Minutes State Board of Education February 2, 2018

The State Board of Education met at 9:01 a.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018, in the State Board of Education Room, #1-104, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

<u>Present</u>: Donna Bahorich, chair; Lawrence A. Allen, Jr.; Erika Beltran; David Bradley; Ruben Cortez, Jr., secretary; Keven Ellis; Pat Hardy; Tom Maynard; Sue Melton-Malone; Ken Mercer; Geraldine "Tincy" Miller; Georgina C. Pérez; Marisa B. Perez-Diaz; Marty Rowley, vice chair

Absent: Barbara Cargill

Student Performance

The student performance was provided by the Smithson Valley Middle School Orchestra from Comal Independent School District.

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

State Board of Education, November 10, 2017

<u>MOTION AND VOTE</u>: The State Board of Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the November 10, 2017 meeting of the State Board of Education, as printed.

1. Resolutions and Presentations

Career and Technical Education Month

Mr. John Ryan Rodriguez, Texas Future Farmers of America (FFA) Vice President, read the resolution.

The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution proclaiming February 1–28, 2018, as Career and Technical Education Month in Texas.

(ATTACHMENT 1, page 13)

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution recognizing the 2017 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching finalists.

(ATTACHMENT 2, page 15)

Public Testimony

The State Board of Education received presentations of public testimony, as follows:

NAME:Alexis DennAFFILIATION:SelfTOPIC:Texas Gateway Optional Science Safety Training

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Any agenda item may be placed on the consent agenda by any State Board of Education committee. The State Board of Education may elect to take separate action on any item on the consent agenda.

By unanimous consent, the State Board of Education approved the following items on the consent agenda.

 Adoption of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 105, <u>Foundation School Program</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Definitions</u>, and Subchapter B, <u>Use of State Funds</u> (Adoption of Review)
(Board agenda page III-19)

(Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The State Board of Education adopted the review of 19 TAC Chapter 105, <u>Foundation</u> <u>School Program</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Definitions</u>, and Subchapter B, <u>Use of State Funds</u>, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(2) Ratification of the Purchases and Sales of the Investment Portfolio of the Permanent School Fund for the Months of October and November 2017 (Board agenda page III-27)

(Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The State Board of Education ratified the purchases and sales for the months of October and November 2017, in the amount of \$994,491,789 and \$1,045,014,658 respectively, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(3) Decision on Real Estate Investments

(Board agenda page III-29) (Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The State Board of Education approved execution of agreements with AGR Europe II, L.L.C., necessary to make an investment commitment of up to \$75 million in AG Europe Realty Fund II, L.P., and with Invesco Strategic Opportunities III G.P., L.L.C., necessary to make an investment commitment of up to \$75 million in Invesco Strategic Opportunities III, L.P., subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms, and authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(Mrs. Miller recused herself from the vote.)

 (4) Presentation on the Commodities Asset Class for the Permanent School Fund (Board agenda page III-31) (Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The State Board of Education approved a \$175 million allocation to Commodities to be managed by internal staff, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

 (5) Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment</u> <u>Objectives, Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund,</u> <u>Subchapter A, State Board of Education Rules,</u> §33.5, <u>Code of Ethics</u> (First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page III-33) (Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The State Board of Education approved for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment Objectives</u>, <u>Policies</u>, and <u>Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund</u>, Subchapter A, <u>State Board of Education Rules</u>, §33.5, <u>Code of Ethics</u>, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(6) Recommendation for Appointments to the Boys Ranch Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-1) (Committee on School Initiatives)

Based on Mr. Dan Adam's recommendation, the State Board of Education approved the re-appointment of Mr. George Owen and Mr. Mark Strother to serve a term of office, from February 2, 2018, through February 1, 2020, on the Boys Ranch Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(Mr. Rowley recused himself from the vote.)

(ATTACHMENT 3, page 17)

(7) Recommendation for Appointments to the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-9) (Committee on School Initiatives)

Based on Colonel Thomas G. Miner Jr.'s recommendation, the State Board of Education approved the re-appointment of Mr. William Morrison II and Ms. Vanessa Bowden to serve a term of office, from February 2, 2018, through February 1, 2020, on the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(ATTACHMENT 4, page 21)

(8) Recommendation for Appointment to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees (Board agenda page IV-41)

(Committee on School Initiatives)

Based on Colonel David L. Raugh's recommendation, the State Board of Education approved the appointment of Mr. Aaron Braxton II to serve a term of office, from February 2, 2018, through February 1, 2020, on the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(ATTACHMENT 5, page 31)

(9) Recommendation for Appointment to the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-63) (Committee on School Initiatives)

