

**NORTHSIDE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
5900 EVERS ROAD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78238**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, February 27, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

Members present

Carol Harle, Gerald Lopez, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran

Staff present

Dr. Craft, Ray Galindo, Janis Jordan, Rene Barajas, Leroy San Miguel **Kris Trejo, Deonna Dean, Leticia Ramirez, Jacob Villarreal, Jessica Palomares, Valerie Sisk, and Eric Tobias**

1. Meeting Opening

Procedural: A. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance

Procedural: B. Call Meeting to Order
6:00 p.m.

2. Public Hearings

Discussion: A. 2023 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)

Texas Education Code Chapter 39 requires each district's Board of Trustees to publish an annual report that includes the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), district accreditation status, student enrollment and academic performance, PEIMS Financial Standards Report, a report of violent or criminal incidents, and information received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for each high school campus. A hearing will be held at a board meeting for public discussion of the report and should be available in the district.

NISD's Academic Performance Report was presented by Dr. Janis Jordan, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, and a public hearing was held, as required by Texas law. All school districts are required to publish an annual report that includes the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), district accreditation status, student enrollment and academic performance, PEIMS Financial Standards Report, a report of violent or criminal incidents, and information received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for each high school campus. The report will be available online on the NISD website and copies of specific reports will be available upon request through the Communications Department.

3. Superintendent's Report

Information, Reports: A. The Superintendent will report about current events, announce achievements or special recognitions, and share other information that may be of interest to Trustees or citizens. No action is required.

- TMEA Conference - Dr. Craft applauded the O'Connor HS Jazz Band, which was a Featured Command Performance at the recent Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) conference. This is a massive conference with over 8,000 music educators from across the country. Great job!
- Signing Day - Dr. Craft recognized and congratulated the many NISD student athletes who signed to collegiate programs.
- Founders Day - Dr. Craft thanked our Northside PTAs and everyone who made Founders Day a success. This was a wonderful event that he enjoyed attending.
- Random Acts of Kindness Week - Last week, NISD celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Week. Dr. Craft thanked Dr. Kimberly Ridgley and the efforts of the Whole Child department during this week.
- RootEd - Dr. Craft recently met with RootEd founder Genevieve Sugalski. During their conversation, he had the opportunity to learn more about RootEd and its promotion of public education.
- Mid-Year Graduation - NISD recently celebrated 97 of our mid-year graduates alongside their family and friends. Dr. Craft congratulated them on receiving their diplomas and thanked everyone who made the event a success.
- Read Your Heart Out - Dr. Craft loved participating in Hoffmann Elementary's Read Your HEART Out Day event on Valentine's Day and mentioned that PreK students have a special place in his heart.
- Destination Imagination - Congratulations to all who participated in Destination Imagination. Dr. Craft attended a parent showcase at Forester ES and had the opportunity to see the creativity of students at all levels. Dr. Craft

commented that it was great to learn about their projects and the problems they're solving. ○ Texas Public Schools Week - Dr. Craft recognized public educators across the state and nation and thanked them for their important work.

- State Academic Decathlon - Dr. Craft congratulated Warren HS for placing second in this year's State Academic Decathlon meet.
- State Champion Swimmer - Dr. Craft also congratulated all students who competed and recognized Evan Croley from Clark HS for earning a gold medal at the UIL State Swim meet.
- Basketball Playoffs - Congratulations to the Harlan, Clark, and Brennan high schools girls basketball teams who participated in the regional tournament last week. Clark and Brennan went head to head in the regional finals and faced off in double overtime. Dr. Craft loved the determination of both teams and is proud of their efforts. Good luck to the Brennan Lady Bears as they advance to the State semifinals this weekend at the Alamodome.
- VASE - Dr. Craft congratulated the 36 NISD student artists who qualified to compete in next month's Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) art competition in San Marcos. The mission of the High School VASE event is 1 BOARDTalk 2023-2024 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District to recognize exemplary student achievement in the Visual Arts by providing high school art students and programs a standard of excellence in which to achieve.
- LibraryPalooza - This year's LibraryPalooza at Brandeis HS was a hit. This was the first time Dr. Craft attended and he enjoyed listening to messages from authors and seeing so much talent. Kudos to all who organized this event, especially Co-Chairs Sheryl Stoeck and Lucy Podmore. ○ Early Voting - Dr. Craft reminded everyone that early voting concludes this week and March 5 is election day. He encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote.
- Video Moment: February is Black History Month and in celebration and recognition students at Taft High School put on a celebration of accomplishments, cultures, and artistry through the art of dance, poetry, singing, and much more. Watch the video here.

