



PUBLIC HEARING • REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Public Hearing/FIRST Rating

Trustees held a Public Hearing on the district's Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) presented by Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations Hilda Rendon who informed trustees and members of the public that the district's finances are healthy and sound at this time and, as such, has received a "Superior" rating.

Superintendent's Report

Trustees heard reports as follows: cash account report, student activity report, comparison of budget revenue and expenditures, quarterly investment report, tax collection report and check disbursements for September.

Special Recognitions

Trustees honored Dr. Cash Elementary for being selected by the National Center for Urban School Transformation as a Bronze winner of the 2018 America's Best Urban Schools Award. The prestigious Gold, Silver, and Bronze level awards were presented to 15 urban schools from throughout California, Texas, Colorado, North Carolina, Nevada, and New York for achieving excellent and equitable results for their students. Campus principal Dilia Cornett and assistant principal Marleen Araiza – joined by district administrators, trustees, and campus personnel – proudly accepted the award during the recent 2018 America's Best Urban Schools Symposium in San Diego, California.

Trustees also honored fellow trustee and board president Michael A. Vargas for his service from 2016-2018 on the Texas Association of School Boards Legislative Committee. Vargas has served

as a delegate and has contributed efforts towards setting legislative priorities while working with other elected officials around the state. The council developed a statewide list of priorities to guide the association while focusing on issues related to school finance, governance and accountability.

Trustees also recognized officials with AEP who were on hand to present a check rebate totaling \$56,840.31 for the LED retrofit lighting projects at the STEAM Academy and La Encantada Elementary.

In other matters, trustees approved the following:

- Budget Amendments for 2018-19;
- Awarding bids for general merchandise and service;
- Lease agreement for districtwide copiers;
- Revisions to performing arts stipends;
- A memorandum of understanding between the district and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas (BHSST) for 2018-19;
- Class size waiver for 2018-2019;
- A contract renewal for American Reading Company for 2018-2019;
- Accepting a gift/bequest to La Encantada Elementary;
- Appointing community member Gilbert Weaver to serve as a representative on the Cameron County Appraisal District's Board of Directors;
- Board minutes for September 11, September 25, and October 4.

Trustees tabled the following items: a District of Innovation resolution, a Xello online program and LED proposals. Trustees also heard from resident Rosalinda Garcia during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Executive Session

In Executive Session, trustees discussed several items, including employment, resignations/agreement, and retirements as well as the employment of the district's Purchasing Director. No action was taken.