

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:
Place:
Location:
Date:
Time:

Regular Board Meeting
WISD Board Room
319 W. 4th Street
November 16, 2021
5:37 P.M.

THIS MEETING WAS POSTED ONLINE FOR AT LEAST 72 HOURS. THE MEETING WAS LIVESTREAMED AT THE FOLLOWING WEB LINK: <https://youtu.be/hdUy6E4hu28>

MINUTES

I. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Armando Cuellar, Board President.

II. Establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was established. The following board members were present.

Armando Cuellar, President
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Vice President
Jesse Trevino, Secretary
Marcos De Los Santos, Trustee
Isidoro Nieto, Trustee
Jaclyn Sustaita, Trustee

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez joined the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

III. Opening Prayer

Sylvia Kromer, Mary Hoge Middle School Counselor, delivered the invocation.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance/Texas Pledge

The following students from Mary Hoge Middle School led the pledge of allegiance:

- Cristian Mojica is an 8th-grade student and is the son of Joe and Crissete Mojica. Christian plays tennis and basketball and is part of the MHMS band where he plays the saxophone. Christian plans to follow in his sister's footsteps and attend Weslaco East High School and march for the Wildcat Regiment. After high school, Christian would love to attend Texas A&M at College Station and study science.

- Brenden Kromer is an 8th-grade student and is the son of Chris and Sylvia Kromer. Brenden plays football, baseball, and track, and is a member of Weslaco East High School FFA where he raises lambs. After high school, Brenden plans to attend the University of Houston and major in pharmacy.

Dr. Chris Valdez, Interim Superintendent, asked for a moment of silence for Mr. Jesus “Jesse” Carrillo, WISD Construction Manager. Mr. Carrillo passed away recently.



V. Awards and Recognitions

Student Recognition

>Weslaco East High School /Weslaco High School Bands win Division I at Pigskin

The Weslaco East High School Wildcat Regiment and Weslaco High School Panther Corps received a Division One – Superior Rating in this year’s UIL Pigskin Marching Contest. The band students delivered great shows with amazing music and marching skills earning straight ones from all the judges.

The field captains represented the Wildcat Regiment:

Victoria Cruz	Catherine Lopez	Diana Villagomez	Jorge Castillo
Brenda Belmares	Santos Camacho	Alexis Cruz	Tristan Quintero
Jonathan Hernandez	Ruby Espinoza		

Uniform Manager is Dainela Paniagua. Starlettes Major is Arely Cantu and Captain is Thaily Mata.

Assistant drum major is Priscilla Caballero and Head drum major is Riley Caballero.
Band director is Armando Cuellar.

The section leaders represented the Panther Corps:

Victoria Abrego	Ayanna Sepulveda	Bethany Lowe	Raymond Sanchez
Destiny Cruz	Sarah Rodriguez	Amber Hernandez	Melany Villarreal
Alexis Colon	Lizty Cedillo	Angel Colon	Amairani Canales
Danny Ibarra	Francisco Riojas	Nydia Murillo	Josue Perez
Fernando Perez	Damian Schwarz		

Color Guard: Ember Cavazos and Analisa Benavides

Assistant drum majors: Damion Casas and Marina Garcia.

Head drum major: Eliza Gonzalez.

Band Director: Rodrigo Leal.

>All-State Choir Auditions

Several talented young singers advanced to the All-State Choir auditions in January after earning a chair in the All-Region Choir and advancing to pre-Area.

All-Region Choir members are:

- ›From Weslaco East High School: Brianna Gomez, 4th Chair Alto 2 in pre-Area
- ›From Weslaco High School: Kliyo Castro, 5th Chair, Alto 2 division in pre-Area

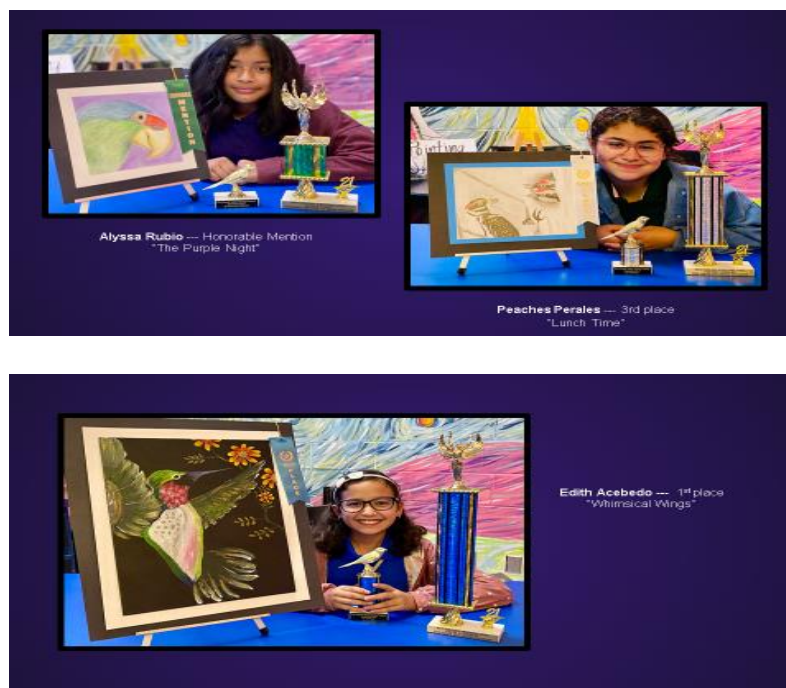
The Weslaco East High School Choir Director is Jeffery Figueroa.

The Weslaco High School Choir Director is Armando Morales.

>2021 Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival

Several students from Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties competed in the 2021 Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival. This contest includes an art category that promotes the wild birds that populate our Valley. Below are the winners from Weslaco ISD:

- From PFC Ybarra Elementary (5th Grade Division)
 - ›Alyssa Rubio received an Honorable Mention for her entry "The Purple Night".
 - ›Peaches Perales placed 3rd for her entry "Lunch Time".
 - ›Edith Acebedo won 1st place for her entry "Whimsical Wings".



VI. Proclamations

None

VII. Public Comments

The public had the opportunity to participate in public comments by registering no later than 5:00 p.m. at the following web link: <https://www.wisd.us/superintendentboard/new-page>, or in person.

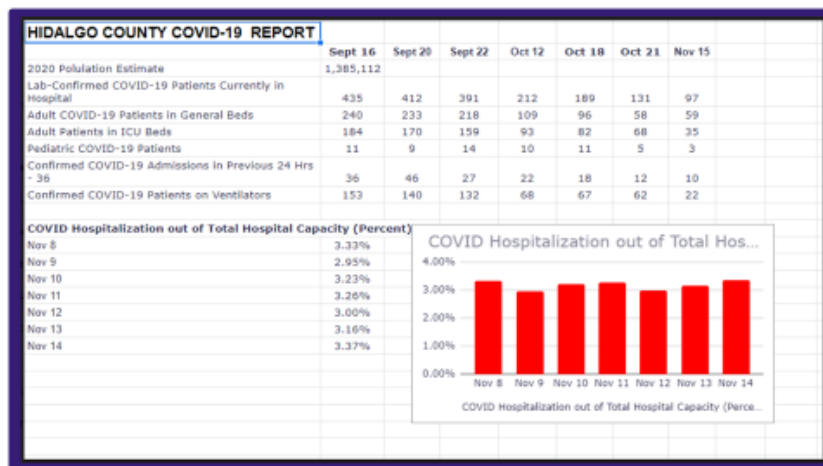
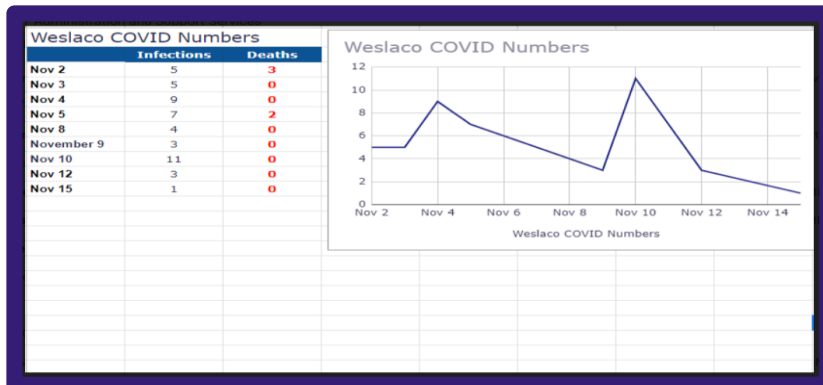
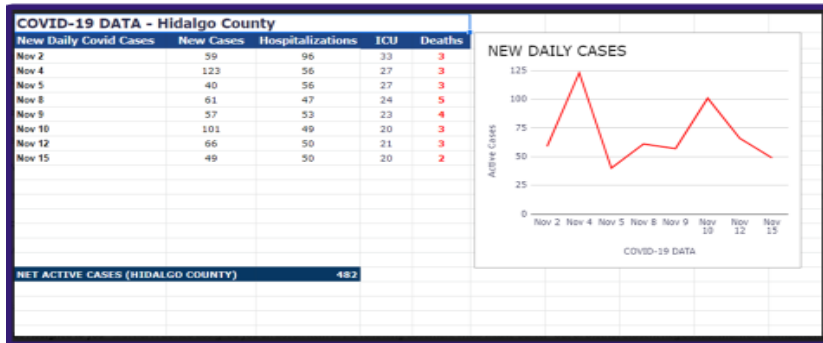
There were no public comments.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

>COVID-19 Updates

Dr. Cris Valdez, Interim Superintendent, presented an update on COVID-19 cases.

