



BOARD UPDATE

August 24, 2017

Action Items

The Board of Directors took action on the following items.

- Approved Minutes of the June 20, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting.
- Approved Budget Amendments for June, July, and August 2017.
- Approved Expenditure Reports as of July 31, 2017.
- Approved Quarterly Investment Reports.
- Approved Resolution for Review of Public Funds Investment Policy and Strategies.
- Approved Resolution to Update Individuals Authorized to Initiate Banking Transactions at Lone Star National Bank.
- Approved Resolution to Commit Fund Balance for Program Services.
- Approved Resolution to Commit Fund Balance for Construction.
- Approved Region One Education Service Center E-Rate Consultant Services RFQ 16-AGENCY-000026.
- Approved Child Nutrition Program-South Texas Cooperative Frozen Dessert Products RFP 16-AGENCY-000029.
- Approved Region One Purchasing Cooperative Integrated Pest Management Services RFP 16-AGENCY-000030.
- Rejected Texas Energy Center Aggregation and Consultant Services RFP 16-AGENCY- 000031.

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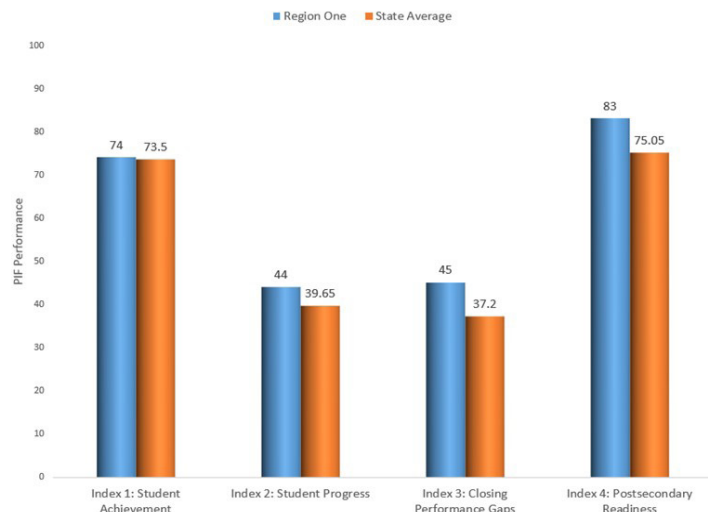
Region One Provides “State of the Region” During Public Hearing Presentation

Region One ESC hosted its public hearing as required each year by the Texas Education Code, to announce the academic and financial performance of Region One ESC area school districts and charter schools. The public hearing was held during the regularly called Board of Directors meeting. School district superintendents, personnel, and charter school representatives attended the informational event. Region One ESC Board Chairperson, Alicia E. Requenez., presided over the meeting welcoming all in attendance and congratulating school superintendents and charter school leaders for a successful year.

Reporting on the region’s overall performance, Dr. Eduardo Cancino, Deputy Director for Instructional Support Services, provided an overview of the state performance system. Dr. Cancino explained the state accountability system is based on a Performance Index Framework including Index 1: Student Achievement; Index 2: Student Progress; Index 3: Closing Performance Gaps; Index 4: Postsecondary Readiness. Dr. Cancino reported Region One has much to be proud of with school districts and charter schools out-performing the state in many areas. In a comparison of the percent of campuses that reached the “Met Standard” level, schools in the Region One area reached a 99% achievement level. Schools are labeled either a “Met Standard” or “Needs Improvement” in this current ratings system, explained Dr. Cancino. In a historical comparison Region One schools have demonstrated dramatic improvements dropping to only 1% of campuses in the “Needs Improvement” category.