4. Board Member's Report

Reports: A. Board Members who wish to speak will report about current events, announce achievements or special recognitions, and share other information that may be of interest to Trustees or citizens. No action is required.

- Trustee Bobby Blount had the opportunity to attend the regional portion of the National Science Bowl. This competition brings in public, private, charter, and homeschooled students. He thanked the Northside Science Team for their efforts in hosting this competition and congratulated Brandeis HS on their second-place win. He enjoyed attending the competition. He also attended the Ott ES Chili competition and had a wonderful time judging. He provided a special shoutout to the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority that hosted a town hall to discuss the importance of a board member. He was invited to sit on the panel during the meeting and thanked the Delta Sorority for including him. The Bexar County School Board Coalition will meet on March 13 to discuss the importance of the Up Partnership, Ready to Work program, and how these initiatives align with the board's role. He mentioned that the board was also invited to meet with RootED and TASB to share a presentation outlining what they have learned about addressing vaping.
- Trustee Corinne Saldana participated in a leadership conference in Corpus Christi, Texas. During this conference, she had the opportunity to talk about Northside. The feedback she received from the audience was that they appreciate all Northside does to take care of veterans. Trustee Saldana thanked all who made last month's Board Recognition Month special including principals, the Brandeis Student Council, and many others. Additionally, the artwork they received was beautiful. Trustee Saldana mentioned that the annual Special Olympics event is happening this week. She had the opportunity to attend on Monday and enjoyed watching the incredible opening ceremony. Trustee Saldana also attended Library Palooza and thanked all that made the event a huge success. She congratulated all NISD students that participated in college signing days, Founders Day, and mid-year graduation. Members of the board visited CAST Teach HS and had the opportunity to view and judge fantastic student projects. She provided a special shoutout to Gabriel Fuentes, theater arts teacher at Brandeis HS, for a wonderful production of the Little Mermaid musical. She thanked all of our coaches and is appreciative of the dedication of our students. She had a wonderful experience at the girls basketball tournament.
- Trustee Gerald Lopez mentioned that the board cares about the community. Trustee Lopez thanked the Northside Council of PTAs for honoring him with an award. The PTA Board does a phenomenal job in assisting campuses with planning field trips and fundraising. He mentioned that he volunteered at the San Antonio Food Bank Mega Distribution at Gus Stadium alongside Trustee Salcido and Dr. Craft. The day they volunteered was the 90th mega distribution, and we are quickly approaching the 100th. A special thank you to Don Schmidt for the role he plays in coordinating these distributions and in bringing in volunteers each week. He thanked USAA and Holy Cross HS, his alma mater, for also volunteering that day. He also gave a special shoutout to Next Level Gen., and to Coach Empson, Cricket coach at Clark HS, for his effort and dedication in growing the program. He also thanked all those that made Board Recognition Month special, including those that generously gave board appreciation gifts.
- Trustee David Salcido participated in the San Antonio Food Bank Mega Distribution at Gus Stadium. Each food distribution services 1,200 families.
- Trustee Karla Duran recognized the Northside Council of PTAs for a successful Founder's Day and gave special recognition to the art and culinary students who participated in the event saying she was inspired by their passion. Trustee Duran also thanked Trustee Lopez for his work collecting backpacks for grandparents who are raising their

grandchildren. Dr. Duran also gave a special thanks to Holmes HS for inviting her to attend signing day and celebrate Isaac Martinez, who will be attending William Woods University to play football. Isaac's mother was one of Trustee Saldana's former students and was encouraged by Saldana to finish her education. Trustee Duran also recognized Mateo Lopez, a Northside student recently named the world's youngest mariachi, commenting that his talent shines bright. Duran thanked the Northside agriculture and FFA students who are volunteering and participating to make this year's San Antonio Rodeo a success. 2 BOARDTalk 2023-2024 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District

- Trustee Carol Harle attended the Grassroots Region 20 trustee event. During this event, they identified the top five issues facing education in Region 20. Harle also attended "The Little Mermaid" musical at Brandeis HS with her 88 year-old mother. She gave kudos to all students that participated and mentioned that her mother said it was better than the Majestic. She also recognized Trustee Saldana's granddaughter in her role as Ariel. Dr. Harle recognized the Fine Arts department in this wonderful performance. Trustee Harle attended the Carnahan ES Cultural Fest with her grandkids. They had a wonderful time trying different types of food, asking questions, and learning about cultures from around the world. She also recognized the work of Ag Mechanics students who have created wonderful projects. Trustee Harle thanked the SA Report for their article on the NISD Cricket program, which has grown tremendously and has become a wonderful addition to the NISD community. She also attended the Next Level Celebration (NXL). NXL is a youth opportunity center that connects 16-24 year-old students with resources to meet their educational endeavors. This is a partnership with the City of San Antonio and Communities in Schools. Trustee Harle presented the Path Builder Ally Award, which she received at the NXL Celebration and which recognizes the efforts of the Whole Child Dept., to Director of Counseling Mary Libby. Trustee Harle will be attending the Leon Springs ES Boot Scootin' event on March 1. There will be music, games, food and a silent auction.