- The charts below reflect a decline of new cases and loss of life.



Weslaco Independent School District

Summary of Active COVID-19 Cases by Campus

Total WISD Students	15,704
Total WISD Staff	2,278
Active Student Confirmed	31
Active Staff Confirmed	6

Student Positive
31
Staff Positive
6

As of Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Weslaco I.S.D. COVID-19 Cases by Campus

School	Enrollment	Active Student Cases	Active Staff Cases	Total Cases
Airport Elementary	650	3	1	4
A.N. Tony Rico Elementary	699	2	0	2
Cieckler Elementary	860	1	0	1
Dr. R.E. Margo Elementary	853	2	1	3
Justice Raul A. Gonzalez Elementary	591	1	0	1
Memorial Elementary	948	3	0	3
North Bridge Elementary	863	0	0	0
PFC Mario Ybarra Elementary	477	0	0	0
Rudy Silva Elementary	493	0	1	1
Sam Houston Elementary	721	1	1	2
Early Learning Elementary	440	0	1	1
B. Garza Middle School	1012	1	0	1
Central Middle School	916	1	0	1
Cuellar Middle School	658	1	0	1
Mary Hoge Middle School	921	1	0	1
Weslaco High School	2498	5	1	6
Weslaco East High School	1936	8	0	8
South Palms Garden High School	50	0	0	0
Early College High School	266	1	0	1
Horton AEP Campus	62	0	0	0
Career and Technology (CATE)	N/A	0	0	0
Total	15,704	31	6	37

>WISD and the City of Weslaco hosted their first vaccination clinic on November 10, 2021, for children ages 5 to 11. The goal is to have multiple sites to help with this endeavor.

WISD / City of Weslaco Vaccination Clinic

Wednesday, November 10
Knapp Medical Center

Total Ages 5+ Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines Provided:

240

District 5-11 Student Count

6,142




>The District plans to pilot Telemedicine services at Sam Houston Elementary and Central Middle School beginning in February of 2022.

- Based on the evaluation of the pilot program, staff will decide on a full implementation for the following school year.

Telemedicine Pilot Sites:
 Sam Houston Elementary
 Central Middle School

Start Date:
February 1, 2022

Training to take place on January 12, 2022.



>Enrollment/Average Daily Attendance

- Below are the enrollment counts for the 12th week of school.
- The Commissioner of Education is taking action to mitigate the decline in enrollment in all Texas public schools.

District Enrollment/Average Daily Attendance Comparison								
Campus	12th Week Enrollment			12th Week Average Daily Attendance (ADA)				
	2021	2022	Difference	2021	2022	ADA Diff	2021 ADA (%)	2022 ADA (%)*
Sam Houston Elementary	721	719	(2)	659	638	(21)	95.26%	94.70%
Silva Elementary	590	494	(96)	536	434	(102)	96.80%	93.48%
Gonzalez Elementary	648	590	(58)	560	481	(78)	90.53%	93.94%
Margo Elementary	911	849	(62)	844	737	(107)	94.18%	93.90%
Airport Elementary	741	648	(93)	680	554	(126)	96.03%	93.31%
Memorial Elementary	1005	944	(61)	939	813	(125)	98.06%	93.83%
North Bridge Elementary	722	660	(62)	632	570	(62)	92.27%	92.34%
Rico Elementary	742	697	(45)	665	584	(80)	94.86%	91.67%
Cleckler-Heald Elementary	904	859	(45)	855	757	(97)	97.96%	93.85%
Ybarra Elementary	534	475	(59)	477	403	(74)	93.32%	91.70%
Mary Hoge Middle School	946	920	(26)	916	818	(98)	96.75%	92.35%
Cuellar Middle School	762	659	(103)	740	597	(143)	97.32%	92.51%
Central Middle School	937	915	(22)	922	837	(85)	98.99%	94.13%
B. Garza Middle School	1093	1010	(83)	1046	926	(120)	96.53%	93.36%
South Palm Gardens	56	49	(7)	52	58	6	98.17%	94.59%
East High School	1996	1938	(58)	1779	1746	(33)	88.74%	88.89%
Weslaco High School	2552	2499	(53)	2443	2254	(189)	96.16%	91.63%
Horton	0	61	61	0	24	24	100.00%	92.88%
JJAEP – Student Alternative	4	0	(4)	4	0	(4)	88.14%	0.00%
Hidalgo County Bootcamp	7	10	3	13	9	(5)	100.00%	100.00%
Early College High School	263	256	(7)	244	237	(7)	93.21%	93.51%
21 st Century ELF Academy	432	438	6	192	169	(23)	92.67%	84.76%
GRAND TOTAL	16566	15690	(876)	15198	13647	(1551)	94.97%	92.31%
November 12, 2021								

>Dr. Valdez and Mr. Abel Aguilar have studied enrollment data of four elementary schools (Gonzalez, Silva, Airport, Ybarra, and Memorial). Of 501 of the 583 students accounted for, about half of these students have enrolled in another district in the Rio Grande Valley or at a school district outside of the Rio Grande Valley or the state.

- 180 enrolled in other school districts in the Rio Grande Valley.
- 90 students are being home-schooled.
- Staff has not been able to contact 90 students.
- 22 families have decided not to send their children to school.

Weslaco Independent School District Enrollment/Average Daily Attendance Comparison								
CAMPUS	12th Week Enrollment			12th Week ADA				
	2020-2021	2021-2022	Difference	2020-2021	2021-2022	ADA Diff	2021 (ADA) %	2022 (ADA) %
Elementary Schools	7518	6935	(583)	6845	5972	(873)	95.08%	93.10%
Middle Schools	3738	3504	(234)	3624	3178	(446)	97.36%	93.14%
High Schools	4867	4742	(125)	4519	4295	(223)	94.07%	92.15%
Alternative ELF – Academy	11	71	60	17	33	15	96.05%	64.29%
GRAND Total	16566	15690	(876)	15198	13647	(1551)	94.97%	92.31%
<small>Enrollment: Student Enrollment – Includes ALL students regardless of eligibility requirements. ADA %: This is the percent attendance by campus and district. November 12, 2021</small>								

WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Average Daily Attendance

Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Budgeted for 2021-2022	15,200
Actual ADA for the First Two (2) Six-Weeks of School	13,583
Budgeted ADA Shortfall	1,617
There are budgeted teaching vacancies that have not been filled from the outside. Some are being filled in from within the district.	
Property Tax collections above amounts budgeted may assist to shorten the ADA funding deficit.	
TEA is working with school districts and charter schools to assist with the low attendance in the 2021-2022 school year. There will be an adjustment for the first six-week period based on attendance rates between 2019-2020 and 2021-2022. This is a one-time adjustment that will only be made for the 2021–2022 school year. Please note that this adjustment does not hold a district harmless for losses of ADA due to enrollment declines.	

➤TEA Commissioner Mike Morath announced that districts may be eligible for an upwards adjustment to their ADA for the first six weeks of the 2021-2022 school year if they have low attendance rates. This will help mitigate the potential reduction in the Foundations School Program funding for this school year.

Announced
November 11, 2021

TEA announces new ADA adjustment
available for first six weeks of 2021-22



TEA Commissioner Mike Morath announced yesterday that districts may be eligible for an upwards adjustment to their ADA for the first six weeks of the 2021-22 school year if they have low attendance rates.

- ›Through the District's Student Attendance Success Initiative, students can make up the lost time of instruction if they have missed more than 90% of the attendance requirement for the school year.
- The chart below shows the number of students by campus who are below the 90% attendance rate.
 - ›4,592 students are below the 90% attendance rate.
 - ›395 students are participating in the SASI initiative.
 - ›Percentage of eligible students: 9%
- Dr. Valdez and Dr. Raul Cantu are having parent meetings to try to get students enrolled in this initiative so they can recapture minutes.

Weslaco ISD Student Attendance Success Initiative			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 239 ADA days of flex attendance added to the average daily attendance 			
School	2nd Six Weeks		
	# of Students below 90%	# of Students in SASI/Flex	% of eligible students
WHS	777	92	12%
SPG	29	1	3%
East	774	116	15%
Horton	27	27	100%
CTE ECHS	59	0	0%
MBMS	314	11	4%
Coellar MS	171	15	9%
Central MS	236	12	5%
BGarza	279	7	3%
Sam Houston	163	33	20%
Silva EI	136	5	4%
Gonzalez EI	121	3	2%
Margo EI	203	5	2%
Airport EI	185	14	8%
Memorial EI	233	13	6%
North Bridge EI	222	10	5%
Rico EI	254	13	5%
Cleckler-Heald EI	236	8	3%
Ybarra EI	173	10	6%
District wide	4592	395	9%

›Department of Human Resources – Strategic Action Plan

Mr. Daniel Budimir and Mrs. Dora Lisa Zavala, HR Directors, provided an update on their Strategic Action Plan for the HR Department. They have been working diligently on rebranding the department by implementing the following initiatives.