Examining each of the performance indicators Region One schools continue to show outstanding results. The region surpassed the state in each of the four indices: Student Achievement (74% region/73.5% state), Student Progress (44% region/39.65% state), Closing Performance Gaps (45% region/37.2% state), and Postsecondary Readiness (83% region/75.05% state). *Continued on Page 2*

2017 State Accountability Performance Index Framework Region vs State Average Comparison



School districts and campuses that receive a “Met Standard” rating are also eligible to receive Distinction Designations for Outstanding Achievement for Academic Achievement in ELA/ Reading, Academic Achievement in Mathematics, Achievement in Science, Top 25% Student Progress, Top 5% Closing Achievement Gaps, and Postsecondary Readiness. Once again, Dr. Cancino reported, Region One school campuses out-paced campuses across the state with 76% of campuses receiving one or more distinctions compared to the state’s 60% achievement rate. The Region One area bested the student performance of other education service center regions topping the percentage of eligible campuses earning one or more distinctions.

It was also reported that statewide only 58 school districts/ charter schools earned a postsecondary distinction-*the only distinction at the district level under the state accountability system*. Of that number, 7 of the districts are Region One districts including Los Fresnos CISD, Sharyland ISD, South Texas ISD, Edinburg CISD, McAllen ISD, Roma ISD, and Valley View ISD. Los Fresnos CISD, Sharyland ISD, and South Texas ISD have received this distinction since the inception of the Postsecondary Readiness distinction four years ago.

Postsecondary Distinction Recipients

- Edinburg CISD
- Los Fresnos CISD
- McAllen ISD
- Roma ISD
- Sharyland ISD
- South Texas ISD
- Valley View ISD



system was adjusted and districts received an A-F rating. An “A”, or Superior scoring, received 90-100 points, “B”, or Above Standard, received 80-89 points, a “C”, or Meets Standard received 70-79 points, and an “F”, or Substandard Achievement received 60-69 points or fail one of the five designated Critical Indicators. Eight school districts (Edinburg CISD, McAllen ISD, Mission CISD, PSJA ISD, Weslaco ISD, Laredo ISD, United ISD, and Raymondville ISD) received a perfect score. All charter school systems received “A”, or Superior ratings. Again, as on the instructional side, Region One school districts continued to perform well in comparison with other school districts across the state.

FIRST Ratings-Perfect Scores

- Edinburg CISD
- Laredo ISD
- McAllen ISD
- Mission CISD
- PSJA ISD
- Raymondville ISD
- United ISD
- Weslaco ISD



Finally, an overview of the Survey of Region One ESC Evaluation of Services was presented by Dr. Marco Antonio Lara, Deputy Director for Administrative Leadership, Community, & School Support. The statewide survey, conducted by the Texas Education Agency and administered by the University of Texas Organizational Excellence Group, analyzed the satisfaction of Superintendents and Charter School Directors with the regional education service centers. The survey measured satisfaction in three main areas: support of regular education programs, support of programs for special populations, and with other ESC services. Survey participants rated each area on a 1-5 scale (5=very satisfied to 1=very dissatisfied).

Ms. Sara Alvarado, Vice-Chairperson of the Regional Advisory Council of Superintendents, provided an overview of the Region One ESC Client Satisfaction Survey distributed to all users of Region One ESC services. Overall, Alvarado reported that school districts and their superintendents were pleased with the level of service and support provided to them by their education service center. ❖

In financial accountability, Frances Guzman, Region One ESC Deputy Director, Business, Operations, and Finance Support reported on the preliminary regional results of FIRST, the state’s financial accountability system. Guzman explained the FIRST system creates transparency and is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes. The 2016-2017 Ratings, Guzman explained, were determined on a school district’s 2015-2016 date. Ratings are based on 15 indicators which address timely filing of the district’s audit, debt and debt ratio, solvency, staffing, and financial competency, among other issues. This year, the scoring