- Trustee Karen Freeman had the opportunity to attend the Little Mermaid performance at Brandeis HS and she recognized Trustee Saldana's granddaughter, Mackenzie Moberly, for her performance as Ariel. Trustee Freeman encouraged the community to attend Steubing Elementary's family carnival this Friday to enjoy some fun food and carnival games. Trustee Freeman updated the board on her recent visit to Washington D.C. with her husband. While there, she had the opportunity to meet with Justice Sonia Sotomayor's office and present them with school swag that included a framed photo of Sotomayor High School, named after the esteemed Justice. Trustee Freeman described the experience as delightful and expressed her anticipation for further collaboration between Justice Sotomayor's office and Northside ISD.

5. Citizens to be Heard

Procedural: A. Citizens wishing to address the Board regarding matters not listed on the posted agenda will be heard at this time.

Melina AFT- Safety and wellbeing

J. Jimenez - IA incident

Please train IA's and staff properly

R. Barras - 23 yr vet of NISD. Spec ED teacher

Good/Bad experiences - school safety starts with Board

Tone and policies - Support teachers

Expect. to go home to family no one should think they won't

go home. Safety is vital. Keep staff safe. Support

Elizabeth Mertz - vaping, drugs, battery and assault

Did the district consider a repeat offender life that effect the school classrooms

Oflia Sanchez Flores - 1st Board Mtg

Main concern: Staff safety - taking care of staff after injury

Self-contained center- After a student hit she had a concussion

NISD expectation after injury is to go back and work at full capacity

Please consider:

1 How to ensure safety for staff

2. After injury - allow assault leave

3 How do we take care of teachers after injury and time to recover?

Lana Taylor - NISD Teacher 10 20 years total Spec. Ed

Staff is not protected or safe

Loves to teach spec. ed. bc of the special moments

Had to buy her own gloves and face mask to protect herself.

Not aware of assault leave and has PTSD from her abuse from being in the classroom.

Should take a death to bring awareness.

Terry Zablocki -

Addressing Board regarding a Trustee and the incident that occurred September 2024. Terry wants Board to take action in future and communicate more openly with the community.

Christina Garcia - Elem. Spec Ed teacher Safety Care vs CTI

Should be carried out throughout all levels. Staff could be more productive in those moments

Spec. Ed Teachers/IA's - Tragedy at Brandeis hit home.

Not compensated outside of hrs needed

Short staff impacts safety.

Mental health suffers. They feel not valued and taken advantage of.

Megan Chitwood- Mead teacher

Standards - More training

Safety for staff

Not enough support

Has been attacked in classroom

Alone with students who run.

She had to deal with heart palpitations and has had to barricade herself.

Brandy Mendoza- here to speak on behalf of Fred Jimenez

Her heart broke when she heard the news

Scared to think this could happen to her. She's been hit repeatedly. Has a huge scar

from exploratory surgery. Had internal bleeding and stated she almost died from surgery

Suffers from PTSD

Support and safety is needed

No support from admin

S. Cruiser- NISD graduate Spec Ed teacher 15 yrs ALE

Fred was her IA - He didn't deserve what happened

Go Fund me to donate - Scholarship in his name for IA's

Always received support from admin.

Admin only looks at numbers, but doesn't take into consideration the severity of the child's conditions.

STAAR expectation for Spec Ed students needs to be reconsidered for these students.

Alore Martinez - Product of NISD

Brandeis Spec Ed teacher

Need to keep staff safe

She has been seriously injured

Recognize the issue and help the safety and wellbeing of educators.

Jerry Buecher- NISD Teacher Locations: Holmgreen/Brandeis

Hit and hurt by students expected at Holmgreen

Brandeis wasn't as bad but clearly have students should be at Holmgreen

This student has caused further injury to multiple staff members by assaulting

4 other staff members. Student was suspended but was not sent to Holmgreen where clearly he

meets the qualifications but instead the communication was to ride it out until he graduates

If students are left where they do not belong incidents that just happened could have been avoided.