- Opened their doors to staff
- Meeting with principals/staff bi-weekly
- Meeting with HR staff weekly
- Answering and returning phone calls (has been very effective)
- Ensuring that the process for all interviews at the elementary and secondary level is consistent to make sure transparency is taking place.
- Cross-train all HR staff on duties and responsibilities
- Substitutes: Redefine substitute schedule to allow for more than 15 days of work per month
- Automating programs and procedures to work effectively and efficiently
 - ›Train key personnel on the use of the new system for automation
- Reforming the District's Onboarding Process
 - ›Reform the process of notifying new hires immediately after the Board approves the recommendation
 - ›Coordinate with staff (Technology, Insurance, Business Office) to expedite benefits, payroll, email address, etc. to speed up the onboarding process and have new hires on the job site as soon as possible.
 - ›The onboarding process should take less than a week.

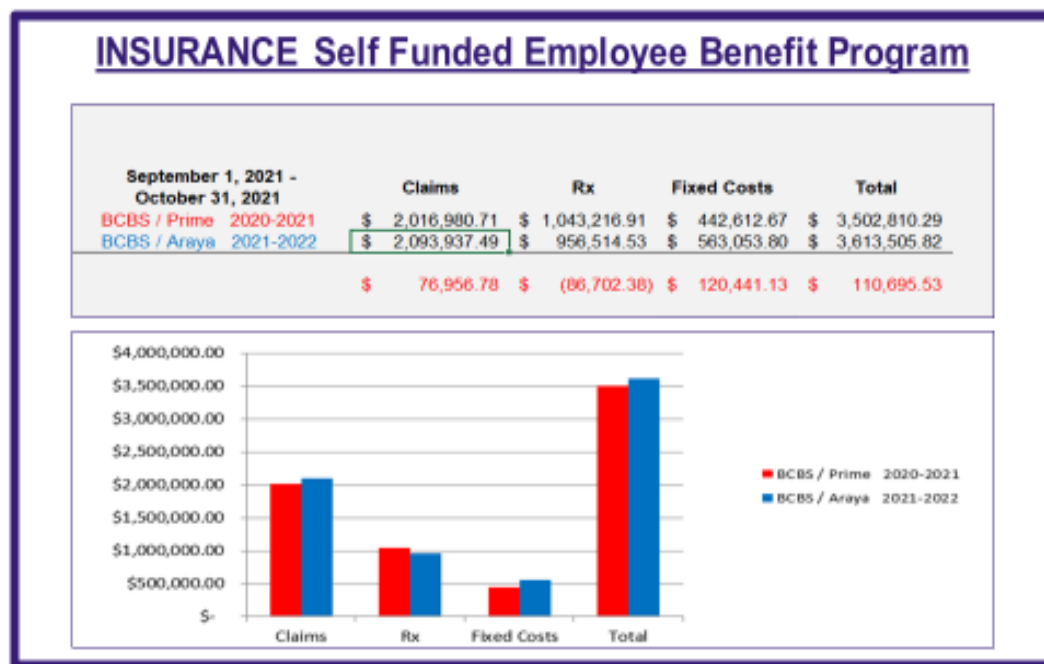
Questions from the Board:

- > “How many substitutes have been hired since the beginning of the school year?”
 - According to Mr. Budimir, close to 200 substitutes have been hired as of last week. The Human Resources Department held two large substitute orientations in the past week.

>Insurance

Mr. Mike De La Rosa, Risk Management/Employee Benefits Executive Director, presented the report for the period from September 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021.

- Medical claims: Increase of \$76,956.78
- Rx: Decrease of \$86,702.38
- Fixed Costs: Increase of \$120,441.14
- Total spent on Plan from September 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021: \$110,695.53
- This year the District expects to receive 100% of rebates from the new PBM.



INSURANCE Self Funded Workers' Compensation Program

- >More injuries have occurred this year since all employees are back at work and students are back in school.
- >Employees have been hurt while trying to stop student fights on campus.

WISD 2 Year Claims Comparison					
FY Loss	Number of Claims	Outstanding Reserves	Paid	Incurred	
2021/2022	32	\$53,993.24	\$22,314.62	\$76,307.86	valued as of 10/31/2021
2020/2021	13	\$19,397.18	\$5,157.05	\$24,554.23	valued as of 10/31/2020

IX. Consent Agenda

Mr. Jesse Trevino pulled out Item L for discussion. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez pulled out item P-5. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the consent agenda except for the items pulled for discussion. Mr. Marcos De Los Santos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 19, 2021, and the Special Meetings of October 13, October 28, and November 3, 2021

The Board approved the minutes as presented.

- B. Approval of Out of Valley Trips

The Board approved the trips as presented.

Weslaco East High School

- The Girls Basketball Team will attend the Pride of Texas Varsity Girls Basketball Tournament in Corpus Christi, Texas, on December 9-11, 2021.
- The Wrestling Team will attend the Gulf Coast Invitational Wrestling Meet in Corpus Christi, Texas, on December 18, 2021.
- The Cheerleading Team will attend the UIL Spirit State Championship Competition in Fort Worth, Texas, on January 13-16, 2022.

Weslaco High School

- The Lady Panther Varsity Basketball Team will participate in the Border Olympics Tournament in Laredo, Texas, on December 2-4, 2021.
- The Lady Panther Varsity Basketball Team will play a Non-District game in Laredo, Texas, on December 10, 2021.
- The Band students will compete at the TMEA Area Band Auditions at Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi, Texas, on January 8, 2022.

Weslaco High School & Weslaco East High School

- The HOSA students will attend and compete at the HOSA Spring Area Leadership Conference in Laredo, Texas, on January 20-21, 2022.
- The FCCLA students will attend and compete at the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America Conference in Corpus Christi, Texas, on January 27-29, 2022.
- The Agriscience students will attend and compete at the San Antonio Livestock Show in San Antonio, Texas, from February 9 through February 27, 2022.
- The students participating in DECA will compete at the Distributive Educational Clubs of America (DECA) State Leadership Conference in Houston, Texas, on February 24-26, 2022.
- The students will attend and participate in the Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference in Ft. Worth, Texas, on March 2-5, 2022.

- The SkillsUSA students will compete at the State Leadership and Skills Conference in Corpus Christi, Texas, on April 1-3, 2022.
- The Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students will compete at the Regional Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas, on April 7-9, 2022.

C. Approval to Accept Donations in the Amount of \$3,700.00 for the Weslaco East High School Basketball Team Blackout Madness Event from Various Vendors

The Board accepted the donations as presented. The funds were used for the Weslaco East High School Basketball Blackout Madness event.

1. \$500.00 from L&G Concrete Construction, INC.
2. \$500.00 from Lewis Electric Motors, INC.
3. \$500.00 from Stroman & Gutierrez
4. \$300.00 from First Care EMS, LLC
5. \$300.00 from Foremost Paving
6. \$300.00 from Tamez Financial Group, LLC
7. \$300.00 from Weslaco Vision Source
8. \$250.00 from R-5 Eateries, LLC.
9. \$200.00 from MKC Electric, INC.
10. \$150.00 from American Water Services, INC.
11. \$100.00 from Charming Pediatrics, P.A.
12. \$100.00 from DBA Working 4U Employment Services
13. \$100.00 from Eddie Cardenas
14. \$100.00 from Guerra Insurance & Financial Services, LLC

D. Approval to Accept Donation in the Amount of \$200.00 Worth of Prizes from ExploreLearning, LLC. for the Top 3 W.I.S.D. Classrooms that Use Reflex Math

The Board accepted the donation as presented. The prizes will be given to the top 3 Reflex Math Champions classrooms rewarded for meeting all four categories of 1) Most Days Used, 2) Highest Green Light Percentage, 3) Most Facts Gained, and 4) Most Facts Solved.

E. Approval to Accept Donation in the Amount of \$250.00 for PFC Mario Ybarra Elementary School Student Incentives Special Events Activity Fund from Mr. Mario Ybarra Jr.

The Board accepted the donation as presented. The funds were used to purchase items needed for the special event held on November 11, 2021, to unveil a piece of art in memory of PFC Mario Ybarra.

F. Approval to Accept Donations for the Weslaco ISD Marching Band Festival and UIL Area-G 5A Marching Contest from Various Sponsors:

The Board accepted the donations as presented.

