

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

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, January 21, 2025  
6:00 p.m.**

**Members present**

**Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran,  
Homer Guevara**

**Staff Present**

**Dr. Craft, Ray Galindo, Kris Trejo, Jerry Woods, Ben Muir, Jacob Villarreal, Barry Perez,  
Jessica Palomares, Eric Tobias, Tiffany Contreras**

**1. Meeting Opening**

Procedural: A. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance  
Karen Freeman

Procedural: B. Call Meeting to Order  
6:01 p.m.

**2. 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.

- Inclement weather. NISD joined others in the Central Texas area in navigating the recent weather conditions. Classes are set to resume Wednesday, Jan. 22 with cold temperatures expected.
- Staff Planning Day. The Superintendent reported positive feedback from many staff members who appreciated the planning day built into this year's school calendar following the Winter Break.
- Leadership Northside. The next cohort of Leadership Northside participants began at the perfect time, coinciding with the start of the legislative session. Principal Coach Nicole Franco and Executive Director of Teaching & Learning Diana Ely organized and facilitated the cohort.
- NISD Museum Association. Dr. Craft expressed his appreciation to the Museum Association members for their active engagement and support of the District.
- NISD Council of PTAs. Despite having to be rescheduled, the NISD Council of PTAs hosted a well-attended council meeting that Dr. Craft enjoyed attending.
- Rawlinson MS Staff Member. Dr. Craft was proud to recognize and honor Rawlinson MS social studies teacher Hyla Finlayson as she celebrated her 75th birthday in the same year the District celebrates its 75th anniversary. Finlayson, Northside's most tenured classroom teacher, began her career at Holmes HS before moving to Stinson and then Rawlinson middle schools.
- Texas Legislative Session. State legislators kicked off the 89th legislative session on Jan. 14 and elected Dustin Burrows as Speaker of the House.
- Video Moment: The video moment was in honor of Board Appreciation Month and is student-produced by the campus Broadcast Club at Northwest Crossing ES

**3. 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 recognized and thanked staff at Rawlinson MS and Taft HS and enjoyed visiting both campuses prior to the holidays. Blount reminded Trustees that the selection for recipients of the Board's future teacher scholarship program will take place soon.
- Trustee Corinne Saldana attended a career day event at Mead ES and various district basketball games. She was excited to welcome the newest participants in Leadership Northside. She acknowledged the Fine Arts Department at Brandeis HS on their recent performance of Matilda and reported that Clark HS will perform the musical production of Cinderella. Saldana is appreciative of the kind messages she and other Trustees have received during Board Appreciation Month.
- Trustee David Salcido has been actively participating in the NCAA Read to the Final Four Literacy Challenge by reading to several elementary classrooms.

- Trustee Homer Guevara thanked Holmes HS Coach Pete Padilla for inviting him to the Husky Christmas breakfast in December. He attended an enrichment day at Westwood Terrace ES, highlighting health and physical health. Guevara enjoyed attending a Timberwilde ES STEM Night that featured many interactive activities and thanked Principal Valerie Arce.
- Trustee Karla Duran thanked several individuals who had attended a previous Board meeting and addressed the Board: Marshall HS alum Marcela Hernandez, former president of the United Farm Workers Arturo Rodriguez, and Ernest Martinez with the Cesar E. Chavez Legacy and Educational Foundation (CECLEF). Duran announced that CECLEF offers a scholarship fund for graduating high school seniors in Bexar County. The application is now live on 2 BOARDTalk 2024-2025 published by the Communications Department, Northside Independent School District the City of San Antonio website. Duran recognized the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday celebrated on Jan. 20 and referenced a telegram message from King to Cesar Chavez that she found inspiring.
- Trustee Carol Harle will be attending the Mayor's Smart Challenge event which will feature over 500 students from the San Antonio area and good representation from NISD. Harle will be visiting several school districts around the state as part of her participation in the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards program. She sees the visits as an opportunity to gain new and innovative ideas. Harle reminded Trustees that the annual LibraryPalooza event will take place on Feb. 22 at Brandeis HS and will host some phenomenal authors.
- Trustee Karen Freeman reminded Trustees that the Gerlach Livestock Show Auction is set to take place this Saturday, Jan. 25. She thanked the Northside Council of PTAs for inviting Trustees to participate in the upcoming Rally Day in Austin. Freeman also thanked the Northside Education Foundation (NEF) and the Northside Museum Association for their support of the District.

