



# Board Meeting H I G H L I G H T S

Board Meeting A held on May 10, 2021 at 514 W. Quincy St., San Antonio, Tx. 78212  
Board Meeting B held on May 17, 2021 at 514 W. Quincy St., San Antonio, Tx. 78212

## Recognitions

- ❖ The Board recognized the SAISD Class of 2021 Dell Scholars. The Dell Scholarship is a competitive scholarship and college completion program that nurtures and empowers students on their path to a college degree. This scholarship targets highly motivated students who demonstrate the drive to succeed despite personal obstacles. To qualify for the Dell Scholarship, students must participate in an approved college readiness program such as AVID or Upward Bound in grades 11 and 12. All the SAISD Dell Scholars have participated in the AVID elective and one of our scholars also completed the Upward Bound program with one of our college partners. Scholars must also plan to enroll in college in the Fall of 2021, earn a minimum 2.4 GPA, and be on track to graduate high school. The honorees have also demonstrated a unique “GPA” of grit, potential, and ambition in their quest for a college education.
  - Grit – demonstrated by overcoming challenges in their lives
  - Potential – demonstrated by participating in a college readiness program and rigorous courses
  - Ambition – demonstrated by dreaming of obtaining a college degree

The Dell Scholarship offers a personalized, multifaceted support to scholars that extends beyond the financial support of the award of \$20,000, a laptop, and textbook credits. Scholars are also provided direct support for financial, academic and emotional needs throughout their college journey. The 18th Class of Dell Scholars has welcomed 500 students from across the nation. The SAISD Class of 2021 Dell Scholars is as follows:

- Angel Isaac, Edison HS
- Katherine Infante, Highlands HS
- Joe Aguirre, Travis ECHS
- Kianna Chavez, Travis ECHS
- Lizbeth Cortez, Travis ECHS
- Kathleen DeHoyos, Travis ECHS
- Miguel Elizondo, Travis ECHS
- Gisselle Estrada, Travis ECHS
- Sophia Gomez, Travis ECHS
- Cassandra Reyna, Travis ECHS
- Danilo Rosales, Travis ECHS
- Samuel Torres, Travis ECHS

- Elizabeth Vargas, Travis ECHS
  - Valerie Anaya Vega, Travis ECHS
  - Claudia Garai, YWLA
  - Karla Hernandez, YWLA
  - Autumn Kretzschmar, YWLA
  - Katarina Lazo, YWLA
  - Kaitlyn Lomas, YWLA
  - Jessica Olivas, YWLA
- ❖ The Board approved a Resolution in Recognition of National School Nurse Day on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. The National Association of School Nurses has designated Wednesday, May 12, 2021 as National School Nurse Day with the theme “Championing the Whole Student.”
- ❖ Trustees approved the Resolution in Recognition of National Police Week on May 9, 2021 through May 15, 2021 and designate May 15, 2021 as “National Peace Officers Memorial Day”. The Resolution also recognized May 27, 2021 as the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the line of duty death of Sergeant William Maldonado. In addition, the Resolution recognized December 21, 2021 as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the line of duty death of Detective Clifton J. Martinez.
- ❖ Proclamation in recognition of May 2021 as International Internal Audit Awareness Month. Each year, during the month of May, the global internal audit profession promotes awareness about its value and the contributions of internal auditors to the success of organizations.
- ❖ The Board recognized Ferdinand Herff Academy for being named winner of the Read to the Final Four competition and for receiving a \$5,000 award from the Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries. Read to the Final Four is a reading competition presented by the NCAA and San Antonio Sports designed to promote and inspire reading growth for third graders by encouraging students to log the most minutes reading to advance through each round of the tournament-style competition. Students at Herff Academy advanced through the tournament rounds logging the most minutes of all San Antonio area schools to win the grand prize of a \$5,000 library makeover from Scholastic. Herff Academy was also one of 212 nationally selected schools to receive \$5,000 from the Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries. The Laura Bush Foundation awards funds to deserving schools, so they can extend, update, and diversify the book and print collections in their libraries with the goal of encouraging students to develop a love of reading and learning. In addition, the Herff Academy Librarian has been invited to the Kelly Clarkson Show as a featured Laura Bush Grant Recipient. The audience will include librarians from around the country and will meet Laura Bush. Herff Academy will also receive an additional \$5,000 worth of books from the Kelly Clarkson show. The show will air May 18, 2021. SAISD recognizes the campus leadership who are responsible for the lasting, positive impact on the literacy culture at Herff Academy.