1. 16,000 Bottled Waters from Melhart Music Center
2. 1,000 Bottled Waters from HDL Promos
3. 100 bags of Ice and Refrigerated Truck from Ice Depot
4. Food for Contest Judges and Staff from Chick-Fil-A
5. Food for Contest Judges and Staff from Reyna's Bar-B-Q
6. Trophies from Texas Music Festivals
7. Use of Parking Area from H.E.B Westgate for Bus Parking
8. Use of Parking Area from Texas Regional Bank for Overflow Parking
9. Ambulance Bus & Fire Department Volunteers from The Weslaco Fire Department

10. \$1,500.00 from Mr. Ruben Adame, UIL Region 15 Executive Secretary
11. \$407.53 from Texas Music Festivals

- G. Approval to Accept a Donation in the Amount of \$300.00 for the Margo Elementary Apple Fest Event of October 22, 2021, from H.E.B. and Nicho's Produce Co.

The Board accepted the donations as presented. The funds were used to purchase a variety of fresh apples and supplies for a nutrition education activity during the Apple Fest Event held at Margo Elementary on October 22, 2021.

1. \$150.00 from HEB
2. \$150.00 from Nicho's Produce Co.

- H. Approval of Renewal of Cardonex Data Integration System from Education Advanced, Inc.

The Board approved the sole source purchase for the subscription renewal of the Cardonex Data Integration System from Education Advanced, Inc. This system will facilitate and support the process of creating the master schedule at each of the secondary campuses. This will be the third year the district uses this product to create the master schedules. The cost of this purchase is \$44,870.00 and the term of the contract is for one year.

- I. Approval of 2021-2022 Membership Renewal with South Texas Association of Schools

The Board approved the 2021-2022 membership renewal with the South Texas Association of Schools. The estimated cost for the membership is \$6,045.20. This Association represents thirty school districts from Region I and twenty-three school districts from Region 2. The primary purpose of the organization is to represent the member districts before the legislature, the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Education Certification. The Association provides continuous communications on the activities of these state organizations to all of the members. Member school districts also receive impact models on how the various finance plans being considered will affect their district.

- J. Approval of 2021-2022 Membership Renewal with the Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA)

The Board approved the membership renewal to participate in the Mexican American School Board Members Association for the fiscal year 2021-2022. The annual membership fee is \$1,500.00 for a student enrollment of 10,000 or more.

The District has been a member since 2013. Board members receive beneficial information such as newsletters and online resources. Paid membership allows the entire board and superintendent to attend all TEA recognized CEC sessions at the Annual Conference held in San Antonio, Texas, and free access to other MASBA events held throughout the year.

- K. Approval of the Childcare Local Match Contribution Agreement Between the Weslaco Independent School District and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Workforce Development Board for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The Board approved the Childcare Local Match Contribution Agreement with the Lower Rio Grande Valley Workforce Development Board for the fiscal year 2021-2022 as presented. The Texas Workforce Commission Program allocates funding to the city of Weslaco's Workforce Solutions Program to help teenage girls who need daycare and other adults that qualify for the services.

WISD pledges local in-kind funds in order for the Texas Workforce Commission to draw down additional federal funds for the provisions of allowable childcare service in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The Texas Workforce Commission for the city of Weslaco is expected to receive \$2,012,000.00. Weslaco ISD will match funds with in-kind, such as salaries, resources, materials, supplies, etc. The local in-kind funds are \$1,006,000.00. These funds come from the Early Learning Foundations Academy. The Academy spends funds on 18 staff members, supplies, materials, resources, facilities, etc.

- L. Approval of the Consultant Contract with Sharon Wells Mathematics Curriculum Inc. for Professional Development Training Services for Math Teachers at 8 Elementary Schools for the 2021-2022 School Year

This item was pulled out for discussion by Trustee Jesse Trevino.

- M. Approval of Monthly Tax Adjustments for October 2021

The Board approved the monthly tax adjustments for October 2021 as presented. The Hidalgo County Appraisal District has the authority to correct, adjust, and supplement the certified tax roll.

All the tax adjustments are listed in the monthly tax collection report summarized by tax year (current & prior years) and are further broken down by the tax involved (M&O, I&S, etc.). The total tax adjustments for September 2021 are as follows:

OCTOBER 2021				
Type of Tax	Current Levy	Prior Years Levies	Roll Back Taxes	Total
M & O Taxes	\$ 1,169,962.75	(\$ 73,381.64)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 1,096,581.11)
I & S Taxes		(\$ 1,426.12)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 48,322.48)
Total Adjustments		(\$ 74,807.76)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 1,144,903.59)

These negative tax adjustments represent a decrease in the tax collections for the year.

- N. Approval of Extension of Proposal Awards:

1. Glass Service & Repair District-Wide (Proposal #21-11-09)

The Board approved the award extension for the glass service and repair district-wide to the following vendors:

- D&R Glass Etc. - McAllen, Texas
- G&S Glass LLC - Edinburg, Texas
- Superior Glass - Pharr, Texas
- Weslaco Glass - Weslaco, Texas

>For all “Non-Emergency” repairs – at least two quotes will be obtained from any of the awarded vendors.

>For “Emergency” repairs – any one of the approved vendors will be called in to make glass repairs.

This award includes an option that will allow WISD to extend the contract for one additional year.

2. HVAC Supplies & Equipment (Proposal #21-11-10)

The Board approved the award extension for HVAC supplies and equipment to the following six (6) vendors:

Vendor/Location	Award Status
1. Johnstone Supply – Pharr, Texas	Primary Vendor
2. Johnson Supply – Houston, Texas	Primary Vendor
3. Carrier Corporation – San Antonio, Texas	Secondary Vendor
4. Aircool Tech-ACT – Alamo, Texas	Secondary Vendor
5. Lewis Electric Motors – Harlingen, Texas	Secondary Vendor
6. Insko Distributing – San Antonio, Texas	Secondary Vendor

➤Obtain one quote from either of the two primary vendors for purchases totaling \$500 or less.

➤For purchases exceeding \$500, quotes will be obtained from the two (2) primary vendors and at least one other quote from any of the secondary vendors.

3. Electrical & Plumbing Supplies & Equipment District-Wide (Proposal #21-11-11)

The Board approved the award extension for electrical and plumbing supplies and equipment district-wide to the following vendors:

Vendor/Location	Electrical (Supplies & Equipment)	Plumbing (Supplies & Equipment)
1. Bush Supply Co. – Weslaco, Texas	Primary Vendor	Primary Vendor
2. Central Plumbing & Electric Supply - Weslaco, Texas	Primary Vendor	Primary Vendor
3. Dealers Electrical Supply McAllen, Texas	Secondary Vendor	
4. Matt's Building Materials Pharr, Texas		Secondary Vendor
5. Valmac Electrical Supply Pharr, Texas	Secondary Vendor	

➤One quote will be obtained from either of the two primary vendors for purchases totaling \$500.00 or less.

➤For purchases exceeding \$500.00, quotes will be obtained from the two (2) primary vendors and at least one other quote from any of the secondary vendors.

4. Paint Supplies & Equipment (Proposal #21-11-12)

The Board approved the award extension for paint supplies and equipment for the following vendors:

Vendor Name	Location	Status
1. PPG Architectural Finishes, Inc.	Duncanville, Texas & Harlingen, Texas	Primary Vendor
2. The Sherwin Williams Co.	Weslaco, Texas	Primary Vendor
3. Matt's Building Materials	Pharr, Texas	Secondary Vendor
4. Pioneer Manufacturing Company	Cleveland, Ohio	Secondary Vendor

- One quote will be obtained from either of the two primary vendors for purchases totaling \$500.00 or less.
- For purchases exceeding \$500.00, quotes will be obtained from the two (2) primary vendors and at least one other quote from any of the secondary vendors.

O. Approval of Proposal Award for Pest Control Service District-Wide (Proposal #22-11-06)

The Board awarded the proposal for pest control service district-wide to Bug Off Pest Control located in Pharr, Texas. This company has a total of nine (9) certified technicians who possess a Commercial Certified Applicator License in the State of Texas and are trained to practice pest control management as required by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The company has been in business for twenty-two years. The estimated yearly cost will be \$48,984.00. Pest control service will be provided to 19 schools, 17 kitchens, and 21 other buildings.

P. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Board approved the budget amendments as presented except for Item #5, which was pulled for discussion.

1. Executive Director for C&I – Local Fund to Cover Science Fair Expenses: \$65,360.00
2. Executive Director for C&I – Local Fund to Increase Budgets for Science Department, Social Studies Department, and Math Department, to Match the Language Arts Departments Budgets: \$35,402.00
3. Technology Department – Technology Special Fund to Pay Year One of Three Years of the Web Filter Pro Site License: \$56,472.00
4. Executive Director for C&I – Local Fund to Record Budget for Rider 78 Roll-Forward: \$187,319
5. Business Office – Local Fund to Set Up a Budget to Purchase Ten Mariachi Uniforms for the Weslaco High School Mariachi Pantera, and Ten Mariachi Uniforms for the Weslaco East High School Mariachi Tecuani: \$16,500.00

This item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion by Mr. Andrew Gonzalez. The Board approved this item later in the meeting.

Q. Approval of the 2021 Certified Property Tax Roll

The Board approved the 2021 Certified Property Tax Roll as provided by the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor/Collector. Section 26.09(e) of the Property Tax Code, requires the Tax Assessor/Collector to submit the Certified Tax Roll to the governing body of the taxing unit by August 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable. The amount may change due to the Tax Values Protests filed with the Hidalgo County Appraisal District.

