

AT A BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATION BOARD ROOM, 802 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, ODESSA, ECTOR COUNTY, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M., MAY 14, 2024, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Present:

Delma Abalos
Dr. Steve Brown
Tammy Hawkins
Dawn Miller
Christopher Stanley
Robert Thayer
Wayne Woodall

Absent:

School Officials: Dr. Scott Muri, Mike Adkins, Dr. Keeley Boyer, Dr. Lilia Náñez, Deborah Ottmers, Dr. Anthony Sorola, Alicia Syverson, Dr. Kellie Wilks

Others: Tatiana Dennis, Jessica Gore, Jaime Miller, Jacob Kirksey, Mitch Davis, Lauren Tavarez, Jessica Dominguez, Aaron Hawley, Virginia Hunt, Betsabe Salcido, Lisa Wills, Nory Leachon, Viviana Rivera, Sara Moore, Amy Russell, Cheryl Wilson, Betsy Rhodes, Tommy Rhodes, Stacey Nunez, Heather Potts, Daniel Beauchamp, Chris Terry, Tom Manskey, David Boutin, Mandy Hinojos, Samantha Baker, Jimmy Cox, Ann Hewitt, Tracey Borchardt, Albessa Chavez, Julie Drainer, Stephanie Garcia, Ruth Campbell, Rita Lopez, Mary Franco

26705 **Meeting Called to Order:** Christopher Stanley, Board President, called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

26706 **Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law – this is to certify that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with the public notice of this meeting:** Board President Christopher Stanley, verified that the provisions of Section 551.001 of the Texas Government Code have been met in connection with public notice of this meeting.

26707 **Special Presentations:**

Grow Odessa Land Donation for Career and Technical Education Center: Grow Odessa officially transferred the deed to 37.9 acres of land in the industrial complex near the corner of E. Murphy Street and South Meadow Avenue. Grow Odessa donated the land to ECISD to be the site of the new Career & Technical Education Center approved by voters as part of Bond 2023. The new CTE Center will be the home campus for 400 full-time students. It would also serve an additional 2,000 students at various times throughout each day as they travel back-and-forth from Odessa High School, Permian High School, and New Tech Odessa taking CTE elective courses. The new CTE Center would work in partnership with Odessa College to offer students opportunities for dual credit, certifications, and degrees, and would be available

on nights and weekends as a training center for the Permian Basin's adult workforce.

26708 **Opening Remarks by Superintendent:** In his opening remarks, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri gave an overview of the District's first round of bond sales which took place Tuesday morning. He said the interest rate was better than bond advisors anticipated and the better rate will mean a savings of \$2.9 million for taxpayers over the life of the bonds. This initial sale was for \$179 million and there were \$338 worth of requests. Locally, residents purchased \$40,000 worth of the bonds and one local bank purchased \$3 million. He said they were very popular and there will be another round of sales next month.

26709 **Public Comment:** Individuals who wish to participate during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment shall sign up with the presiding officer or designee before the meeting begins as specified in the Board's procedures on public comment and shall indicate the agenda item on which they wish to address the Board. *BED(LOCAL)*

In public comment, Viviana Rivera, a 7th-grade Math teacher at Bowie Middle School told Trustees she appreciates Opportunity Culture and her Multi-Classroom Leader (MCL) who has pushed her and coached her to become a stronger teacher whose students are showing double-digit growth this year.

Report/Discussion Items

26710 **Comprehensive Coaching Model Analysis with Ector County ISD and Texas Tech University:** Dr. Jessica Gore, Executive Director of Research, Evaluation, and Accountability along with Jaime Miller, Executive Director of Talent Development and Dr. Jacob Kirksey Assistant Professor, Associate Director of CIRCLE presented this item for discussion. Trustees received a report analyzing the district's coaching models to assess their effectiveness in terms of teacher performance, student growth, teacher retention, and financial impact. Researchers at Texas Tech University have been examining the impact of teacher coaching within the Opportunity Culture (OC) staffing model. In this model, a Multi-Classroom Leader (MCL) both teaches and coaches a team of teachers, aides, and/or teacher residents on campus. The goal is to extend the reach of Master teachers to more students and other teachers through daily coaching and modeling. The MCL is paid a significant stipend for this role.

Currently, 20 schools are implementing some form of the OC model, which is positively affecting student performance in both reading and math. Last year, Texas Tech's analysis of the MCLs' coaching role revealed that MCLs at elementary and high schools felt empowered and responsible for their campuses. However, middle school MCLs felt less included in leadership. Additionally, most MCLs identified workload and time management as issues.

