

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
July 17, 2014**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 10:31 a.m. on Thursday, July 17, 2014, in Room #1-111 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. All members of the committee were present, as follows:

Presiding: Donna Bahorich, chair; Marty Rowley, vice chair; Barbara Cargill; Ruben Cortez, Jr.; Mavis B. Knight

Public Testimony

This item provides an opportunity for the public to present testimony at the time the related item comes up for committee discussion or action. The procedures for registering and taking public testimony at State Board of Education committee meetings and general board meetings are provided at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=25769804094> or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda item #7. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

ACTION ITEM

- 1. Review of Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 229, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs, §229.21, Transitional Provisions**
(Board agenda page IV-1)
[Official agenda item #11]

Von Byer, deputy general counsel, and Tim Miller, director, educator preparation, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 229, §229.21, regarding transitional provisions of the accountability system for educator preparation programs.

MOTION AND VOTE: *By unanimous consent, the Committee on School Initiatives recommended that the State Board of Education take no action on the proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 229, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs, §229.21, Transitional Provisions.*

CONSENT ITEMS

- 2. Recommendation for Appointment to the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees**
(Board agenda page IV-7)
[Consent agenda item #(9)]

Ron Rowell, director, school governance, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding an appointment to the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Mrs. Cargill, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the appointment of Mr. Clifford Dietert, to serve a two-year term of office, from July 18, 2014 through July 17, 2016, on the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees.*

3. Adoption of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship

(Adoption of Review)

(Board agenda page IV-25)

[Consent agenda item #(10)]

Ron Rowell, director, school governance, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding the adoption of 19 TAC Chapter 61, pertaining to school districts and boards of trustees relationships, in order to meet the four-year cycle requirement for the Sunset Review.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Mr. Rowley, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship.*

ACTION ITEM

4. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, §61.1, Continuing Education for School Board Members

(Second Reading and Final Adoption)

(Board agenda page IV-33)

[Official agenda item #12]

Ron Rowell, director, school governance, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding the amendment of 19 TAC Chapter 61, pertaining to continuing education for school board members.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Mr. Rowley, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for second reading and final adoption the amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, §61.1, Continuing Education for School Board Members.*

DISCUSSION ITEM

5. Long-Range Planning Efforts for Texas Public Schools

(Board agenda page IV-59)

Board members Marty Rowley and Ruben Cortez provided a report regarding the need for a long-range plan. The committee members discussed the importance of seeking input from a wide variety of stakeholders, as well as appointing an ad-hoc committee to coordinate this project. Mr. Rowley and Mr. Cortez volunteered to continue to gather information about the process that could potentially be used in developing a plan, as well as topics to be covered. An update will be provided at the next committee meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 100, Charters, Subchapter A, Open-Enrollment Charter Schools

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Board agenda page IV-41)
[Official agenda item #13]

Heather Mauzé, director, division of charter school administration, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 100 to conform with the statutory changes made by the passage of Senate Bill 2.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Mr. Cortez, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 100, Charters, Subchapter A, Open-Enrollment Charter Schools.*

7. Consideration of Gifts and/or Grants Given for the Purpose of Charter Exploration Trips

(Board agenda page IV-55)
[Official agenda item #14]

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Julie Norton
AFFILIATION: Harmony Public Schools

This item provided the Committee on School Initiatives the opportunity to consider and recommend the adoption of board operating rules regarding the acceptance of grants and gifts for the purpose of investigating charters currently operating out of state.

MOTION: *A motion was made by Mr. Cortez to add language that would preclude any out-of-state charter applicant whose curriculum is aligned with the Common Core curriculum from being considered for a visit by any member of the SBOE. No second vote was offered; the motion failed.*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mrs. Knight, seconded by Mrs. Cargill, and carried by unanimous vote that the State Board of Education approve the adoption of a new board policy regarding the acceptance of gifts and/or grants for charter school evaluation, amending the language by replacing the word “section” with “policy.”*

The committee recessed at 1:00 p.m.

The committee reconvened at 1:46 p.m. in room 1-111 of the William B. Travis Building with the following members present:

Presiding: Donna Bahorich, chair; Marty Rowley, vice chair; Barbara Cargill; Mavis B. Knight

Absent: Ruben Cortez, Jr.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Update on the Generation 19 Open-Enrollment Charter Application Cycle

(Board agenda page IV-61)

Heather Mauzé, director, division of charter school administration, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding the Generation 19 interview schedule and the agenda for the interviews, noting that Rocketship Education had withdrawn their application from consideration.

9. Report of the Charter School Administration Director

(Board agenda page IV-63)

Heather Mauzé, director, division of charter school administration provided a status update to the Committee on School Initiatives on division activities.

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 2:11 p.m.