Based on Colonel Jonathan L. Wright's recommendation, the State Board of Education approved the re-appointment of Mr. Brian Miller to serve a term of office, from February 2, 2018 through February 1, 2020, on the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(ATTACHMENT 6, page 39)

COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD

3. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 66, <u>State Adoption and Distribution of Instructional Materials</u>, Subchapter B, <u>State Adoption of Instructional Materials</u>, and <u>Subchapter C, <u>Local Operations</u> (Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page I-1)</u>

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 66, <u>State</u> <u>Adoption and Distribution of Instructional Materials</u>, Subchapter B, <u>State Adoption of</u> <u>Instructional Materials</u>, and Subchapter C, <u>Local Operations</u>, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

(ATTACHMENT 7, page 41)

4. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 130, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for</u> <u>Career and Technical Education</u>, Subchapters B, H, J, M, and O

(Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page I-21)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 130, <u>Texas</u> <u>Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Architecture and Construction</u>, §130.64 and §130.69; Subchapter H, <u>Health Science</u>, §§130.226, 130.230, 130.231, 130.232, 130.233, and 130.234; Subchapter M, <u>Manufacturing</u>, §§130.363, 130.364, and 130.365; and Subchapter O, <u>Science, Technology, Engineering, and</u> <u>Mathematics</u>, §130.415 and §130.417, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve for second reading and final adoption proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 130, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education</u>, Subchapter J, §§130.283, 130.284, 130.286, and 130.287, and Subchapter O, <u>Science</u>, <u>Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics</u>, §130.404, with an effective date of August 27, 2018, as recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

(ATTACHMENT 8, page 55)

5. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, <u>Curriculum Requirements</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Graduation Requirements</u>

(Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page I-51)

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Rowley that the State Board of Education approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, <u>Curriculum</u> <u>Requirements</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Graduation Requirements</u>, with an effective date of August 27, 2018, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Mr. Maynard, and carried unanimously to postpone consideration of second reading and final adoption of proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, <u>Curriculum Requirements</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Graduation Requirements</u>, until the April 2018 meeting.

6. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 110, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading</u>, Chapter 111, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics</u>, Chapter 112, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science</u>, and Chapter 114, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English</u>, Concerning International Baccalaureate Courses (Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page I-83)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve for second reading and final adoption proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 110, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and</u> <u>Reading</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other High School English Language Arts and Reading Courses</u>; Chapter 111, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other High School Mathematics Courses</u>; Chapter 112, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for</u> <u>Science</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other Science Courses</u>; and Chapter 114, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge</u> <u>and Skills for Languages Other Than English</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other Languages Other Than</u> <u>English Courses</u>, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

(ATTACHMENT 9, page 105)

7. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 110, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for</u> <u>English Language Arts and Reading</u>, and Chapter 111, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and</u> <u>Skills for Mathematics</u>

(First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page I-97)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education suspend the board operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration of first reading and filing authorization and to approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 110, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading</u>, and Chapter 111, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics</u>, as recommended by the Committee of the Full Board. 8. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 112, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for</u> <u>Science</u>, Chapter 113, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies</u>, Chapter 118, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free</u> <u>Enterprise System and Its Benefits</u>, and Chapter 126, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and</u> <u>Skills for Technology Applications</u>, Concerning Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Courses

(First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page I-105)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 112, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other Science Courses</u>, Chapter 113, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other Social Studies Courses</u>, Chapter 118, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Other Economics Courses</u>, and Chapter 126, <u>Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Technology Applications</u>, Subchapter D, <u>Other Technology Applications Courses</u>, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION

9. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, <u>Curriculum Requirements</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Required Curriculum</u>, §74.5, <u>Academic Achievement Record (Transcript)</u> (First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page II-1)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education suspend the board operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration of first reading and filing authorization and approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, <u>Curriculum</u> <u>Requirements</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Required Curriculum</u>, §74.5, <u>Academic Achievement Record</u> (<u>Transcript</u>), as amended and recommended by the Committee on Instruction.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

10. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 109, <u>Budgeting, Accounting, and Auditing,</u> Subchapter D, <u>Uniform Bank Bid or Request for Proposal and Depository Contract,</u> §109.52, <u>Uniform Depository Bank Contract and Surety Bond Forms</u>

(Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page III-1)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Bradley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 109, Budgeting, Accounting, and Auditing, Subchapter D, <u>Uniform Bank Bid or Request for Proposal and Depository Contract</u>, \$109.52, <u>Uniform Depository Bank Contract and Surety Bond Forms</u>, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School fund.