Total Assessed Value	\$ 3,917,323,943.00
Less Total Exemptions	(1,189,716,279.00)
Taxable Value	\$ 2,727,607,664.00
Tax Rate per \$100 of Taxable Valuation	\$ 0.9807
Levy Before Frozen Levy Loss	\$ 26,749,648.36
Levy Loss Due to Freeze	(560,122.40)
Levy After Frozen Levy Loss	\$ 26,189,525.96
Late Rendition & Late AG	22,176.33
Total Levy per Hidalgo County Tax Office	\$ 26,211,702.29

ITEMS PULLED OUT FOR DISCUSSION:

- L. Approval of the Consultant Contract with Sharon Wells Mathematics Curriculum Inc. for Professional Development Training Services for Math Teachers at 8 Elementary Schools for the 2021-2022 School Year

This item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion by Trustee Jesse Trevino.

Mr. Trevino wanted to make sure the instructional staff was not being overloaded with additional programs.

Mr. Abel Aguilar informed the Board that WISD has worked with Sharon Wells since 2013. This is a supplemental resource program made available, aside from the mandatory curriculum that is implemented by the district. The administration and strategists work together to provide staff additional resources they can choose to utilize for their students to be successful. Because this is a supplemental resource, the principals will decide if they want to implement the program.

The following elementary schools that requested Sharon Wells professional development training are Airport, Gonzalez, Margo, North Bridge, Rico, Sam Houston, Silva, and Ybarra. The cost of this purchase is \$43,690.00. The funds will be obtained from the state compensatory education and state early education allotment funds.

- P. Approval of Budget Amendments

5. Business Office – Local Fund to Set Up a Budget to Purchase Ten Mariachi Uniforms for the Weslaco High School Mariachi Pantera, and Ten Mariachi Uniforms for the Weslaco East High School Mariachi Tecuani: \$16,500.00

Trustee Andrew Gonzalez pulled this item out for discussion. Mr. Gonzalez wanted to know the reason for the additional uniforms.

Mr. Christopher Fernandez, Fine Arts Director, informed the Board that the Mariachi group has twenty sets of uniforms; however, not all sets are complete. These uniforms are supplemental orders because the staff wants to make sure all students are well suited during their public performances, as well as the UIL competition scheduled to take place in February 2022. The older uniforms currently in inventory at the high school will be passed on to the middle schools.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the contract with Sharon Wells Mathematics Curriculum Inc. for the sole source purchase of consulting services for professional development training for Math teachers at 8 elementary schools for the 2021-2022 school year, and the budget amendment for the purchase of ten Mariachi uniforms for Weslaco High School and the ten Mariachi uniforms for Weslaco East High School. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- X. Discussion Items:

- A. Interim Financial Reports for the Two Months Ended October 31, 2021

Mr. Andres Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance reviewed the general fund expenditures for the two months ending on October 31, 2021.

>WISD receives money from local, state, and federal sources as follows:

Source	Adjusted Budget	Received	Variance	Percentage
Local	\$ 26,317,952	\$ 550,734	(\$ 25,767,218)	2.09%
State	\$ 136,389,916	\$ 26,986,154	(\$ 109,403,762)	19.79%
Federal	\$ 14,574,519	\$ 1,285,056	(\$ 13,289,463)	8.82%
Totals	\$ 177,282,387	\$ 28,821,943	(\$ 148,460,444)	16.26%

Budget: 15,200 ADA

General Fund Expenditures for the Two Months Ended October 31, 2021

Function	Adjusted Budgeted	Expended or Encumbered	Variance	Percentage
Instructional Related (11, 12, 13, 31 & 95)	\$ 117,544,272	\$ 12,018,762	\$ 105,525,510	10.22%
Instructional Support (32, 33, 34, 35 & 36)	\$ 25,345,926	\$ 5,905,709	\$ 19,440,217	23.30%
Administration (C & I, Campuses, District) (21, 23, 41 & 99)	\$ 13,315,495	\$ 2,942,616	\$ 10,372,879	22.10%
District Wide Support (51, 52, 53 & 61)	\$ 21,974,381	\$ 4,023,628	\$ 17,950,753	18.31%
Debt Service (71)	\$ 2,085,852	\$ 84,638	\$ 2,001,214	4.06%
Total	\$ 180,265,926	\$ 24,975,353	\$ 155,290,573	13.85%

Interim Financial Report: General Fund Disbursements

Budgeted Expenditures Include:	Amount
Carryover State Allotment Funds	\$ 6,625,081
Rolled-forward Athletics & Technology Special Fund (Unfulfilled POs)	\$ 215,434
Rolled forward Technology Special Fund	\$ 15,499
Human Resources Administrator	\$ 107,301
TASB Salary and Staffing Study	\$ 51,500
WEHS Band Uniforms	\$ 146,607

Interim Financial Report: General Fund Disbursements

Budgeted Expenditures Include (Cont'd):	Amount
TDA NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant for Kitchen Equipment	\$ 73,000
Child and Adult Care Food Program At-Risk Supper Program	\$ 90,000
Rolled-forward other minor Assigned Fund Balances (Unfulfilled POs)	\$ 21,947
HR Consultant PO Roll-forward	\$ 12,726
HR Consultant Fees (Oct-Dec)	\$ 8,000
Forensic Audit Final Invoice	\$ 24,240
Total Budget Expenditures Added	\$ 7,391,335

Interim Financial Report: General Fund Disbursements

Reconciliation of Budgeted Expenditures	Amount
Original Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 172,874,591
Total Budget Expenditures Added	\$ 7,391,335
Total Amended Budgeted Expenditures Through October 31, 2021	\$ 180,265,926

B. Acknowledgement of Hidalgo County Tax Office Collection Report for October 2021: Current Taxes and Delinquent Taxes

Section 31.10 Property Tax Code, requires the Tax Assessor/Collector to submit to the governing body of the taxing unit a written report made under oath accounting for all taxes collected for the unit during the preceding month.

Listed below is the October 2021 report from the Hidalgo County Tax Office:

	Original Tax Levy	Collected To Date	Tax Modifications (Adjustments) to Date	% Taxes Outstanding To-Date	% Tax Collections 2021-2022	% Tax Collections 2020-2021	2021-22 Versus 2020/2021
Current Taxes	\$ 26,211,702	\$ 310,323	\$ 1,219,711	\$ 27,121.091	1.13%	1.07%	0.06% Higher
Delinquent Taxes Prior Years Levy	3,843,482	159,513	(77,225)	3,606,745	4.24%	6:08%	1.84% Lower
Rollback	29,533			29,533	0.00%	15.27%	
Totals	\$ 30,084,717	\$ 469,836	\$ 1,142,486	\$ 30,757,369			

- The collection of current taxes for fiscal year 2021-2022 through October 31 is 0.06% higher than the delinquent taxes for fiscal year 2020-2021.
- The collection of delinquent taxes for fiscal year 2021-2022 through October 31 is 1.84% lower than the delinquent taxes for fiscal year 2020-2021.
- The column for tax modifications represents the cumulative tax adjustments reported by the Hidalgo County Tax Office for the 2020-2021 fiscal year in their October 2021 report.

C. Presentation of 2021 Anticipated Collection Rate of Property Taxes for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The Board of Trustees reviewed the 2021 anticipated collection rate of property taxes for fiscal year 2021-2022 as submitted by the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor/Collector.

Section 26.04 Property Tax Code, requires the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor/Collector to certify to the governing body of the taxing unit the anticipated collections in calculating the debt component of its Rollback Tax Rate for the current year by August 1st, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Hidalgo County certifies that the 2021 anticipated collection rate for Weslaco ISD for the fiscal year 2021-2022 has been projected at a 100% rate. The 2020-2021 estimated tax collection rate was projected at 100% and consequently, no excess Debt Tax Collections are to be reported in Schedule B of the 2021 Debt Service Report.

XI. Discussion and Possible Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Resolution Casting Votes for Nominee(s) to Serve on the Hidalgo County Appraisal District Board of Directors for 2022-2023

Each taxing unit was allowed to nominate up to five (5) candidates to serve on the Appraisal District Board of Directors. During the September 21, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, the Weslaco ISD Board of Trustees nominated Mr. Joe D. Olivarez as their candidate. The eight (8) candidates listed below were nominated by the taxing units and are included on the official ballot.

1. Eddy Betancourt
2. Albert Cardenas
3. Johnny Cisneros
4. Pedro "Pete" Garcia
5. Richard Garza
6. Joe D. Olivarez
7. Amador Requenez
8. Rodgers Paul Truitt

Each taxing unit may cast its vote for one candidate or distribute them among any number of candidates named on the ballot. Weslaco ISD has 140 votes. The chief appraiser will count the votes that have been timely submitted and declare the five (5) candidates who received the largest cumulative vote totals elected and submit the results to the governing body of each taxing unit and the candidates before December 31, 2021.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve a resolution casting all 140 votes for Mr. Joe D. Olivarez. Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider the Approval of Healthcare Professionals to Provide COVID-19 Vaccinations to Students & Staff (Proposal #22-11-07)

The administration released an RFQ on Tuesday, October 19, 2021. Staff received three (3) Qualifications packages prior to the extended deadline of Friday, November 5, 2021. The original due

date was Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 3 p.m. Below are the three healthcare firms that submitted qualifications statements to the District.

