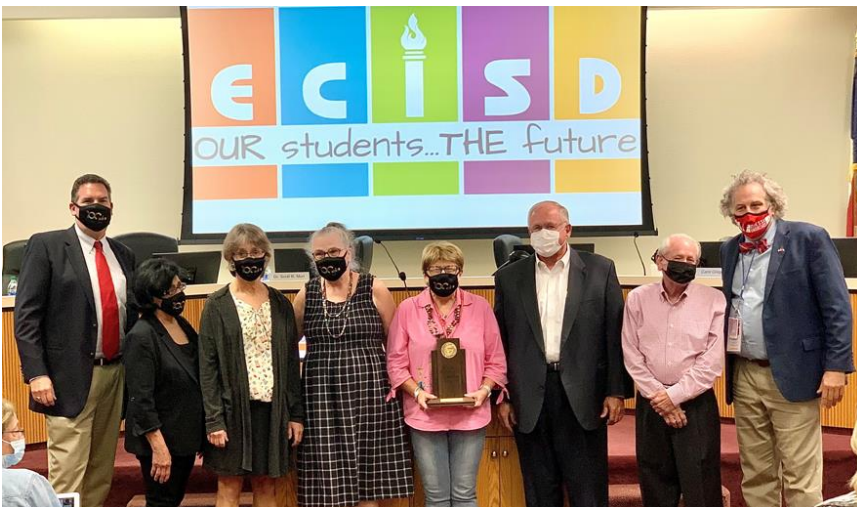


The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its September Board Meeting on the 21st. A recap of the agenda is below.

1. Roll Call.
2. Verification of compliance with open meetings requirements.
3. Pledges of allegiance.
4. Invocation.
5. Special presentations included recognition of Dr. Stephanie Howard's tenure at ECISD with the Board's "Extra Mile" Award; announcement of the Texas Art Education Association "District of Distinction" award to ECISD for visual arts; and presentation, by Region 18 Education Service Center, of the Regional School Board of the Year honor for the 2020-21 school year (pictured).



6. In his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri, said he and board members would be traveling this weekend to the annual TASA/TASB fall conference for a weekend of learning with other school board members and school district leaders from around the state. He also mentioned to the board that the third legislative session was underway and a bill filed today could negatively impact school funding, and he would keep Trustees updated on it as it moves through the legislative process.
7. There was no public comment.

8. Board Policy

- A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve revisions to policy DEC(Local) Compensation and Benefits: Leave and Absences. Changes to this policy reflect recent changes in the law that give peace officers a maximum of three (3) days of mental health leave per traumatic event experienced in the scope of their employment. Additionally, peace officers are granted quarantine leave when ordered by the local health authority or the peace officer's supervisor to quarantine/isolate due to possible or known exposure to a communicable disease while on duty (HB 2073).

9. Public Hearing

- A. Trustees held a public hearing on an application of 1PointFive P1 LLC for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property, pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code. 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 agreement stipulates the school district cannot be financially worse off by entering into the agreement. The company is planning to build a direct air capture facility; it manufactures industrial grade carbon dioxide. This value limitation would set a taxable value on the facility of \$100 million dollars from 2025-2035 as it pertains to the M&O portion of ECISD's tax rate. As mentioned above, the facility would be taxed at its full value for I&S (Debt Service) portion of ECISD's tax rate at all times. The company is considering locations in several states in addition to Texas.
- B. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a resolution adopting findings of fact and approving the application of 1PointFive P1 LLC for appraised value limitation on qualified property, pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code, and other action incident thereto.
- C. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an agreement with 1PointFive P1 LLC for limitation on appraised value of property for school district Maintenance & Operation Taxes, pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code.

10. Action items.

- A. Trustees voted 7-0 to accept for consideration an application for an appraised value limitation on qualified property from GCC Permian, LLC, assess project application fee, authorize superintendent to review the application for completeness, submit application to the Comptroller and take other action incident thereto. This is a cement company seeking to add additional capacity at its existing facility, projected to be a \$230 million investment. The application period could take several months.
- B. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a letter of engagement with Culwell Consulting LLC for Chapter 313 agreement services. Culwell Consulting will provide guidance to ECISD through the GCC Permian LLC application process.
- C. **Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the pre-payment of a portion of the District's outstanding unlimited tax refunding bonds, Series 2012, and a portion of the District's outstanding unlimited tax school building bond, Series 2013. By prepaying more than \$1.4 million in the Series 2012**

bonds and more than \$4.2 million in the Series 2013 bonds, ECISD can save taxpayers approximately \$2.5 million in future interest payments. The District takes great pride in prudently managing its financial and debt position. These early payments are scheduled to be made in February 2022.