(ATTACHMENT 10, page 113)

11. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 129, <u>Student Attendance</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Student Attendance Accounting</u>, §129.21, <u>Requirements for Student Attendance Accounting for State Funding Purposes</u>

(Second Reading and Final Adoption) (Board agenda page III-11)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Bradley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 129, <u>Student Attendance</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Student Attendance Accounting</u>, §129.21, <u>Requirements for Student Attendance Accounting for State Funding Purposes</u>, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(ATTACHMENT 11, page 119)

12. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment Objectives</u>, <u>Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund</u>, Subchapter A, <u>State</u> <u>Board of Education Rules</u>, §33.65, <u>Bond Guarantee Program for School Districts</u>, and §33.67, <u>Bond Guarantee Program for Charter Schools</u> (Second Reading and Final Adoption)

(Board agenda page III-51)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Bradley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment Objectives</u>, Policies, and <u>Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund</u>, Subchapter A, <u>State Board of Education Rules</u>, §33.65, <u>Bond Guarantee Program for School</u> <u>Districts</u>, and §33.67, <u>Bond Guarantee Program for Charter Schools</u>, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(ATTACHMENT 12, page 121)

13. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment Objectives</u>, <u>Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund</u>, Subchapter A, <u>State</u> <u>Board of Education Rules</u>, §33.15, <u>Objectives</u>, and §33.20, <u>Responsible Parties and Their</u> <u>Duties</u>

(First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page III-77)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Bradley and carried that the State Board of Education suspend the board operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration of first reading and filing authorization and approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, <u>Statement of Investment</u> Objectives, Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund, Subchapter A, <u>State</u> Board of Education Rules, §33.15, <u>Objectives</u>, and §33.20, <u>Responsible Parties and Their</u> Duties, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES

14. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, <u>School Districts</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Board of</u> <u>Trustees Relationship</u>, §61.1, <u>Continuing Education for School Board Members</u> (First Reading and Filing Authorization) (Board agenda page IV-79)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Mrs. Melton-Malone, and carried that the State Board of Education amend 19 TAC Chapter 61, <u>School Districts</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Board of Trustees Relationship</u>, §61.1, <u>Continuing Education for School Board</u> <u>Members</u>, as set out in the substitute text presented by staff.

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Ms. Perez-Diaz and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, <u>School Districts</u>, Subchapter A, <u>Board of Trustees</u> <u>Relationship</u>, §61.1, <u>Continuing Education for School Board Members</u>, as amended and recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(Ms. Beltran and Ms. Pérez recused themselves from the vote.)

15. Review of Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 235, <u>Classroom Teacher Certification</u> <u>Standards</u>, Subchapter A, <u>General Provisions</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Elementary School</u> <u>Certificate Standards</u>, Subchapter C, <u>Middle School Certificate Standards</u>, and <u>Subchapter D, Secondary School Certificate Standards</u> (Board agenda page IV-87)

In accordance with TEC, §21.042, the State Board of Education took no action on proposed new 19 TAC Chapter 235, <u>Classroom Teacher Certification Standards</u>, Subchapter A, <u>General Provisions</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Elementary School Certificate Standards</u>, Subchapter C, <u>Middle School Certificate Standards</u>, and Subchapter D, <u>Secondary School Certificate Standards</u>.

16. Review of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, <u>Certification of Educators</u> <u>from Other Countries</u>

(Board agenda page IV-103)

In accordance with TEC, §21.042, the State Board of Education took no action on the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 245, <u>Certification of Educators from Other Countries</u>.

17. Review of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 249, <u>Disciplinary Proceedings</u>, <u>Sanctions, and Contested Cases</u>, Subchapter A, <u>General Provisions</u>, §249.3, <u>Definitions</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Enforcement Actions and Guidelines</u>, §249.12, <u>Administrative Denial</u>; <u>Appeal</u>, §249.14, <u>Complaint</u>, <u>Required Reporting</u>, and <u>Investigation</u>; <u>Investigative</u> <u>Notice</u>; <u>Filing of Petition</u>, §249.15, <u>Disciplinary Action by State Board for Educator</u> <u>Certification</u>, §249.17, <u>Decision-Making Guidelines</u>, and <u>Subchapter D</u>, <u>Hearing</u> <u>Procedures</u>, §249.35, <u>Disposition Prior to Hearing</u>; <u>Default</u> (Board agenda page IV-115)

In accordance with TEC, §21.042, the State Board of Education took no action on the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 249, <u>Disciplinary Proceedings</u>, <u>Sanctions</u>, and <u>Contested</u> <u>Cases</u>, Subchapter A, <u>General Provisions</u>, §249.3, <u>Definitions</u>, Subchapter B, <u>Enforcement</u> <u>Actions and Guidelines</u>, §249.12, <u>Administrative Denial</u>; <u>Appeal</u>, §249.14, <u>Complaint</u>, <u>Required Reporting</u>, and <u>Investigation</u>; <u>Investigative Notice</u>; Filing of Petition, §249.15, <u>Disciplinary Action by State Board for Educator Certification</u>, §249.17, <u>Decision-Making</u> <u>Guidelines</u>, and Subchapter D, <u>Hearing Procedures</u>, §249.35, <u>Disposition Prior to Hearing</u>; <u>Default</u>.

