



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

Board Meeting A held on Nov. 14, 2016 at 406 Barrera St., San Antonio, Tx. 78210  
Board Meeting B held on Nov. 28, 2016 at 406 Barrera St., San Antonio, Tx. 78210

## Resolution Adopting a Tax Exemption of the Property Tax Code Approved

The Board approved a proposed Resolution to adopt an additional residence homestead exemption that will provide a taxpayer with an added property tax exemption of not less than \$5,000 from the appraised value of the taxpayer's residence homestead. The exemption will decrease the monthly tax impact of the 2016 Bond and Tax Ratification elections, approved Nov. 8 by voters in the school district. Under Texas law, a school board has the option to offer an additional homestead exemption, and the SAISD Board made the decision to exercise that authority. The minimum \$5,000 homestead exemption will go into effect on a person's residence homestead in January 2017, and will automatically be added to any other homestead exemption for which an individual qualifies. As a result, the estimated monthly tax impact for the average homeowner for the 2017 tax year would be only \$2.37 instead of \$8.75; and then would go up incrementally to only \$7.79 a month by 2020, instead of \$14.59.

## Proposed Name Change of the Advanced Learning Academy Presentation

The Board received a presentation from students on recommendations for the formal naming of the Advanced Learning Academy (ALA), SAISD's newest offering located across two campuses: Fox Tech on Main Street and on Euclid Avenue. This was a discussion-only item. As a campus-wide engagement activity, students were asked to recommend possible names for the ALA campus. On Nov. 15, three names were presented to the Board Academic Excellence Committee by several student representatives. The recommended names are: Wonder Academy, L.I.G.H.T. Academy, and Acequia Academy. During the committee meeting, the students were asked to present to the full Board of Trustees at the Nov. 28 Board Business Meeting. In March 2016, SAISD partnered with Trinity to open the Advanced Learning Academy. It is currently housed at two campuses, with Kindergarten through 3rd grades housed at the former Austin Academy on Euclid Ave. and with grades 4th through 10th housed at Fox Tech High School. Classrooms are not defined by grade or age and serve as creative centers for students of similar levels of achievement. Students alternate between individual and collaborative learning to tackle in-depth problems that require them to apply knowledge from across multiple subjects. Students also forgo a bell schedule so that instruction is not impacted.

## Recognition of the SAISD Blue Ribbon Task Force

The Board recognized the SAISD Blue Ribbon Task Force for their tremendous efforts in reviewing the District priorities for facilities and academic programs in preparation of the 2016 Bond and the Tax Ratification Election. On May 16, 2016, the Board of Trustees formed an SAISD Blue Ribbon Task Force composed of 16 community members who examined how to fund operating and capital needs. Co-Chairs for the Task Force were Mario Barrera and Victoria Herrera. During their meetings, the Task Force toured campuses to assess the needs and

provide feedback about how to fund and meet any gaps in funding. As a result, the Blue Ribbon Task Force presented recommendations to the SAISD Board for two proposals: 1.) a \$450 million bond and 2.) a Tax Ratification Election for the proposed 13-cent increase of the District's Maintenance and Operations (M&O) tax rate. On Aug. 15, 2016 the Trustees voted to call for both a \$450 million bond and a TRE on Nov. 8, 2016. Voters residing within the District's attendance zone were asked to consider the two separate ballot propositions to provide funding toward extensive school building renovations, upgrades for 21st-century classrooms, and programs for expanded learning opportunities outside the normal school day. On Election Day (Nov. 8), voters approved both ballot questions.

## SAISD Foundation Update

The Board received a presentation on the SAISD Foundation from Executive Director Judy Geelhoed. The update provided highlights of the Foundation's activities over the last six months. The Foundation shared information on upcoming events and grant programs. As the Educational Foundation for the District, the SAISD Foundation operates as a 501 (c) (3) public charity, securing investments from the private sector to support SAISD in becoming a model urban school district through innovation towards educational excellence. Through the SAISD Foundation, there have been increases in corporate and private donor investment in District programs. The SAISD Foundation invests in Teacher Grants, Innovative District Programs and Strategic Initiatives aimed at increasing student success. Annually, the SAISD Foundation awards more than 300 grants and 150 scholarships impacting 30,000 students each year.