Executive Director's Report

- Approved Region One Purchasing Cooperative TEKS/STAAR Aligned Assessment Item Bank RFP 16-AGENCY-000032.
- Approved Texas Energy Center Energy Supply and Related Services RFP 16-03-12-E1, Extension 1 of 4.
- Approved Independent Auditor Services RFQ 13-03-10-E3, Extension 1 of 4.
- Approved Region One Purchasing Cooperative Efficiency Services RFP 15-04-09-E1, Extension 1 of 1.
- Approved Region One Purchasing Cooperative Promotional Merchandise & Services RFP 15- 04-10-E1, Extension 1 of 1.
- Approved Region One ESC Creative Services Department.
- Approved Region One ESC Regional Fiber Network Consortium.
- Approved Region One ESC Delegate and Alternate Appointments to TASB 2017 Delegate Assembly.
- Approved Salary Schedules for 2017-2018.
- Approved Region One ESC Employer Contribution to TRS Active Care for 2017-2018.
- Approved 2017-2018 Official Budget - General Fund Only.
- Adjourned to Closed or Executive Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, of the Open Meetings Act. ❖

In his Executive Director's Report, Dr. Gonzalez reported on the following items:

- Dr. Gonzalez reported a TASB Salary Survey was commissioned by Region One to review the current compensation plan of the ESC to ensure salaries are competitive with the market (comparable sized school districts). Following an evaluation of both exempt and non-exempt salary structures, it was determined that the current pay structure of exempt staff is 1% over the market rate and that the pay structure of the non-exempt staff is 2% over the current market. However, the TASB report did indicate that the mid-point of the Region One pay scale structure is slightly below market rates. In the final report, TASB recommended an adjustment to the ESC salary structure, across all pay grades, by increasing the maximum of every pay grade allowing for greater salary growth. Other recommendations included 1) *granting a market competitive 3% pay increase to all employees; consistent with ESC procedures, a 1.5% increase will be granted to all employees paid more than the maximum of their new proposed pay grade; 2) provide additional adjustments to the few employees whose pay is below the minimum of the new proposed pay range; 3) annually review the ESC compensation plan and update as needed to maintain market competitiveness.*
- In his Personnel Matters report, Dr. Gonzalez reported on the following new additions: Graciela Avalos, *Specialist, Office of Special Education*; Alexandria Lupercio, *EOC Transition Facilitator, Office of College, Career & Life Readiness*; Connie Lopez; *Deputy Director, Office of Business, Operations, and Finance Support*; Gabriel Villalobos, *Software Engineer, Office of Information Technology*. Dr. Gonzalez also reported on the follow resignations: Dr. Tina Atkins, *Administrator, Office of College, Career, & Life Readiness*; Margie Barrera, *Director, Office of Special Education*; Carmen Garcia, *Director, Brownsville Extension Office*; Gaudy Montemayor, *Instructor, Office of Adult Education*; and Nancy Sanchez, *Specialist-Business Analyst, Office of Information Technology*. ❖

Upcoming Events

September 19, 2017	Board Meeting
October 6-8, 2017	TASA/TASB Dallas, TX
October 17, 2017	Board Meeting
November 28, 2017	Board Meeting (held in Laredo, TX)

**Next Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2017**



Board of Directors 2017-2018

Alicia E. Requenez, Chairperson
Place 1 – Hidalgo County

Ricardo Gutierrez, Vice-Chairperson
Place 2 – Jim Hogg County, Starr County & Zapata County

Pete Garcia, Secretary
Place 4 – Hidalgo County

Raul R. Chapa
Place 7 – Willacy County

Ruben Cortez, Jr.
Place 5 – Cameron County

Dr. Manuel Gomez, Jr.,
Place 6 – Cameron County

Laura A. McCoy
Place 3 – Webb County

Rey Hernandez
Charter Schools Representative

Administration

Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez
Executive Director

Dr. Eduardo Cancino
Deputy Director, Instructional, School Improvement, &
College Readiness Support

Dr. Marco Antonio Lara, Jr.
Deputy Director, Administrative Leadership, School &
Community Support

Connie Lopez
Deputy Director, Business, Operations
& Finance Support



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