6. Consent Agenda

Approval: A. The Consent Agenda includes items that are considered routine and/or are of a recurring nature. All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be acted upon in one motion.

Action (Consent): B. Minutes from the Meetings of January

Action (Consent), Approval: C. Awarding of Bids, Request for Proposals, and Purchases over \$50,000

Action (Consent): D. School District Teaching Permit

Action (Consent), Approval: E. Contractor for Addition/Renovation - Jack C. Jordan Middle School Magnet - RFCSP #2024-017

Action (Consent), Approval: F. Contractor for Athletic Upgrades - John Marshall & John Jay High Schools - RFCSP #2024-024

Action (Consent), Approval: G. Contractor for Athletics & CTE Upgrades - Pat Neff Middle School - RFCSP #2023-061

Action (Consent), Approval: H. Contractor for Boiler Replacement - William H. Taft High School - RFCSP #2024-038

Action (Consent), Approval: I. Contractor for Civil Improvements - Colonies North Elementary School - 2024 Construction Portables - IDQ RFP #2022-164 Project #24-003-164

Action (Consent), Approval: J. Change Orders

Action (Consent), Approval: K. Consultant Appointments

Action (Consent), Approval: L. Construction Delivery Methods

Motion by Carol Harle, second by Corinne Saldana.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Gerald Lopez, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran

7. Business and Finance

Action, Approval: A. Budget Amendment No. 2

The Board will consider amending the 2023-24 budget as recommended by Administration.

Lopez - Reviewed in Finance Committee Meeting and motions to approve.

Motion by Gerald Lopez, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Gerald Lopez, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran

8. Administration

Discussion: A. Review of Legal Policies in TASB Update 122

Kelly Rasti stated as a reminder - We do not adopt legal policy.

Discussion: B. First Reading of Local Policies in TASB Update 122

Action, Discussion and Possible Approval: C. Discuss and Review Requirements of Senate Bill 763 and Existing GKG (Local) Policy-Community Relations School Volunteer Program

Maintain current GKG (Local) Policy and not Develop New Local Policy authorizing the district to specifically employ or accept as a volunteer a chaplain provided under Texas Education Code chapter 23.

- Review of Legal Policies in TASB Update 122
- First reading of local policies in TASB Update 122
- In accordance with SB 763, the Northside ISD Board of Trustees took a record vote on whether to adopt a policy authorizing a campus to employ or accept as a volunteer a chaplain under Chapter 23, Education Code. The Board voted against adopting any new policy in response to SB 763, and reaffirmed support for existing local policy related to volunteers.

9. Citizens to be heard:

Barbara Barusha -opposed to this bill but after hearing Superintendent supports NISD and your support policy

Melina - Vote in the direction that it is shown as tonight - this is dangerous and any student counselors are more than certified to handle the care. I VOTE NO
DO NOT ADOPT POLICY!

Motion by Gerald Lopez, second by Karla Duran.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Gerald Lopez, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran

10. Superintendent

Procedural: A. Future Agenda Items

11. Executive Session

Information: A. If, during the course of any duly posted meeting, the Board of Trustees determines that a closed or executive session is required regarding an item posted on the Agenda, that session will be held on any or all subjects and purposes permitted by Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.084 of the Government Code (the Open Meetings Law). If a final vote is required on any matter considered in the closed or executive session, it shall be taken either upon the reconvening of the public session covered by this notice or at a subsequent, duly posted, public meeting as the Board shall determine.

President Blount announced that, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.071 the Board would convene in closed session at 8:20 p.m.

Discussion: B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.076 and 551.089, consider and discuss TxSSC intruder and detection audit.

Discussion: C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and 551.074 "Consult with attorney and receive legal advice regarding Duties of School Board Members."

Discussion: D. Appointment of Principal at Beard ES

Discussion: E. Appointment of Associate Principal at Carlos Coon ES

Discussion: F. Appointment of Associate Principal at Lieck ES

12. Open Session

Information: A. Any required action by the Board concerning matters considered in closed meeting will be taken in open session.

The Board reconvened into open session at 9:52 p.m.

Action (Consent), Approval: B. Appointment of Principal at Beard ES

Action (Consent), Approval: C. Appointment of Associate Principal at Carlos Coon ES

Action (Consent), Approval: D. Appointment of Associate Principal at Lieck ES

Motion by Carol Harle, second by Corinne Saldana.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Gerald Lopez, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran

13. Adjournment

Procedural: A. Adjourn the Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

APPROVED ON MARCH 26, 2024