Under the leadership of:

- Kelly Allen, Principal
- Klaudia Hidalgo, Assistant Principal
- Elizabeth Phipps, Librarian
- Tracy Gutierrez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher
- Mayela Revelo, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher

## Trustees Debra Guerrero and Steve Lecholop Recognized for Their Service on SAISD School Board

Trustees recognized Ms. Debra Guerrero and Mr. Steve Lecholop for their Service on the SAISD Board of Education. Ms. Guerrero was first selected by the Board on February 20, 2012 to serve an unexpired term. She was later elected by the constituents of SAISD's Single Member District 3 to serve a full term in May of 2013. Ms. Guerrero is a fifth generation SAISD resident. During her tenure, she has served as the Board Secretary for the past 6 years. In addition, Ms. Guerrero has chaired the Board Finance and Audit Committee for 8 years and was actively involved as a member of the Board Governance Committee. She also chaired the Special-Called Joint Finance & Audit and Governance Committee from October 2019 to December 2019. Mr. Lecholop was elected by the SAISD Single Member District 1 community to the Board of Trustees in May of 2013. He is a proud SAISD parent and actively served on the SAISD Citizens Advisory Committee for Bond 2010 prior to joining the Board. For the past 6 years, Mr. Lecholop has served as the Chair of the Board Academic Excellence Committee and as a Board Growth and Development Committee member. In addition, Mr. Lecholop chaired the Special-Called Board Ethics Committee from February 2018 to December 2019 which led to the adoption of a Board Ethics Policy.

The San Antonio Independent School District thanked Ms. Guerrero and Mr. Lecholop both for their bold and loyal leadership, for their selfless service and for their continued commitment and contributions to the District children, staff and families as well as to the greater San Antonio community.

## Ceremonial Administration of the Oath of Office for Elected Officers from Single-Member Districts One, Three, Four and Seven

Following the Canvass of Election Returns and the official determination of the elected officers by the District's canvassing authority, the elected officers shall take the Oath (or Affirmation) of Office before they may enter upon the duties of their office as a school Trustee on the Board of Trustees. Prior to taking the Oath of Office, newly elected Board members are required to sign the Officer's Statement, a statement required by the Texas Constitution that is to be retained with the official District records for the office of school Trustee. Board members who took the Oath of Office included Sarah Sorensen (District 1), Leticia Ozuna (District 3), Art Valdez (District 4) and Ed Garza (District 7).

## Response to Ongoing COVID-19 and Associated Expenditures Update

Trustees received an update on SAISD's Response to the Ongoing COVID-19 Crisis and associated expenditures. A report was presented by Pedro Martinez (Superintendent of Schools) and Toni Thompson (Associate Superintendent of Human Resources). Key points presented included District staff and students (12 years of age and older) vaccines currently being implemented and the potential for community vaccines in the future.

## Update and Approval of 2021-2022 Budget Priorities

The Board received the fourth in a series of presentations on the 2021-2022 District budget. The discussion topics for this presentation included a Legislative update, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funds, District budget priorities, and a preliminary review of the proposed budgets for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Child Nutrition Fund. A detailed presentation was provided covering two budget priorities as follows:

- Leveraging social and emotional resources to support students and families
- Employee compensation initiatives for 2021-2022

The Board approved the proposed initiatives for social and emotional resources and for employee compensation as presented.

Trustees also received the fifth in a series of presentations on the 2021-2022 District budget. The discussion topics for this presentation included further detail as requested on programs and initiatives included in the 2021-2022 District budget priorities. Additionally, the proposed budgets for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Child Nutrition Fund were reviewed, prior to publication of the required Public Meeting Notice in early June.