NAME OF HEALTHCARE FIRM	LOCATION
1. Divine Pharmacy, LLC	Mission, Texas
2. Texas Scripts	McAllen, Texas
3. TrueCare24, Inc.	Tampa, Florida

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve Divine Pharmacy, LLC from Mission, Texas, and Texas Scripts from McAllen, Texas, as healthcare professionals to provide COVID-19 vaccination services to students ages five years and older and to district staff. Mr. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Questions/Concerns Addressed by the Board:

➤Mr. Jesse Trevino expressed his concern about the extension of the deadline. He pointed out that the recent audit just addressed this issue and asked why staff continues to alter the bidding process, especially after the vendor who submitted a bid did their due diligence to submit the bid on time.

- Mr. Sanchez replied that staff did not alter any information and was not doing anything malicious or favoring any vendor, but since they received only one bid, staff advertised an extension three days in advance. In past recommendations when staff presents only one bid to the Board, the Board has directed staff to re-bid in order to receive more bids. In the future, staff will no longer extend the deadlines.

- Dr. Valdez shared that the issue addressed in the audit was different because the Board rejected all the bids and approved to re-bid. However, the proposals that were not received in a timely manner were also accepted with the re-bid. In this case, the district only received one bid, and in anticipation of the Pediatric COVID vaccine being rolled out, staff wanted to provide more vendors an opportunity to submit RFQ's due to health concerns for the students. Dr. Valdez emphasized that staff would stick to the deadline for all future bids and present to the Board whatever is received even if it is only one bid. If the Board rejects the bid, staff will have to re-bid the proposal which might cause some delays.

A discussion was held on the paperwork submitted by the vendors. Mrs. Sustaita asked staff to make sure that all vendors were licensed to administer the vaccines.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Mr. Andrew Gonzalez to approve Divine Pharmacy, LLC from Mission, Texas and Texas Scripts from McAllen, Texas as healthcare professionals to provide COVID-19 vaccination services to students ages five years and older and to district staff.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Design and Installation of a Security Access Controls System at All Middle Schools
1. Board Determination of a Procurement Method of Construction that Would Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project;
 2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to Be Received for This Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to Be Received; and

3. Approval of Criteria and Points to Be Used for Ranking the Proposals

In 2018, the Board of Trustees approved a security access controls system at all elementary schools, which was the first phase in securing all the schools for the safety of all students and staff. The project was completed in 2019. Phase II focuses on the security access controls system at all four of the district's middle schools.

Mr. Isidoro Nieto made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the authority to the Administration to rank the proposals received, and approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals for the design and installation of a security access controls system at all middle schools. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

Questions/Concerns addressed by the Board:

- >Will the district have enough money from the grant to complete this project?
 - WISD was awarded a grant in the amount of \$279,527 for the implementation of school safety and security measures from the U.S. Department of Education. The deadline to use this grant is May 31, 2022.
 - The estimated project's construction cost range is \$450,000 to \$500,000 plus 8% of the project cost for architect/engineering fees (between \$36,000 and \$40,000).
 - The grant money will be used for this project. The remaining funds will be obtained from the local construction fund.
- >Will each independent building at the campus have card readers?
 - The speaker and camera will be installed only at the front entrance of the school. Every building that has accessible doors will have card readers to allow entry access to employees.
- >Why not put out an RFQ and hire a security systems company that will provide their own engineer/architect instead of wasting funds by hiring an additional engineer/architect or other middlemen?
 - According to Mr. Americo Garza, they are trying to tie into the existing system, as opposed to having a completely separate system. The current system is tied into one network where they can access all the other campuses.
 - The district would be utilizing the architect approved by the Board. The architect would bring in their engineer with a consultant under him who works with the security access controls system. If the Board decides not to go this route, the other option would be to go with the design-build method of construction and hire a consultant engineer to act as the district's watchdog as required by law.
 - District staff would like to proceed with this project since the deadline to use the grant monies is May 31, 2022.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Mr. Isidoro Nieto and seconded by Mr. Andrew Gonzalez to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the authority to the Administration to rank the proposals received and approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals for the design and installation of a security access controls system at all middle schools.

D. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval for the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School Foundation Remediation Project (CSP #21-11-14) as Follows:

1. Final Completion of the Project
2. Change Order No. 1 for Approval of Rain and Work Delay Days

On February 9, 2020, the Board approved Holchemont, LTD. for the construction of this project in the amount of \$321,000.00. The primary scope of this project consisted of repairs to the foundation of the campus. The foundation was sinking causing fractures in the building's interior and exterior walls.

This project was determined to be substantially complete on August 20, 2021. A total of 20 rain/delay days were requested by the contractor (Change Order No. 1). There will be no liquidated damages assessed.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the final completion and Change Order No. 1 for rain days requested for the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School Foundation Remediation Project. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval for the Bobby Lackey Stadium Visitor Parking Lot Paving Project (CSP #21-01-19) as Follows:

1. A Deductive Change Order for the Unspent Balance of the Owner's Contingency, and
2. Final Completion of the Project – Including Rain Days

On February 9, 2021, the Board approved Mid Valley Paving, Inc. for the construction of this project in the amount of \$715,986.25. The cost was negotiated down to \$710,000.00. The primary scope consisted of the construction of a new parking lot on the visitor side of the Bobby Lackey Stadium. The project was determined to be completed on August 4, 2021. The project will be deemed to be completed on time upon approval of the additional days requested and there will be no liquidated damages assessed to the contractor.

Mr. Americo Garza informed the Board that there were some delays with the electrical because of the delivery of the poles, but everything else was complete. The project's unused contingency balance of \$17,018.40 will be credited back to WISD.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the deductive change order for the unspent balance of the owner's contingency and the final completion of the project, including rain days. Mr. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider to Either: 1) Renew Contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. for Delinquent Tax Collection Services; **or** 2) Seek Requests for Qualifications for Delinquent Tax Collection Services

Mr. Isidoro Nieto made a motion to renew the contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. for delinquent tax collection services. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The firm's purpose is to collect delinquent property taxes owed to the District. The compensation for the attorney firm for collection services would be fifteen (15%) percent of the total amount of all delinquent taxes, penalty, and interest which are subject to this contract and which are actually collected and paid to the Taxing Authority's Collector of Taxes.

Questions/Concerns Addressed by the Board:

>Mr. Isidoro Nieto commented that he would like to continue the contract with this firm since they have done a good job with the collections in the past two (2) years.

>Mrs. Sustaita mentioned that most of the school districts use a different firm and wanted to know why Weslaco ISD uses this firm.

- According to a representative from Perdue, their firm represents the school districts of Mercedes, Weslaco, La Joya, and the City of Sullivan, City of Penitas, and several water districts. Their firm has been in existence for 50 years. The firm has serviced Weslaco ISD since 2015.

Mr. Jesse Trevino pointed out that only two firms provide this service; therefore, he would prefer to open it up to see what the other company offers in order to be fair. He would like to review collection

data from the other company prior to the Covid pandemic to see how they were doing compared to the collections of the current company.

A vote was called for on the motion made by Mr. Isidoro Nieto and seconded by Mr. Andrew Gonzalez to renew the contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. for delinquent tax collection services. Voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Isidoro Nieto, Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Mr. Marcos De Los Santos, and Mr. Andrew Gonzalez. Voting against the motion were Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita and Mr. Jesse Trevino. Motion carried with a 4 to 2 vote.

- G. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider to Either: 1) Renew the Contract for Appeal and Audit Services with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P., for Administrative Appeals and Judicial Appeals (If Necessary) of the Property Value Study Findings as Conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office; **or** 2) Seek Requests for Qualifications for Appeal and Audit Services for Administrative Appeals and Judicial Appeals (If Necessary) of the Property Value Study Findings as Conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to renew the contract for appeal and audit services with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins Mott, L.L.P. for legal representation services for administrative appeals and judicial appeals (if necessary) of the property value study findings as conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office. Mr. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. will represent the District in all phases of appealing and/or auditing the State Comptroller's Property Values when those values are higher than the local property values. If an appeal is needed and is not filed, the District will lose state funding. Appeals are not necessary if the State Property Values and Local Values are the same, and the District will not incur any costs.