#### **4. Recognitions**

Recognition: A. Recognition of Board by Northside Council of PTAs

The NISD Council of PTAs will recognize the Board of Trustees in honor of Board Appreciation Month.

Presented by: Crystal Rivas, President, Northside Council of PTAs

Recognition: B. Recognition of Board by Northside Museum Association

Members of the Northside Museum Association will attend to thank the Board of Trustees for their service in honor of Board Appreciation Month.

Presented by: Dr. Caroline Wernli

Recognition: C. Recognition of Board by Northside Education Foundation

Members of the Northside Education Foundation will attend to thank the Board of Trustees for their service in honor of Board Appreciation Month.

Presented by: Lilia Gibson, President, Northside Education Foundation

Recognition: D. Recognition of Board of Trustees

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Northside ISD joins the Texas Association of School Boards and the 1,026 other school districts throughout Texas to thank our locally elected trustees for their service, and to educate the community about the important role that a school board plays in shaping the lives of children and communities.

Presented by: Dr. John Craft

Council of PTAs, Northside Education Foundation, and Northside Museum Association honor NISD Trustees The Northside Council of PTAs, represented by PTA Council President Crystal Rivas; the Northside School Museum Association, led by Dr. Caroline Wernli; and the Northside Education Foundation, led by President Lilia Gibson, honored NISD's seven Board members. Every year, the Texas governor proclaims January as School Board Recognition Month. NISD is joining other districts across the state to gratefully acknowledge the invaluable contributions that members of the Boards of Trustees make to our various districts and communities. School trustees serve as key advocates for students and work together to provide a better future for every student.

#### **5. Reports**

Information: A. Northside Education Foundation

Financial Report, Highlights for 24-25, NEF Board Members - thank you to the board of trustees!

Information: B. Qualtrics Survey

Postponed until Feb. due to bad weather.

Action, Discussion and Possible Approval: C. Presentation, discussion, and necessary action regarding the Medina Central Appraisal District's purchase and renovation of The Ridge Building located at 728 18th Street, Hondo, Texas. (Johnette Dixon, Chief Appraiser).  
Sign. by Feb 28 - 30 days

Building/Finance committee then added to the Reg. Board Agenda

## **6. 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.

1. Terry Zablocki-Elections
2. Marcella Hernandez - MAS UTSA student
- C. Chaves - as a school holiday

## **7. 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 December

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

Action (Consent): D. School District Teaching Permits

Action (Consent), Approval: E. Corrective Action Plan McKinney-Vento Students

Action (Consent), Approval: F. Exterior Masonry Colors for Athletic Upgrades - Sul Ross Middle School - RFCSP #2024-011

Action (Consent), Approval: G. Contractor for Boiler Replacement - Christian Evers & Clarence Galm Elementary Schools - RFCSP #2024-103

Action (Consent), Approval: H. Contractor for Boiler Replacement - John Jay High School & Adams Hill Elementary School - RFCSP #2024-093

Action (Consent), Approval: I. Contractor for Roof Replacement - Ed Cody Elementary School - RFCSP #2024-085

Action (Consent), Approval: J. Contractor for Roof Replacement - Earl Warren High School - RFCSP #2024-087

Action (Consent), Approval: K. Change Orders

Action (Consent), Approval: L. Consultant Appointments

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

Motion by Corinne Saldana, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

## **8. Facilities and Operations**

Action, Approval: A. Construction Manager-at-Risk for Administration & Classroom Replacement - John Marshall High School - RFCSP #2024-164

The 2022 Bond Program provided for Administration & Classroom Replacement at John Marshall High School and CM@R selection is ready for review and approval.