## Update on SAISD Partnership with CAST Schools Network

The Board received an update on the SAISD Partnership and CAST Schools Network. During the presentation, the CAST Schools Network leadership and students shared the "State of CAST Students." Four years ago, SAISD partnered with the CAST Schools Network and industry leaders to co-create an innovative school model that led with student interest - CAST Tech High School. This first-of-its-kind high school integrates college and career preparation in order to maximize options for students while preparing them for college, career and life. Today, powered by our partnership with SAISD, CAST Schools serves two additional campuses: the Advanced Learning Academy and CAST Med High School.

CAST Schools are organized around four design pillars:

- *Equity:* We serve a demographic that mirrors our city. Students at CAST are selected through a lottery and represent communities within and beyond SAISD's boundaries. They are in a position to opt-out versus opting-in to all of the high-quality programming to include racial equity, civic engagement, internships, rigorous academics and community service.

- *Relationships:* CAST students are built around caring, supportive relationships. From adult mentors to peer mentors to industry professionals and teachers that serve as guides and facilitators, students define their purpose and find their confidence.
- *Authentic Learning Experiences:* Students solve problems with real-world implications for industry and their communities. Students travel to gain personal insight, work on PBL's developed with input from industry and intern with companies and non-profit organizations. This year, the Advanced Learning Academy ranked 7th in San Antonio in the US News and World Report of Best High Schools in San Antonio.
- *Student Agency:* We lead with student voice. We listen to students, and continually refine our projects, curriculum and approach to meet their needs. This year, during the pandemic, more than 1,000 students participated in the first annual CAST Schools Youth Rally. This two-day virtual event was entirely organized, planned and run by the student advisory of the 5-school network. The event featured student-led workshops and panels addressing topics of teen mental health and racial justice, spoken word, and multiple speakers, local and national, all selected by students.

This year, SAISD congratulates the inaugural senior class of CAST Tech High School and founding principal Dr. Melissa Alcala. To date, more than 70 percent of the 133 graduating CAST Tech seniors have been accepted to 4-year colleges and earned more than \$5 million in cumulative scholarships. Additionally, students at CAST Tech High School have been awarded 137 certifications, with 118 on the industry-based certification list, offering the potential for well-paying jobs immediately after graduation.

### Formal Naming of New Middle School Approved

Trustees approved the new school name of the Hot Wells Middle School to be located on 400 Hot Wells Boulevard. This campus is formerly known as Connell Middle School. The recommendation also included recognizing the input of the students from Forbes Academy, Foster Academy and Ball Academy by adopting their chosen new mascot and school colors. Hot Wells Middle School will open during the 2021-2022 academic year and will serve students from 6th to 8th grades. In addition to the traditional middle-school curriculum, this new campus will offer STEM and Dual Language programs. The Hot Wells Middle School STEM program will help prepare students to enter a STEM-focused P-TECH program in high school, resulting in an Associate's Degree in conjunction with a high school diploma. Similarly, the Dual Language program offered at the campus will provide opportunities for Advanced Placement credits and an early-college experience while still in middle school.

### 2020-2021 Distinguished Teachers of the Year and Rising Star Honorees Recognized

Trustees recognized Distinguished Teachers of the Year and Rising Star Honorees for the 2020-2021 school year for their outstanding performance, commitment, and dedication. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> annual SAISD Teacher of the Year Awards and the 13<sup>th</sup> annual SAISD Rising Star Awards honoring outstanding educators. Although this school year has been unique, outstanding educators have continued to persevere and exhibit exemplary performance in teaching and engaging SAISD students. In prior years, the

District hosted the event to honor these individuals. This year, the District honored them during the Board meeting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

### ***SAISD Teacher of the Year and Distinguished Teacher of the Year***

Each year the District recognizes outstanding teachers and librarians with three or more years of experience through its Teacher of the Year Award. Through an online nomination and voting process, each campus selects a Campus Teacher of the Year. These individuals were announced at the campus level during Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3<sup>rd</sup>-May 7<sup>th</sup>). A Committee of District leaders, campus Principals, and past Distinguished Teachers of the Year reviewed the applications of the Campus Teachers of the Year and selected a Distinguished Teacher of the Year from each of the following categories:

- Elementary (Pre-Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- High School (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

### **The 2020-2021 Distinguished Teachers of the Year honorees are as follows:**

- > **Perry Jackson** - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Neal Elementary School
- > **Christen Cozart** - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher (US History) at Young Women's Leadership Academy
- > **Noah Lipman** - 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher (History/Government/Economics) at Highlands High School

### ***SAISD Rising Star Award for New Teachers***

Each year, the District recognizes outstanding new teachers who are nominated by their campus principal. A District-level Committee comprised of District leaders and campus Principals reviewed the nominations and selected District-level honorees in the following categories:

- Early Childhood
- Elementary
- Middle School
- High School

### **The 2020-2021 SAISD Rising Star Teachers are as follows:**

- > **Stephanie Reyna** – Pre-Kindergarten Teacher at Tynan Early Childhood Education Center
- > **Rachel Serebrenik** – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Riverside Park Elementary School
- > **Enrique Nunez** – Math/Pre-AP/AVID Teacher at Young Women's Leadership Academy
- > **Antonio Villareal** – World Geography/Government Teacher at Burbank High School

## **Board of Trustee Committee Reports**

Christina Martinez (Governance Committee) and Art Valdez (Student Advisory Committee) provided a report.

## Items Approved

- ❖ 2021-2022 SAISD Board meeting schedule.
- ❖ Proposed 2021-2022 Tax Rate to be Published in the Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate.
- ❖ Dates and Locations to Conduct Items of Business Regarding the Annual Budget and Setting of the Tax Rate.
- ❖ Monthly Budget Reports and Amendments for May.
- ❖ Waiver of penalty and interest for the real property account, John T. Casey.
- ❖ Resolution for the District to participate in the Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust (Texas CLASS) Local Government Investment Pool in order to provide the District with an additional investment option that emphasizes safety, diversification, and liquidity.
- ❖ 2021-2022 Technology and Instructional Materials Allotment and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills Certification Form.
- ❖ Purchase and implementation of Endpoint Detection Response and Antivirus, which would replace Sophos. This software would support the prevention, detection, and removal of malware for technology devices.
- ❖ General Contractor's proposal amount to replace the antiquated hot water boiler with a new high efficiency condensing boiler at Neal Elementary School.

## Contracts Approved

- ❖ MOU with National Education Equity Lab for dual enrollment courses. The National Education Equity Lab is a nonprofit organization working with Harvard University, the Common Application, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and other top tier college partners to create a pathway for low-income and historically underserved students to advance and demonstrate college readiness while accessing opportunities for economic and social mobility.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Culturingua for an Arabic two-week summer camp. This camp will include 54 students from grades 4–9 at Advanced Learning Academy (ALA). The camp follows the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Can-Do Statements for Communication and Intercultural Communication. Students enrolled in this summer camp will learn Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) while broadening their cultural awareness and appreciation.

- ❖ Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Project SEARCH. Project SEARCH is a one-year transition-to-work internship for adult students with intellectual and other disabilities.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) to implement the Computer Science for San Antonio (CS4SA-HS) program. CS4SA-HS is charged with increasing the number of computer science students by implementing a rigorous teacher professional development program that grows a qualified secondary computer science teacher workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) to provide in-person and/or online instruction in English as a Second Language, High School Equivalency/GED® preparation, U.S. Citizenship, Computer Basics, Financial Literacy, Distance Learning, and Certification Training, to help their residents prepare for the 21st century workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Baptist University of the Americas to provide English as a Second Language, English as a Second Language for Professionals, and Distance Learning classes.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Guadalupe Community Center to provide English as a Second Language, U.S. Citizenship classes, and support to help their clients prepare for the 21st century workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Good Samaritan to provide English as a Second Language classes and support to help their clients prepare for the 21st century workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Texas Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (TX-FAME) to support the Highlands High School P-TECH program as an industry partner. Industry partnerships are a requirement of the P-TECH model and integral part of providing advisory functions, mentorships, internships, and other work-based learning activities.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and San Antonio Youth (SA Youth) to provide in-person and/or online instruction in High School Equivalency, English as a Second Language, U.S. Citizenship, Computer Basics, Financial Literacy, workforce certification training, relevant workforce readiness skills, and college and career transition support to help their high school graduates and parents prepare for the 21st century workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and the City of San Antonio (COSA) to provide in-person or online instruction in High School Equivalency, English as a Second Language, Computer Basics, certification training, relevant workforce readiness/remedial skills, and college and career



transition support to help COSA employees prepare for the 21st century workforce.

- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and American Sunrise to provide English as a Second Language classes with digital literacy skills to help individuals prepare for the 21st century workforce.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Positive Solutions Charter School to provide adult in-person or online instruction for high school graduates and students' families in the areas of English as a Second Language, U.S. Citizenship, Computer Basics, Financial Literacy, certification training, relevant workforce readiness skills, and college and career transition support.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Texas Can Academies Charter School to provide adult in-person and/or online instruction for high school graduates and students' families in the areas of English as a Second Language, U.S. Citizenship, Computer Basics, Financial Literacy, certification training, relevant workforce readiness skills, and college and career transition.
- ❖ Educational Experience Affiliation Agreement between SAISD and the University of Texas at Austin. The internship provides critical, professional experience and learning opportunities for direct practice, group work, and macro level skill building. The partnership will allow for expanding family and student support services District-wide.
- ❖ Affiliation Agreement between SAISD and Texas State University School of Social Work. The internship provides critical professional experience which includes direct practice to students and families. This partnership will allow for expanding family and student support services at campuses District-wide.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD School Age Parenting program and Latched Support. The program will provide individual and group sessions with tailored topics geared to promote healthy pregnancies, educate regarding parenting, and teach best practices for pregnancy-related care of students in the SAISD School Age Parenting program.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc. Catholic Charities provides comprehensive educational supportive services for pregnant and parenting adolescents.
- ❖ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAISD and Undies for Everyone (UFE). UFE is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides new underwear specifically to children who are experiencing poverty.

## Bids, Proposals and Purchases for Goods Approved

- ❖ Increase the expenditure for the purchase of Fresh Produce. This purchase was originally approved in the amount of \$962,735 on July 15, 2019. The Board

approved to increase the expenditure to \$3,000,000. This purchase will support the School Cafeterias District-wide on an “as needed” basis.

- ❖ Purchase of Cold Storage Facility Services. This purchase will support the cold storage overflow and storage for Child Nutrition on an “as needed” basis for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of Bread and Tortillas. This purchase will provide bread and tortillas for all campuses and concessions on an “as needed” basis for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of Milk, Juice and Dairy Products. This purchase will provide milk, juice and dairy products for all campuses on an “as needed” basis for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of Commodity Processing. This purchase will provide commodity processing for all campuses on an “as needed” basis for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of Frozen and Dry Goods, Paper and Janitorial and Equipment, Supplies and Services. This purchase will provide food, paper goods, cleaning products, small wares to all cafeterias and concessions on an “as needed” basis for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of a Canvas Learning Management System for all course development and management online. This purchase will provide in-person and remote learning for high quality instruction and increased student achievement. This will support the use of assistive technology like immersive reader, closed caption and video annotations for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of a Digital Portfolio Platform used for student engagement, collaboration and parent communication. This purchase will support remote and in-person learning for grades PK-3 in all subject areas by allowing teachers to give feedback on student assignments for District-wide use.
- ❖ Purchase of a new A/C System for the Jefferson High School Counselor’s area which was not included in the 2016 Bond renovations.
- ❖ Increase the expenditure for the purchase of Docuware Large Enterprise Cloud Document Management Program. This purchase was originally approved in the amount of \$111,573 on February 8, 2021. The Board approved increasing the expenditure to \$500,000. This purchase will accommodate the servicing of scanning for multiple departments moving from Central Office to the new building.

**Board of Education**

**Patti Radle, President; Arthur V. Valdez, Vice President;  
Ed Garza, Member; Christina Martinez, Member; Alicia Sebastian-Perry, Member;  
Leticia Ozuna, Member; Sarah Sorensen, Member  
Pedro Martinez, Superintendent**

[www.saisd.net](http://www.saisd.net)