- H. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of Revisions to the Weslaco ISD Compensation Plan for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 to Reflect Visual Arts Stipend, COVID-19 Vaccine Stipend, ESSER Retention & Recruitment Stipend, and Strategists Extra-Duty Stipend for Virtual Learning Academy

Dr. Valdez recommended that the Board approve the revisions to the Weslaco ISD Compensation Plan to reflect the following stipends:

Performing Arts Stipends	
Position	Stipend
Head HS Band Director	\$16,000.00
Asst. HS Band Director	\$ 8,500.00
Head MS Band Director	\$ 8,500.00
Asst. HS/MS Band Director	\$ 8,000.00
Head HS Choir Director	\$ 7,000.00
Asst. HS Choir Director	\$ 3,000.00
Head MS Director	\$ 3,000.00
Head HS Orchestra Director	\$ 7,000.00
Asst. HS Orchestra Director	\$ 3,000.00
Head MS Orchestra Director	\$ 3,000.00
Head HS/MS Mariachi Director	\$ 7,500.00
HS Theatre Arts	\$ 7,000.00
MS Theatre Arts	\$ 3,000.00
HS/MS Dance Instructor	\$ 7,000.00
HS Drill Team	\$ 5,200.00
HS Color Guard	\$ 5,200.00

Visual Arts Stipends	
Position	Stipend
HS Visual Arts Teacher (VASE)	\$ 2,500.00
MS Visual Arts Teacher (Club Sponsor)	\$ 500.00

Instructional Strategist Stipend for Virtual Learning Academy	
Position	Stipend Amount
Elementary – English Language Arts Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Secondary – English Language Arts Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Elementary – Math Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Secondary – Math Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Social Studies Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Science Strategist	\$ 5,000.00
Instructional Technology Strategist	\$ 5,000.00

*Virtual Learning Academy Stipend to be funded through ESSER Grant for the 2021-2022 school year only.

Voluntary COVID-19 Vaccination Stipend	
Position	Stipend Amount
Full-time staff employed by Weslaco ISD prior to October 1, 2021, have until October 31, 2021, to be fully vaccinated or present a vaccination-waiver letter from a U.S. licensed medical provider to be eligible.	\$ 500.00
Responses must be submitted by November 18, 2021.	
Full-time staff with a date of hire between October 1, 2021, and April 30, 2022, have six weeks from the date of hire to be fully vaccinated or present a vaccination-waiver letter from a U.S. licensed medical provider to be eligible.	

*Voluntary COVID-19 Stipend to be funded through ESSER Grant for the 2021-2022 school year only.

Retention/Recruitment Stipend	
Stipend Regulations	Stipend Amount
Any employee working in the 2021-2022 school year as of, or prior to, August 30, 2021.	\$3,000.00
Employees out on approved leave (Workers' Compensation, FMLA or COVID) as of August 30, 2021.	
Payment Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Annual: One Time Payment – September 29, 2021•Semi-Annual: September 29, 2021, and December 20, 2021•Monthly and Bi-Weekly: First Payment on September 29, 2021, and continuing with the next monthly or biweekly payments through 2022.	
*Retention/Recruitment Stipend to be funded through ESSER Grant for the 2021-2022 school year only.	

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the revisions to the Weslaco ISD Compensation Plan as presented. Mr. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion.

Questions/Concerns Addressed by the Board and Responses from Administration:

>The board members asked staff to follow up on stipends for the following employees:

- Ag teachers
- Cheer coaches
- UIL Academics
- Stipends for testing grade levels

The board members felt it was important to bring forth the stipends this year since these employees work very hard throughout the entire year.

>Is Mr. Andres Sanchez involved with these discussions as far as budgeting purposes?

- Yes

Mrs. Dora Zavala (HR Director) informed the Board that staff would review the stipends addressed.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez and seconded by Mr. Isidoro Nieto to approve the revisions to the Weslaco ISD Compensation Plan as presented.

- I. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Contract with the Architect Firm of Gignac and Associates, LLP of McAllen, Texas for the Design and Construction Administration of the Security Access Controls Project at All Four Middle Schools

On September 28, 2021, the Board hired the architect firm, Gignac and Associates, for district projects. In 2019, the firm completed Phase I of the security access controls project, which included all elementary schools. This phase of the project (Phase II) will focus on the security access controls system at all of the district's middle schools. Approval of this item will allow the school district to enter into a contract with Gignac and Associates for this project. The % fee for basic architectural design and construction administration services including mechanical engineering services for the project is 8% of the construction cost of the project.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the contract with the Architect Firm of Gignac and Associates, LLP of McAllen, Texas, for the design and construction administration of the Security Access Controls Project at all four middle schools, subject to legal counsel review. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

- J. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider the Possible Termination OR the Continuation of the Contract with GOERO International, LLC, with Respect to Roofing Services

Mr. Andres Sanchez informed the Board that GOERO had designed the plans for three (3) roofing projects for the District: Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center. These projects have been completed. The cost of these projects came in below the \$3.1 million allocated. The district still has several projects left in the contract. However, since the Board recently approved three (3) Architect Firms to work with the district on the design and construction administration of future construction projects, it is at the Board's discretion to terminate or continue the contract with GOERO International, LLC for roofing services.

Questions/Concerns from the Board and Responses from Administration:

>Mr. De Los Santos wanted to know if the district could ask each firm for a flat rate or ask them if they could provide the best possible percentage.

- As per Mr. Sanchez, by law the district cannot negotiate on a price for professional services. Architects are hired based on competence and qualifications. Once the firm is hired, they can negotiate on the percentage.

>Mrs. Sustaita wanted to know if the Board could wait on taking action on this item pending review of roofs by the firm of Flores & Pelaez-Prada. Mr. Sanchez replied that since the Board is not taking action on any projects at this time, the Board could wait to take action at a future date.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made a motion to table this item, but then rescinded his motion. Mr. De Los Santos made a motion to terminate the contract with GOERO International. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

K. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Contract with the Law Firm of Flores & Pelaez-Prada PLLC, and a Corresponding Resolution, Related to Possible Property Damage to District's Property Caused by Hurricane Hanna

On October 19, 2021, the Board hired the Law Firm of Flores & Pelaez-Prada PLLC to conduct storm damage evaluations of the District's buildings for possible property damage caused by Hurricane Hanna and, if needed, to file claims on behalf of the district at no cost to the district. The Board of Trustees must sign a contract and a resolution to begin the process. Legal counsel Eloy Sepulveda has reviewed the documents.

Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita made the motion to approve the contract and corresponding resolution with the Law Firm of Flores & Pelaez-Prada PLLC, related to possible property damage to the District's property caused by Hurricane Hanna. Mr. Marcos De Los Santos seconded the motion.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez asked for clarification on the language stipulated on the contract regarding lawsuits. He wants to make sure that the firm does not go out and sue anyone. They need to present all their findings to the Board prior to taking any action.

Mr. Sepulveda confirmed that the contract states that any action/settlement taken will be at the Board's discretion.

Board President Cuellar asked for clarification that the work to be performed is to determine if damages to district facilities were caused specifically by Hurricane Hanna and not for pre-existing damages.

Legal counsel confirmed that the firm would evaluate the buildings to conduct storm damage evaluations of the District's buildings for possible property damage caused by Hurricane Hanna and, if necessary, to file claims on behalf of the district at no cost to the district.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita and seconded by Mr. Marcos De Los Santos to approve the contract and corresponding resolution with the Law Firm of Flores & Pelaez-Prada PLLC, related to possible property damage to District's property caused by Hurricane Hanna.

- L. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider: 1) Approval of a Plan of Finance, 2) Select a Method of Sale, and 3) Select One or More Underwriters for the Possible Issuance and Sale of Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2022

Mr. Cris Vela from Hilltop Securities, Inc., the District's Financial Advisor, presented the following information to the Board relative to the Plan of Finance. The District has the opportunity to refinance a portion of its long-term unlimited tax debt for economic savings. Current low-interest rates allow the District to achieve debt service cash flow savings for immediate budget relief. The District can issue Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2020 (the "Refunding Bonds").

- The refunding would be an “advance” taxable refunding for IRS purposes since refunding escrow will be funded more than 90 days before the 2/15/2025 call dates.
- As of November 12, 2021, the District can only refinance existing debt on a taxable basis.
- Savings would be structured upfront. Upfront savings allow the District to capture the most savings when needed to lower the aggregate debt service (most savings allocated in calendar years 2022-2025).
- The present value of the savings as of November 12, 2021, is \$1,235,856.
- The District will request Fitch Ratings and Standard and Poor’s ratings for the refunding bonds.
- Currently the District is rated “AA- ” by Fitch Ratings and “A+” by S&P.
- There will be no extension of maturity for the refunded bonds and each fiscal year will have at least \$1 savings in order to qualify for the Permanent School Fund Guarantee (State of Texas).
- Between November 2021 through January 2022 the Board will need to approve a Parameters Order and delegate authority to a Pricing Officer/s who is usually the Superintendent or the Chief Financial Officer. This individual can execute based on the parameters that are adopted by the Board and delegate to the pricing officer/s. This allows the financial advisor and the underwriters to work closely with current market conditions and to prepare and have the offering documents ready to execute at a moment’s notice without having to work around the board meetings. This would be an option.
- January 2022 through February 2022:
 - ›Bond Pricing and Bond Sale
 - ›Designated Pricing Officer(s) Review and Approval of Bond Pricing
- February 2022
 - ›Closing and Delivery of Funds to Escrow Agent

Questions/Concerns Addressed by the Board:

- ›“Would the District benefit by having only one senior underwriter at 100%?”
 - As per Mr. Vela, there is a possibility of getting a better distribution in the market by having two underwriters with 60% going to the senior underwriter and 40% going to the co-manager. He believes this is a recommendable and defensible strategy in the market.
 - It is at the Board’s discretion to select the number of underwriters. They can select one underwriter or more than one underwriter.
 - ›The senior underwriter runs the quotes.
 - ›The co-manager helps bring up the distribution.

