

The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its October Board Meeting on the 19th. 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 the introduction of [National Merit Semi-finalist Akshathh Mukkera from Odessa High School and 19 other students recognized by the College Board](#)**, as well as the presentation of two awards from the United Way of Odessa to ECISD – the UWO 2020 Most Improved Campaign Award and the 2020 Dick & Amelia Saulsbury Sustained Excellence Award.



6. In his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri, talked about an invitation ECISD Trustees had received an invitation to be part of a program, sponsored by Raise Your Hand Texas, that helps train school boards on how to work with legislators through advocacy and policy development. All Trustees are invited to participate and all expressed an interest in doing so.
7. There was no public comment.

8. Trustees held a public hearing for the District's FIRST report. FIRST stands for Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas. Chief Financial Officer Deborah Ottmers presented the FIRST report for 2020-21 (which is based on financial data from 2019-20). Our District earned a Superior Achievement rating, which is equivalent to a grade of A. Our score was a 100 out of 100. This was the fourth time in the past five years ECISD earned an A. Created by the 76th Texas Legislature in 2001, FIRST is designed to encourage public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes. The FIRST ratings are calculated using a series of financial indicators, such as administrative cost expenditures; the accuracy of a district or charter's financial information submitted to TEA; and any financial vulnerabilities or material weaknesses in internal controls as determined by an external auditor. Congratulations to our ECISD Finance Department for their hard work in managing tax dollars responsibly.
9. Board Policy
 - A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve revisions to policy CW(Local) Naming and Facilities. The update deletes text which is no longer relevant, and adds the Board's discretion to appoint two members to the facilities naming committee.
10. Action items.
 - A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. Three items on this list are high-impact tutoring, virtual learning services, and a partnership with Texas Tech University to annually evaluate Opportunity Culture and all three will use federal ESSER III funds. A fourth item, professional learning and support from TNTP for teachers in ECISD's alternative certification program (Odessa Pathway to Teaching) comes from the general fund.
 - B. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve Budget Amendment #3.
 - C. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the Certified Tax Roll from the Ector County Appraisal District (ECAD).
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*; approvals of out-of-state travel for the Odessa High School choir to Orlando, Florida; the Permian High School Band to Seattle, Washington; and the PHS Orchestra to Branson, Missouri; additional T-TESS appraisers for 2021-2022; and an updated investment broker/dealer list.
12. Report/Discussion items - none
13. There was no closed session.
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=494536>
15. There were no closing remarks.
16. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

*\$100,000 grant from The Brown Foundation through the Education Foundation of Odessa for Opportunity Culture

\$100,000 from The Dallas Foundation to the Permian Strategic Partnership through the Education Foundation of Odessa for the SpaceX Satellite Pilot Broadband program

\$150,000 Blended Learning grant from Raise Your Hand Texas through the Education Foundation of Odessa