<u>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS POSTED FOR</u> <u>DISCUSSION ON COMMITTEE AGENDAS</u>

Committee on Instruction

Mrs. Melton-Malone gave a brief report on the committee's discussion on dyslexia and explained that staff is working on updates to both the *Dyslexia Handbook* and administrative rules.

Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund

Mr. Bradley did not report on the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

Committee on School Initiatives

Ms. Perez-Diaz gave a brief report on the Long-Range Plan Steering Committee work and stated its next meeting will take place February 7, 2018, in the Rio Grande Valley.

REPORTS OF OTHER STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND CONCERNS IN INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS

Mrs. Bahorich gave board members an opportunity to provide information regarding agenda items or other relevant information about public education. Brief reports were made.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS February 1-28, 2018, has been designated National Career and Technical Education Month; and

WHEREAS more than 1.2 million Texas secondary students are enrolled in one or more career and technical education (CTE) courses in 1,207 school districts and charter schools throughout the State; and

WHEREAS career and technical education has offered students the opportunity for more than a century to gain the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for true career readiness; and

WHEREAS students in career and technical education programs participate in authentic, meaningful experiences which improve the quality of their education by offering opportunities to apply academic knowledge and skills from across the curriculum; and

WHEREAS career and technical education is a vital and integral part of the Foundation High School Program, offering students pathways to earn recognized endorsements, performance acknowledgements and industry validated credentials; and

WHEREAS the state's nine career and technical student organizations, BPA, DECA, Educators Rising (Texas Association of Future Educators), FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA instill in their members the values, knowledge and skills to be patriotic citizens prepared to fully engage as effective leaders in the formidable and noble task of self-government in our constitutional republic; and

WHEREAS career and technical education provides students with career exploration opportunities early in their educational experience, which enables them to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic coursework as well as pursuit of established programs of study and career pathways; and

WHEREAS leaders from business and industry nationwide report increasing challenges related to the skills gap and connecting qualified professionals with available careers in critical and growing CTE-related fields; and

WHEREAS career and technical education prepares students fulfilling careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education and significantly contributes to college readiness; and

WHEREAS ensuring that employers have access to a qualified workforce is a crucial step in ensuring productivity among the business and industry communities as well as continued American economic growth and global competitiveness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education, which has been designated by the Texas Legislature as the State Board for Career and Technical Education, does hereby proclaim February 1-28, 20168 as **Career and Technical Education Month** in Texas, and does hereby urge all Texans to become familiar with the outstanding curriculum delivered by exceptional career and technical education teachers in communities across the state, and to support and participate in these programs to enhance their individual skills and productivity.

WITNESS our signatures this second of February two thousand and eighteen, in Austin, Texas.

Donna Bahorich, Chair

Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the *Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching* program identifies outstanding mathematics and science teachers in each state and the four U.S. jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS through state selection committees, five mathematics finalists and five science finalists were selected as Texas finalists; and

WHEREAS these teachers have become candidates for the *Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching*; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education does hereby extend its congratulations to Nichole Bennett, Bowie Middle School, Amarillo Independent School District, Amarillo, Texas; Megan Gabriel, Denton High School, Denton Independent School District, Denton, Texas; Lauren Hawkins, Richardson High School, Richardson Independent School District, Richardson, Texas; Mark Rogers, Meridian School, Round Rock, Texas; Jean Hand Streepey, Highland Park Middle School, Highland Park Independent School District, Dallas, Texas; for being named State Finalists in the mathematics category for the 2017 Presidential Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education does hereby extend its congratulations to Kay Fincher, Amarillo High School, Amarillo Independent School District, Amarillo, Texas; Laura Frost, Western Hills High School, Fort Worth Independent School District, Fort Worth, Texas; Lollie Garay, Redd School, Houston, Texas; Terry Snow, Aledo Middle School, Aledo Independent School District, Aledo, Texas; Kara Swindell, Margaret Talkington School for Young Women Leaders, Lubbock Independent School District, Lubbock, Texas; for being named State Finalists in the science category for the 2017 Presidential Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to the aforementioned teachers in recognition of their selection as state and national finalists for the 2017 *Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching* program, and that a copy be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

WITNESS our signatures this second day of February, two thousand and eighteen, in Austin, Texas.

Donna Bahorich, Chair

Ruben Cortez Jr., Secretary