This year, the district implemented strategies to address these concerns. Highlights from the 2023-24 analysis show that staff in OC roles are now more likely to want to stay at their current school (64% of all staff, 78% of those in OC roles). Furthermore, 92% of Team Teachers appreciate the support they receive from MCLs, and 91% of MCLs report having protected time to coach and support their team, up from 15% in the 2022-23 survey.

More coaching and training sessions are planned to further enhance Opportunity Culture roles in ECISD as the district strives to build a culture of coaching among staff.

No action required.

26711 **Curriculum & Instruction Report - Humanities**: Dr. Andrea-Moreno-Hewitt Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction presented this item for discussion. Trustees received a report from Curriculum & Instruction focusing on Reading Language Arts (RLA) and Languages Other Than English (LOTE).

In Elementary RLA, the journey begins with the fundamental skill of learning to read, which is the cornerstone for the academic success. ECISD implemented Saxon Phonics in kindergarten through 2nd-grade and is seeing tangible evidence of improvement one year later. Small group instruction is also a priority, allowing teachers to provide more individual attention to students.

In Secondary RLA, consistent and aligned structures ensure students are reading with fluency and meaning. The STAAR exam now combines Reading and Writing, emphasizing the importance of these connections. An example was presented of a 6th-grade student who, through a combination of effective small group and whole group instruction, scored 9 out of 10 on the STAAR writing prompt using ECISD's RACER strategy, a framework for responding to text and writing.

In the LOTE program, students can earn a Performance Acknowledgement on their diploma for achieving Bilingualism/Biliteracy, demonstrating the ability to read and write in two languages.

Literacy in two languages opens doors to opportunities for students, and bilingual workers can earn 5-20% more than their monolingual counterparts. There is a focused effort to encourage more Emergent Bilingual students to pursue biliteracy. To qualify, students must maintain an 80 or higher in all English and LOTE courses or through Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams. Additionally, Emergent Bilingual students must have successfully exited the Bilingual/ESL program. Last year, 62 students qualified, and this year, the number has increased to 120 so far.

No action required.

26712 **Technology Update Presentation:** Dr. Kellie Wilks, Chief Technology Officer along with Lauren Tavarez, Director of Digital Learning, Mitch Davis, Director of Technology Support, Jessica Dominguez, Digital Learning Coordinator, and Many Hinojos, Blended Learning Coordinator presented this item for discussion. Trustees received an update on how ECISD Technology Services is impacting classrooms and learning throughout the district, with a primary focus on classroom support. The first highlighted project was the installation of interactive flat panels, part of Bond 2023. This year, the IT team prioritized providing and improving help and support, handling 10,023 work orders with 81% initiated on time and 91% completed on time. Additionally, they answered over 25,000 Help Desk calls. Beyond their district duties, the team stepped out of ECISD to serve the community through volunteering at the West Texas Food Bank.

Blended Learning, a district initiative, is not only supporting teaching and learning but also growing the next generation of leaders through the #TechyTribe Ambassadors program, a multi-year professional development experience. ECISD has become a model for other school districts seeking to implement Blended Learning. The IT team aims to align technology and digital learning with campus and district learning goals. The Digital Learning team has dedicated 4,400 hours to support approximately 1,900 teachers through one-on-one meetings, grade-level/department sessions, and professional learning opportunities.

No action required.

26713 **Possible Request for Approval to Move to Closed Meeting - Personnel Matters - Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code - [Board will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of public employees of the District or hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.]**
Consultations with Attorney – Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act [The Board will meet in Closed Session in Consultation with the Board’s Attorney Regarding all Matters as Authorized by Law.]

There was no closed session.

26714 **Closing Remarks by Superintendent:** In his closing remarks, Dr. Muri noted that the state has allocated an additional \$275,000 to ECISD for Blended Learning. He also announced that the district expects to close on the Sunset Golf Course property this week. Although this property is not part of the bond, it will be available for future growth. Additionally, this Friday evening will be the first two graduation ceremonies of the season – OCTECHS and Odessa Collegiate Academy. Trustee Tammy Hawkins shared with the other Trustees that she enjoyed her visit to Ross Elementary and appreciated the opportunity to speak with the students there.

26715 **Adjournment:** Christopher Stanley Board President, adjourned the Board meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Board President
Christopher Stanley

Board Secretary
Tammy Hawkins