Presenter: Jacob Villarreal

Budget Provisions: 2022 Bond Program

Committee: Building Committee - January 17, 2025

Motion by Corinne Saldana, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

Discussion, Information: B. NISD Board Room updates

President Blout awarded 10,000

### Ideas were presented to the Board

Removal of all photos currently in the Board Room

Add 3 TVs to display pictures

Or to display student work etc

Feedback from trustees

- Advertisement of NISD events

- Digitize former trustee photos

Pictorial representation of students BUT what is the question

Possible Info- touch screen to find information. Ex: TAMU-SA

Mission and vision statements -Hesitation due to tweaking from time to time

Possibly Student Art running in the background

Spring break would be the deadline Feedback in the next month

## **9. Business and Finance**

Action, Approval: A. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24

Per section 44.008 of the Texas Education Code, each school district is to have its fiscal accounts audited annually. The audited fiscal accounts are included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2024, of the Northside Independent School District, provided under separate cover. The ACFR includes management's representations concerning the financial condition and operations of the District and the results of an audit performed by the certified public accounting firm of Whitley Penn.

The Board approved the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) audit for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024. The report consists of management's representations concerning the financial condition and operations of the District and the results of an audit performed by the certified public accounting firm of Whitley Penn. The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The auditors have expressed an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level of assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement, according to Tiffany Contreras, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance.

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by Carol Harle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

Not Present at Vote: Carol Harle

## **10. Administration**

Discussion: A. First Reading of EHBC (LOCAL) Policy

EFB (LOCAL) was discussed at the Policy and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting on September 11, 2024.

## **11. Superintendent**

Action, Discussion and Possible Approval: A. Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation

Discussion: B. Discussion and Review Academic Calendar for 2024-2026 and 2025-2026 School Year  
City of San Antonio holidays

K. Duran - What committees can she reach out to...

NCN

NEIC

Academics Committee Meeting

Suggestion - Have Hispanic Heritage Month recognized in September in all NISD schools etc

Craft said to survey and we will bring back the report 26-27 school year

Procedural: C. Future Agenda Items

## **12. 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 9:10 pm

- Discussion and Possible Approval: B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.076 and 551.089, consider and discuss TxSSC intruder and detection audit
- Discussion and Possible Approval: C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, the Board will consult with its legal counsel regarding litigation pending in the matter styled Lartigue v. Northside Independent School District; Docket No. 5:19 CV 393-JKP in the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division
- Discussion and Possible Approval: D. Superintendent Mid Year Evaluation
- Discussion and Possible Approval: E. Appointment of Director at Jordan Magnet School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: F. Appointment of Principal at Boldt Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: G. Appointment of Principal at Driggers Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: H. Appointment of Principal at Wanke Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: I. Appointment of Associate Principal at Cody Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: J. Appointment of Associate Principal at Raba Elementary School
- Discussion and Possible Approval: K. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction
- Discussion and Possible Approval: L. Appointment of Director of Engineering Services
- Discussion and Possible Approval: M. Appointment of Deputy of Business and Finance

### **13. 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 10:52 p.m.

Action: B. Consider and take possible action to delegate to Superintendent the authority to retain Coverage Counsel to assess coverage in the Lartigue v. Northside litigation.

Motion by Homer Guevara, second by Karen Freeman.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

Action, Approval: C. Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation

Note: The Board has conducted a positive evaluation of the superintendent and is pleased.

- Action, Approval: D. Appointment of Director at Jordan Magnet School
- Action, Approval: E. Appointment of Principal at Boldt Elementary School
- Action, Approval: F. Appointment of Principal at Driggers Elementary School
- Action, Approval: G. Appointment of Principal at Wanke Elementary School
- Action, Approval: H. Appointment of Associate Principal at Cody Elementary School
- Action, Approval: I. Appointment of Associate Principal at Raba Elementary School
- Action, Approval: J. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction
- Action, Approval: K. Appointment of Director of Engineering Services
- Action, Approval: L. Appointment of Deputy of Business and Finance

Motion by Karen Freeman, second by Karla Duran.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Carol Harle, Bobby Blount, Karen Freeman, Corinne Saldana, David Salcido, Karla Duran, Homer Guevara

### **14. Adjournment**

Procedural: A. Adjourn the Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 p.m.

Approved on February 25, 2025