Mr. Jesse Trevino made the motion to approve the plan of finance as presented with the negotiated method of sale and select the firm of Estrada Hinojosa & Company as the underwriter for possible issuance and sale of Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2022. Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita seconded the motion.

- >Mr. Trevino wanted to know if WISD was satisfying the debt payments on the existing bonds.
 - According to Mr. Sanchez, the District is paying all debts with the transfer of funds from the local maintenance fund because the District does not collect enough funds from the I&S tax rate.
- >Mr. Trevino suggested that staff schedule a workshop to discuss and review the plan of finance in order for the Board to have a better understanding of this process.
- >The board members requested that Mr. Vela continue to provide assistance and guidance throughout the process.

The Board voted unanimously on the motion made by Mr. Jesse Trevino and seconded by Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita to approve the plan of finance, negotiated method of sale, and select the firm of Estrada Hinojosa & Company as the underwriter.

M. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Pilot Implementation of a Telemedicine Service Provider (RFQ #22-09-03)

Dr. Valdez, Interim Superintendent, recommended that the Board approve the pilot implementation of a Telemedicine Service provider. Goodside Health was the lone submitter. The pilot implementation will include one elementary (Sam Houston Elementary) and one secondary campus (Central Middle School). The pilot implementation will begin in February of 2022.

Mr. Isidoro Nieto made the motion to approve the pilot implementation of a Telemedicine Service provider. Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita seconded the motion.

Questions/Concerns Addressed by the Board and Responses by Administration:

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez had several questions regarding the process for using this service.

>“Were the parents surveyed to see if they would use this service?”

- No

>“Who verifies the carriers – insurance providers?”

- Every parent will fill out a registration form at the beginning of the year that includes information on insurance coverage. The nurse will input the information in the system so when the child visits the nurse’s office, the nurse will have access to their coverage. Depending on the symptoms the child is having, the nurse will contact the parent to see if they want their child to receive Telemed services.
- According to Mrs. Susan Coffman, nurses from San Benito shared that parents who have insurance are not using this service. The children who do not have insurance or other types of coverage are utilizing the services.

>“Who gives consent for the child to receive Telemed services?”

- The registration form signed by the parent gives consent for the child to receive services.

>“What if parents are not able to be present with the child during the visit? “Is the nurse present?”

“Where is the child seen?”

- The isolation room used for communicable diseases would be utilized. The nurse would be present with the child. The visit would take about one hour.
- WISD has received a grant for \$1.7 million for a testing project for COVID-19. If the company becomes a vendor, the district could hire their staff to provide the services at a central location.

>“Does flu symptoms warrant a call to Telemed?”

- A symptomatic child would be tested for COVID.

- ›“Is there a co-pay for students who have insurance?” “Who is responsible for the money?” “Will the parents have to pay another co-pay if the child is referred to their primary care doctor?”
 - Staff will follow up on this process.
- ›The board members were in support of offering these services to the students and parents.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Mr. Isidoro Nieto and seconded by Mrs. Jaclyn Sustaita to approve the pilot implementation of a Telemedicine Service provider pending contract amendments by legal counsel.

N. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider for Weslaco ISD Becoming a Freeport Tax Exemption Entity

This item was placed on the agenda by Trustee Marcos De Los Santos. According to Mr. De Los Santos, the Freeport tax exemption is a tool used by the City to increase manufacturing and investments in their cities. The Freeport tax exemption will increase the number of good-paying jobs in the community.

As the past board chairman and current board secretary of the Economic Development Corporation of Weslaco as well as a local business leader in the warehouse transportation industry, Mr. JJ Serrano presented the following information to the Board for consideration in approving Weslaco ISD becoming a Freeport Tax Exemption Entity.

- The Freeport Tax Exemption is a tax exemption on inventory that remains in Texas for 175 days or less and is ultimately transported outside of Texas.
- The tax exemption has been used since 1990 to attract more businesses to Texas and to stimulate economic development.
- A business must file an application with the Hidalgo County Appraisal District on an annual basis, along with documentation (sales reports, inventory reports, financial statements) to prove that the business qualifies for the exemption.
- The City of Weslaco and Hidalgo County have approved the Freeport Tax Exemption.
- The communities of Edinburg, Hidalgo, McAllen, Mission, and Sharyland have also approved the Freeport Tax Exemption.
- Distribution companies invest millions of dollars in warehouse facilities which results in higher-paying job opportunities for community residents. The EDC is currently recruiting and fostering a positive relationship with Johnson Controls which would be generating over 100 jobs and investing \$5 million into the Weslaco economy.
- The EDC has purchased nearly 150 acres to expand the industrial park.
 - ›EDC is making every effort to recruit distribution companies who are highly sought after.

Mr. Serrano shared the advantages of becoming a Freeport Tax Exemption Entity:

- Weslaco is a centralized location in the Rio Grande Valley, which is a great location for distribution.
- Distribution companies need to be close to their service area to minimize travel expenses and reduce lag time to the customers.
- By becoming a Freeport Tax Exemption entity, Weslaco will attract manufacturers/organizations to set up distribution centers which will help create jobs, capital investments, increase property taxes, and bring in more students to this district.

The board members heard from two representatives from manufacturing companies who would like to set up warehouses in Weslaco. They feel Weslaco is the best location in the valley because it is centrally located between Brownsville and Laredo and it is very close to the bridge in Progreso. Thus, other larger companies would also want to bring their business to Weslaco, which would create more jobs for the residents of Weslaco and more homesteads.

Mr. Andres Sanchez wanted to know how much inventory would be subject to the tax exemption and whether the Board needed to take action at this time or possibly wait until December.

- Mr. Serrano informed the Board that six (6) companies currently exist in Weslaco. It is hard to tell how much inventory is being taxed because there is a fixed furniture tax mixed combined with the inventory tax.

- Ms. Maria Ochoa, Johnson Controls representative, explained that their company would like to consolidate their warehouses located in McAllen/ Brownsville in the city of Weslaco. According to Ms. Ochoa, the project has to be implemented within the next six months because they are currently in the process of presenting an offer to the owner of the building next week.

The board members expressed their support in favor of the District becoming a Freeport Tax Exemption Entity due to its advantages.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve Weslaco ISD to become a Freeport Tax Exemption Entity. Mr. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XII. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in a closed meeting at 8:51 p.m. to discuss the following items:

A. Personnel Matters (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Employment of Certified Professional Personnel
2. Resignations/Retirements
3. Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074 and 551.071)

B. Discussion on Board Policy BEC (Legal) Procedures for Closed Meetings and Possible Revision to the Weslaco ISD Board Operating Procedures

C. Consultation with Attorney Regarding: a) Pending or Contemplated Litigation: b) a Settlement Offer: or c) a Matter in Which the Duty of the Attorney to the Weslaco ISD under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas Clearly Conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Tex. Gov't. Code 551.071)

XIII. Reconvene in Open Meeting:

The Board returned to the open meeting at 9:13 p.m. to take action on the following items:

A. Possible Action, If Necessary, on Items Discussed in Closed Meeting

1. Discussion and Possible Action on Employment of Certified Professional Personnel

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as discussed in the closed meeting.

EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL		
Name	Position	Location
1. Julio De Los Santos	8 th Grade Social Studies	Central Middle School
2. Marcela Martinez	English Language Arts & Reading Teacher	Weslaco High School
3. Michelle Mata	English Language Arts & Reading Teacher	Early College High School
4. Noelia Rodriguez	6 th Grade English Language Arts Teacher	Central Middle School

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as discussed in the closed meeting. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Resignations/Retirements

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the resignations/retirements of certified professional personnel as discussed in the closed meeting.

Name	Position/Location	Reason/Effective Date
1. Antonio Casas	Health & PE Teacher Sam Houston Elementary Teacher	Antonio Casas is retiring after 35 years in education, with all 35 years of service at Weslaco ISD. His retirement is effective December 31, 2021.
2. Kimberly Cisneros	1 st Grade Teacher Margo Elementary School	Kimberly Cisneros is resigning to transition to a different career. Her resignation is effective January 4, 2022.
3. San Juanita Ramirez	STAAR Teacher Sam Houston Elementary School	San Juanita Ramirez is retiring after 48 years in education, with 46 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Her retirement is effective December 31, 2021.
ADDENDUM		
1. Lorena Salazar	Special Education Teacher Margo Elementary School	Lorena Salazar is resigning to continue her education while pursuing a new career. Her resignation is effective January 7, 2022.

Mr. Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the resignations/retirements as discussed in the closed meeting. Mr. Marcos De Los Santos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Board Policy BEC (Legal) Procedures for Closed Meetings and Possible Revision to the Weslaco ISD Board Operating Procedures

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the revision to include no remote participation of a trustee or trustees during the closed meeting.

Mr. Marcos De Los Santos made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the revision to include no remote participation of a trustee or trustees during the closed meeting. Mr. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.