

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
July 18, 2013**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 10:13 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2013, 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 items #2, #3, #5, and #6. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

CONSENT ITEM

1. Recommendation for Appointments to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-1)

[Consent agenda item #(9)]

Ron Rowell, director, enforcement coordination and governance, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives regarding appointments to the board of trustees of the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District.

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 the appointment of Ms. Deborah Seabron, Ms. Erica O'Bryant, and Ms. Robbye Durham each to serve a two-year term of office, from July 19, 2013 through July 18, 2015, on the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees. (Mrs. Cargill was absent for the vote.)*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mrs. Cargill, seconded by Mrs. Knight, and carried by unanimous vote to rescind the previous motion and vote.*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Mrs. Knight, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the re-appointment of Ms. Deborah Seabron and COL Randall G. Anderson, and the appointment of Ms. Jane Crow each to serve a two-year term of office, from July 19, 2013 through July 18, 2015, on the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees.*

ACTION ITEM

2. Review of Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 231, Assignment of Public School Personnel, and Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments

(Board agenda page IV-55)

[Official agenda item #11]

Andrew Allen, senior counsel for educator certification, and Norma Torres-Martinez, director, educator testing and certification, presented information regarding the review process for the State Board for Educator Certification rule actions.

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Dr. Sandra West

AFFILIATION: Science Teachers Association of Texas

MOTION AND VOTE: *By unanimous consent, the Committee on School Initiatives recommended that the State Board of Education take no action on the Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 231, Assignment of Public School Personnel, and Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments.*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Guidelines and Application for Open-Enrollment Charters

(Board agenda page IV-161)

Heather Mauzé, director, charter school administration, discussed with the Committee on School Initiatives the request for application form and timeline for the nineteenth generation of open-enrollment charter schools.

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Marian Wallace

AFFILIATION: Senate Committee on Education

4. Guidelines and Application for Public College or University Charters

(Board agenda page IV-163)

Ms. Mauzé discussed with the Committee on School Initiatives the request for application form for the nineteenth generation of public college or university open-enrollment charters.

ACTION ITEM

5. Update on the Generation 17 Open-Enrollment Charter Application Cycle

(Board agenda page IV-159)

[Official agenda item #12]

Ms. Mauzé discussed with the Committee on School Initiatives the Generation 17 open-enrollment charters that have received county-district numbers and the one entity that did not meet the contingency deadline of May 16, 2013.

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Andrew Weber
AFFILIATION: National Heritage Academies

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Rowley and seconded by Mrs. Knight to grant Lone Star Scholars Foundation until Monday, August 19, 2013, to clear the remaining contingency associated with the entity's Generation 17 open-enrollment charter application. The motion carried 3-1, with Mr. Cortez opposing. (Mrs. Cargill was absent for the vote.)*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Update on the Generation 18 Open-Enrollment Charter Application Cycle (Board agenda page IV-165)

Ms. Mauzé discussed with the Committee on School Initiatives the eighteenth generation charter application cycle including the number of applications received, the number of incomplete applications, the number of external reviewers, and discussion of associated calendar dates.

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Kerrie Patterson-Brown
AFFILIATION: Legacy Collegiate Middle and High School for Careers in Health and Wellness

7. Information Session Regarding Project Share (Board agenda page IV-167)

Kerry Ballast, director, special projects, introduced the committee to Project Share, the TEA's online learning environment, and highlighted several of its features.

8. Update on the Long-Range Plan for Technology, 2006-2020 (Board agenda page IV-169)

Anita Givens, associate commissioner, standards and programs, provided a brief history of the Long-Range Plan for Technology since the first plan was adopted in 1988 and how each plan has guided the use of technology in Texas schools. She provided an overview of the different sections of the Long Range Plan for Technology, 2006-2020; described how it was developed; and described how it aligns with the Texas STaR Chart, Texas ePlan System and the federal E-Rate program. Ms. Givens also shared highlights from the 2012 Progress Report on the plan, including videos that demonstrate how various districts are using technology in their classrooms.

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 4:03 p.m.