

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
Thursday, November 18, 2021**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:06 a.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2021, in Room, #1-111, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Aicha Davis, vice chair; Ruben Cortez, Jr; Will Hickman; Jay Johnson

Absent: Matt Robinson, chair

Public Testimony

The Committee on School Initiatives received presentations of public testimony on agenda items #3, #4, and #6.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Recommendation for Reappointments to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees
(Board agenda page IV-1)

Christopher Lucas, director, policy, planning, and operations, governance and accountability, explained that three terms on the board of trustees for Fort Sam Houston Independent School District (ISD) are expiring. Colonel Cuéllar has recommended the reappointments of Mr. Willie E. White, Ms. Deborah E. Seabron, and Ms. Andrea Nicholas to the Fort Sam Houston ISD Board of Trustees.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Colonel Shane R. Cuéllar's recommendation, approve the reappointments of Mr. Willie E. White, Ms. Deborah E. Seabron, and Ms. Andrea Nicholas to serve terms of office from November 19, 2021, through November 19, 2023, on the Fort Sam Houston ISD Board of Trustees.*

2. Approval of Applicability of State Statute to Special Purpose School District
(Board agenda page IV-13)

Monica Martinez, associate commissioner for standards and support services, explained that in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE) for the special purpose districts Texas Tech University (TTU) K-12 and The University of Texas (UT) at Austin High School both submitted recommendations for changes to state statute that should apply to their special purpose districts. UT Austin did not recommend that any additional statutory requirements not apply. TTU K-12 identified one requirement that they recommended not apply.

No action was taken on this item.

3. Approval of Required School Safety Training for District Trustees
(Board agenda page IV-14)

Ms. Martinez explained that the Texas School Safety Center updated the school safety training curriculum in response to recommendations from individual committee members. Dr. Celina Bley, associate director of training and education at the Texas School Safety Center, answered questions regarding the curriculum.

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Susan Elliott
AFFILIATION: Texas Association of School Boards

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and carried to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the school safety training curriculum and materials developed by the Texas School Safety Center.*

DISCUSSION ITEM

4. Discussion of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship
(Board agenda page IV-15)

Mr. Lucas explained that the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, Subchapter A, would reflect changes made to the requirements for school board trustee training by House Bill (HB) 690, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021. He shared information regarding current continuing education requirements for school board trustees (Attachment A).

Public testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Susan Elliott
AFFILIATION: Texas Association of School Boards

ACTION ITEM

5. Review of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 229, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs
(Board agenda page IV-16)

Mark Olofson, director, educator data, research, and strategy, explained the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 229, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs. Chapter 229 establishes the performance standards and procedures for educator preparation program (EPP) accountability. The proposed amendments would provide for adjustments to the 2020–2021 *Accountability System for Educator Preparation (ASEP) Manual* due to the ongoing public health situation; implement HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, to add students with disabilities to the student achievement ASEP performance indicator regarding student performance; provide additional clarity for certificate category calculations; and provide updates to the *ASEP Manual*.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 229, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs.*

6. Open-Enrollment Charter School Generation 27 Application Updates
(Board agenda page IV-71)

Marian Schutte, director, charter school authorizing and administration division, presented information on the Generation 27 Open-Enrollment Charter Application cycle, content, improvements, and timeline.

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Ruth Funk
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Jennifer Noonan
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Kara Belew
AFFILIATION: Texas Public Charter School Association

NAME: Jennifer Duvall
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Verena Chaudoir
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Kiara Cabrera
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Felix Paiz
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Mera Dougherty
AFFILIATION: Self

NAME: Pablo Cruz
AFFILIATION: Self

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Required Continuing Education for Trustees

Required Continuing Education	First Year in Office	Subsequent Years
Local District Orientation	Three hours within the first 120 days in office	N/A
Orientation to the Texas Education Code	Three hours within the first 120 days in office	N/A
Update to the Texas Education Code	Following each legislative session and of sufficient length to address major changes and other relevant legal obligations	Following each legislative session and of sufficient length to address major changes and other relevant legal obligations
Team Building (Team-of-eight)	Three hours	Three hours each year
Additional Education based on the Framework for School Board Development	Ten hours	Five hours each year
Evaluating and Improving Student Outcomes	Three hours within the first 120 days in office	Three hours every two years
Sexual Abuse, Human Trafficking, and Other Maltreatment of Children	One hour within the first 120 days in office	One hour every two years
Open Meetings Act (OMA)	One hour within the first 90 days in office	N/A
Public Information Act (PIA)	One hour within the first 90 days in office	N/A
Cybersecurity	Varies by provider	Each year