- D. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the tax rate for the 2021-22 school year. The total tax rate adopted is \$1.17792, which is the same for the third year in a row. A school district's tax rate is broken down into two parts: Maintenance & Operations (M&O) which provides funding for day-to-day operations; and Interest & Sinking (I&S), also known as debt service, which provides the funding for debt (bond) payments. The total tax rate approved by the board breaks down as follows:**

\$1.05170 for M&O

\$.12622 for I&S

\$1.17792 total tax rate

NOTE: The adopted tax rate does not exceed the no-new-revenue tax rate; it does not exceed the voter approved tax rate; and it does not provide for M&O revenues that exceed the amount imposed in the prior year.

- E. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. This item is the annual contract fee for Communities in Schools, which partners with ECISD to help students who are at-risk of dropping out of school. CIS serves at 11 secondary schools.
- F. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the sale of property for less than market value.
- G. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the 2021-22 Campus Improvement Plans, which were presented to the board during last week's workshop.
11. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the Consent Agenda. This month's Consent Agenda included minutes of previous meetings; bills for payments; acceptance of donations over \$10,000*; an interlocal agreement with Communities in Schools; a series of four annual agreements with Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin (Head Start); a memorandum of understanding with UTPB First 5 Permian Basin; a resolution of extracurricular status of 4-H; an agreement with Texas Virtual School Network; additional T-TESS appraisers; a waiver for staff development minutes; approval of out-of-state travel for the Permian High School choir to Orlando, Florida, in March 2022; waiver for VGO Audio-Video Communications System; a memorandum of understanding with Third Future Schools; and three service agreements with Right at School, Acceleration Academies, and the Education Service Center Region 12 universal benefits consortium.
12. Report/Discussion items
- A. Trustees heard a presentation from the School Nutrition Department. The department's vision is to remove hunger from the equation in order to help kids achieve their academic goals. ECISD School Nutrition has a staff of about 200 employees from café workers to warehouse to business office. It operates with a budget of \$17.5 million annually. The department is serving some 16,000 breakfasts each day and 18,000 lunches each day, projecting more than 5 million meals projected to be served this year. The department encourages its employees to pursue Texas Association of School Nutrition certifications, which brings compensation as employees gain higher levels of

certification. ECISD offers universal free feeding for both breakfast and lunch and after-school snacks – again at no charge to any student.

13. Trustees moved to closed session to discuss the superintendent’s contract and other personnel matters. Nelson Minyard did not attend the closed session nor the votes afterward.

A. Trustees voted 6-0 to modify the superintendent’s contract in the following ways: 1. Extended by one year to end on June 30, 2026; increased salary from \$300,900 to \$309, 927 which is the same percentage increase being given to all full-time classroom teachers; retirement contributions increased.

B. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve Dr. Keeley Simpson as the Chief of Schools. Dr. Simpson joined ECISD in July as executive director of leadership. Her professional experience includes three years as regional superintendent for Portland Public Schools, one year as school support officer in Houston ISD, and ten years as either a principal or assistant principal in Houston ISD.

C. Trustees voted 6-0 to approve Cindy Retana as Executive Director of Leadership. Ms. Retana comes to ECISD from Socorro ISD in El Paso. There she has served as assistant superintendent of schools for the past three years. Prior to that, over a period of eight years she was a principal across elementary, middle school and high school campuses. She was also a middle school assistant principal and a counselor.

14. Information items. You can find these items, as well as the descriptions of previous items, here – <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1406?meeting=491522>

15. There were no closing remarks.

16. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

*\$100,000 from Grow Odessa for the SpaceX satellite pilot program
\$50,000 from the Education Foundation of Odessa for Opportunity Culture
\$12,500 from the Education Foundation of Odessa for a portion of the grant writer’s salary
\$10,000 from the Education Foundation of Odessa for Ozbot kits for middle schools