## 2016-2017 Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Fall Results Presentation

Trustees received a public presentation on SAISD's 2016-2017 beginning-of-year administration of the new Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment from Theresa Urrabazo, the District's Executive Director of Accountability, Research, Evaluation and Testing. SAISD introduced a new assessment tool, MAP, at the beginning of the school year. MAP is an adaptive test which provides individualized results on student strengths and weaknesses. Students are evaluated in Reading and Math (Grades K-10), as well as Science (Grades 4-8) at the beginning, middle, and end of each year. The fall assessment results provide a baseline for teachers upon which to target curriculum to meet specific student needs for differentiation. MAP uses national norms to establish expectations for on-grade level performance, measure individual student growth throughout the year and across years, and can also be used to project spring performance at the passing, college ready, and advanced levels on STAAR. Middle of Year testing will happen between Dec. 5-16 and End of Year testing is set for May 15-26.

## Board of Trustee Committee Reports

Debra Guerrero (Finance Committee), James Howard (Governance Committee), Steve Lecholop (Academic Excellence Committee) and Art Valdez (Student Advisory Committee) provided reports. The Growth and Development Committee was scheduled to meet in December.

## Contracts Approved

- Ratification of the Service Delivery Agreement between Communities in Schools of San Antonio (CIS-SA) and SAISD for the school year 2016-2017.
- Professional Services Agreement between SAISD and Seaman Engineering, which will manage the daily operations of the Mathematics and Science Departments.

- Professional Services Agreement for the purchase of student licenses for the use of ABCmouse Early Learning Academy.

## Items Approved

- Annual District Contribution to the San Antonio Foundation for Excellence in Education, Inc. also known as the SAISD Foundation in the amount of \$75,000.
- 2016-2017 Targeted Improvement Plans for Priority Campuses, Formerly Improvement Required Campuses, and Campuses Rated Improvement Required.
- “Comprehensive Annual Financial Report” (CAFR) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016.
- Review of Investment Policy and Strategies CDA (Local) and CDA (Legal).
- Designate Investment Officers for the San Antonio Independent School District.
- Service Delivery Agreement between Communities in Schools of San Antonio (CIS-SA) and SAISD for the school year 2016-2017.
- Purchase of Classroom Leveled Libraries for PreK – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.
- Purchase of Balanced Literacy Start-up Kits for Kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.
- Purchase of Traits Writing™ for grades 4th, 6th and 7th.
- Purchase of Optoma Projectors and Microsoft Surface Adapters.
- Teacher Textbook Committee (TTC) for Career and Technology Education (CATE), Languages Other Than English (LOTE), Math (Algebraic Reasoning, and Statistics) and Social Studies (Special Topics).
- Releasing and Amending the Restrictive Covenants for the Property owned by Texas MHMR on Drexel Street.
- Sale of the SAISD Food Distribution Warehouse to Bexar County Hospital District d/b/a University Health System.

## Rental Usage Agreements Approved

- Rental Usage of Alamo Convocation Center by Texas State Senator Jose Menendez on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for a holiday party and toy drive for constituents and community leaders in District 26.

## Policy Revisions Approved

- Revisions of Board Policy EHBB (LOCAL). EHBB (LOCAL) relates to Special Programs Gifted and Talented Students.

## Bids, Proposals and Purchases for Goods Approved

- Springboard Instructional Materials and Site License in support of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students District-wide.
- Taco and Chalupa Shells in support of campus cafeterias District-wide and Administrative Dining Room during the 2016-2017 School Year.
- Playground Equipment at Hirsch Elementary School.
- Revised agreement to partner with New Leaders to place and train three cohorts of candidates.
- Landscaping Materials and Supplies to ensure all campuses District-wide are adequately maintained in beautifying all landscaped areas.
- Emergency repair of four (4) Chillers, including labor and materials in support of Harris Middle School.

## Tabled Items

- Approval of Internal Charter Application for Lamar Elementary School

### **Board of Education**

**Patti Radle, President; Arthur V. Valdez, Vice President;  
Debra Guerrero, Secretary; Ed Garza, Member; Olga M. Hernandez, Member;  
James Howard, Member; Steve Lecholop, Member; Pedro Martinez, Superintendent**

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