

The Ector County ISD Board of Trustees held its August Board Meeting on the 16th. A recap of the agenda is below.

1. Roll Call.
2. Verification of compliance with open meetings requirements.
3. Amerah Hays and Piper McGuire from Gonzales Elementary led the pledges of allegiance.



4. Deacon Scott Randolph of St. Joseph's Catholic Church gave the invocation.
5. Special presentations included the presentation of the Extra Mile Award to Lorraine Perryman for her role in the facility committee and bond committee work last year; the presentation of the Split Gavel Award to outgoing school board president Tammy Hawkins; announcement that ECISD is one of the Best Communities for Music Education for the 8th consecutive year; and **recognition of two Permian High School students – Kendra Burton and Aiden Armendariz – for earning the prestigious Outstanding Performer award at the UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest.**



6. In his opening comments, Superintendent Dr. Scott Muri invited Trustees to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Acceleration Academies campus on Wednesday morning. Acceleration Academies is a partner with ECISD in dropout recovery efforts.
7. There was no public comment.
8. Board policy
 - A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve TASB Update 119. The Texas Association of School Boards routinely recommends updates to school districts' local policies in order to keep them in alignment with changes in the law. You can see the recommendations online as part of the agenda packet: <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1406?meeting=540334>
9. Trustees held a public hearing for, and voted 5-0 (2 abstentions) to approve, a resolution designating the Quail Run Reinvestment Zone. The property Quail Run has for its project was not designated a Reinvestment Zone. This action designates it as such and defines its boundaries.
10. Action Items
 - A. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve purchases over \$50,000. The list this month includes services for math professional development, school nutrition, cleaning, painting, and vehicle repair.
 - B. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve the end-of- year budget amendment #1.
 - C. Trustees voted to approve Chris Stanley as the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate and Tammy Hawkins as the alternate.
 - D. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a data sharing agreement with Air Tutors. Air Tutors is one of the virtual, high-impact tutoring providers used by ECISD. Access to the data of the students who

participated last year will help Air Tutors better personalize the tutoring services for students this year.

- E. **Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a data sharing agreement with FEV Tutoring and Brown University. Brown University will use the student data to evaluate ECISD’s implementation of virtual, high-impact tutoring. This research will test the models of virtual tutoring for efficacy and better understand barriers to effective implementation, potential for expansion and sustainability, including how high-impact tutoring impacted different subgroups within ECISD.**
 - F. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an updated agreement with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. ECISD partners with the National Board and the Permian Strategic Partnership to support a percentage of ECISD teachers in achieving national certification. Forty-two teachers are currently pursuing this certification, with 40 more applications this summer. A significant increase in the number of accomplished, Board-certified teachers will lead to increased student learning; enhanced instructional practice, collaboration and community; and increased attraction among local families to local schools and to the community.
 - G. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve a resolution regarding extended sick leave during COVID. This Resolution is effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, and provides paid leave one time for a maximum duration of five (5) calendar days due to COVID illness, and can only be used by the ECISD employee for self-care and is not intended to be used for care of any other person.
 - H. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve their Raise Your Hand Texas (RYHT) advocacy plan. ECISD Trustees are one of nine school board in Texas taking part in [this inaugural RYHT program](#) designed to train Texas school board members – and their local communities – to become more engaged and active in public education policy and advocacy. The ECISD Board worked through the summer to develop [the plan](#), that will be refined through the continued work in the advocacy program.
 - I. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an agreement with the University of Texas Permian Basin on a program to help educate and train diagnosticians. This two-year agreement will see ECISD use federal ESSER funds to provide tuition and fees for eligible candidates.
 - J. Trustees voted 7-0 to approve an application to renew the Optional Flexible School Day Program. The goal of the Optional Flexible School Day Program is to allow students an opportunity to have flexible hours in order to be successful and receive a high school diploma by offering courses needed for graduation while the district receives funding for students in attendance. The program has two main objectives. The first objective is to allow a student who has dropped out of school or is in danger of dropping out of school an option other than the regular classroom setting or school day. The second objective is to enable a student the opportunity to recover credits lost due to lack of attendance.
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; annual investment report; sale of surplus property; Permian High School choir out-of-state travel; Permian High School Orchestra out-of-state travel; T-TESS and T-PESS appraisers; the appraisal calendar for 2022-23; a memorandum of understanding with the Education Foundation of Odessa; and a data sharing agreement with NWEA.

12. Reports/Discussion items

- A. Trustees heard a report on the opening of schools. A few of the key stats presented: enrollment sits at 32,712 (as of today) and expected to increase; 58 teacher vacancies down from 70 one year ago; 27,905 meals served; 2,436 Help Desk calls; and 5,326 kids on buses, and that is expected to rise. To get a sense of how the first day of school went, Trustees watched a video created by the ECISD Communications Department on [the first day of school](#).
- B. Trustees received a summary of the 2021-22 Accountability Ratings which were released publicly on Monday. For the first time, ECISD earned a “B” from the Texas Education Agency a result of the significant academic growth shown by students. The number of schools now rated “A” more than doubled from 3 to 7; the number of schools now rated “B” doubled from 6 to 12; and 5 schools grew from an “F” to a “B”. For perspective on this remarkable growth, in 2019 half of ECISD’s schools were rated D or F, and today half of ECISD’s schools are rated A or B. [Read the full press release](#) to see every school’s results. You can also [watch the press conference](#).**
- C. Trustees discussed Panorama survey data from Spring 2022. Specifically, the board looked at students’ responses about school connectedness. Defined, School Connectedness is the belief held by students that adults and peers in the school care about their learning as well as about them as individuals. In Spring 2022, 18,421 students from 37 schools, grades 3-12, completed the survey in class. The results show 59% of those students feel connected to their school, up 2% from the previous spring, however 2% below our school district’s goal. The national figures dropped from 61% to 56% during the same time. In reviewing results, the district’s focus will be on increasing students’ sense of belonging to their school.

13. Trustees moved to closed session to discuss personnel matters. When they returned:

- Trustees voted 7-0 to retroactively approve Jim Workman as the new principal for Buice Elementary. He moves from Odessa High School where he was an assistant principal. His twenty years of experience in education include 12 years as a principal of elementary, middle school, and high school grade levels.
- Trustees voted 7-0 to retroactively approve Alejandra Garcia as the principal for Travis Elementary. She returns to Travis after one year at Odessa High School as an assistant principal. Prior to OHS, she served as the assistant principal at Travis for two years. She also has two years of experience as an assistant principal at Ector College Prep Success Academy Middle School.
- Trustees voted 7-0 to retroactively approve Ryan Merritt as the Executive Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE). He comes to ECISD from the Region 18 Education Service Center where he served as the Educational Consultant for CTE. He has also served as Director of CTE for the Texas Education Agency (TEA), as well as the CTE Director in Pflugerville ISD.
- Trustees voted 7-0 to retroactively approve Amy Russell as the principal at Bowie Middle School. She led Travis Elementary as principal for two years, guiding the school out of F status. She served four years as an assistant principal at Ector Middle School and Bonham Middle School, and was a Campus Curriculum Facilitator for three years.

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=540334>.

15. There were no closing remarks.

16. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.