



BOARD UPDATE

April 20, 2021

Action Items

The Board of Directors took action on the following action items:

- Approved the canvassing of ballots for Place 1, 4 and 7 of the Region One ESC Board of Directors.
- Approved Minutes of February 23, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.*
- Approved Budget Amendments for February and March 2021.*
- Approved Expenditure Reports as of February 28 and March 30, 2021.*
- Approved Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended February 28, 2021.*
- Approved to Solicit Requests for Qualifications for Architectural and Engineering Services.*
- Approved to select the finalists for Executive Director to be recommended to the Commissioner of Education for approval to initiate the final selection process.

**Consent Agenda Items*

Upcoming Board Events

Region One School Board Conference
May 21-22, 2021

Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2021

Courtyard Marriott
South Padre Island

TASB Summer Leadership Institute
June 16 - 19, 2021
San Antonio, Texas

June 23 - 26, 2021
Fort Worth Texas

Region One ESC Announces Results of Board Election

Incumbents Retain Seats



Alicia E. Requeñez
Place 1



Sonia A. Falcom
Place 4



Raul Roberto Chapa
Place 7

The Region One ESC Board of Directors canvassed the votes of the latest Region One Board of Directors election during the regularly scheduled meeting on April 20, 2021. Three seats were up for election including Place 1 and Place 4 both representing Hidalgo County and Place 7 representing Brooks County and Willacy County.

In the Place 1 race, incumbent Alicia E. Requeñez faced challengers Prisciliano (J.R.) Trevino and Rudy Moreno. The official tally count resulted in 78 votes for Requeñez, Trevino received 69 votes, and Moreno received 39 votes. In the Place 4 race, incumbent Sonia A. Falcon was challenged by Homero Garcia. Falcon garnered 100 votes to Garcia's 85 votes. In the Place 7 race, incumbent Raul Roberto Chapa ran unopposed.

Alicia E. Requeñez has served on the Region One Board since 1997, Sonia Falcon has held her seat since first being elected to the Board on 2018, and Raul Roberto Chapa has served on the Region One Board since 2012.

Region One ESC Board of Directors are elected by board members of the 38 public school districts in Region One. Each public school district board member is allowed one vote with the exception of the 21-member board of South Texas ISD which is allowed 7 votes (Region One Board Policy BBB (LOCAL)).

Region One ESC Board Members serve for three-year terms. Newly elected members will be officially sworn in at the June Board of Directors meeting. ❖

Executive Director's Report

In his Executive Director's Report, Dr. Cancino reported on the following. Program Reports were presented by staff, at the invitation of Dr. Cancino.

GED for All & Elevate Beyond Grant In Partnership with RGV FOCUS: Norma McCormick, Coordinator, Office of College, Career, and Life Readiness explained that this partnership program provides opportunities for adult learners to attain their GED certificate and, in some cases, pursue post-secondary options. Through the partnership, 100 participants will be recruited to participate in the grant and are targeted to earn their GED certificate by May 2021.

Innovation Center 4 Teacher Preparation Transformation Grant Application Linda Rodriguez, Director of Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) shared that the Region One EPP was one of three regional education service centers statewide to receive grant funding through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support educator preparation programs. The purpose of the grant is to prepare teacher candidates from alternative certification programs for the classroom.

Region One School Systems Success Stories Annette S. Garcia, Coordinator of the Office of Communications & Creative Services shared information about an on-going project entitled, "Shining Moments" to highlight the efforts of regional school districts and charter school systems to support students, educators, and community during this unprecedented past year.

Region One School Board Association Conference Dr. Judith M. Solis provided an update to the Region One School Board Association Conference scheduled on May 21-22 at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel and the South Padre Island Convention Center.

Region One Technology Conference Mr. Ali Kolahdouz provided an update regarding the Annual Technology Conference. This year's event will be held in a virtual platform.

Inaugural CCMR Symposium Melissa I. Lopez, Administrator for the Office of College, Career and Life Readiness, shared information about the CCMR (College, Career, and Military Readiness) Symposium held on April 20. The event attracted nearly 200 participants in the online event. The day-long virtual event brought together professionals from educational, industry and military fields to share information with school district and campus administrators, school counselors, teachers, and industry partners.

A Journey of Excellence-HB 3906 Educator Forum Kelly Van Hee, Administrator for the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment shared information about the HB 3906 Virtual Educator Forum held on April 21. The event was a collaborative effort supported by Region One, the Texas Education Agency and our LEA's. Presentations by TEA staff provided an overview of HB 3906. School system leaders were given an opportunity to provide feedback to TEA on the new assessment items types brought about by the legislation. In addition to the HB 3906 updates, Van Hee reported that the day was extended into a full day of learning for our school systems.

Summer Leadership (SLI) Institute Dr. Cancino shared with Board Members how TASB will handling in-person attendance at the upcoming San Antonio and Fort Worth events. Dr. Cancino explained a lottery system for all school districts who submit the names of Board Members interested in attending the event will be held. If selected, participants will be able to select which location they intend to attend the in-person event. If not selected, participants may still attend the conference in an online format.

Region One ESC COVID-19 Transition Plan Update Dr. Judith M. Solis provided an update to the Board regarding the

Region One ESC COVID-19 vaccination effort. She reported that 84% of full-time staff have received their vaccination. Additionally, Dr. Solis reported that part-time Adult Education Instructors and Temporary Teachers in the SubHub program were also given the opportunity to receive the vaccination. The next phase of the COVID-19 Vaccination Initiative is to support school districts by providing assistance with the vaccination of the 16 years and older student population. Districts in the Delta-area are being considered for a pilot project in this endeavor.

Staff Return-to-Office Phase 2 Jacob Martinez, Director of Facilities and Operations provided an update to the Board regarding the return to the ESC-workplace by Region One staff. On April 19, staff members began a two-day-per-week work schedule from their ESC offices. Additionally, this marked the re-opening of all ESC facilities to building visitors.

ESC Facilities On Site Professional Development Support Jacob Martinez, Director of Facilities and Operations shared that in preparation for the return of participants and visitors to the Region One ESC facility a series of professional development trainings were provided to ESC staff. Support Staff members attended training sessions addressing Customer Service, Facility Orientation and Safety Protocols, and Health Safety Required Practices. Topics aimed at Professional Staff included Getting Acquainted with the New Technology for Presentations, Facility Orientation and Safety Protocols, and Health Safety Required Practices When Conducting a F2F PD.

Region One ESC Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Jacob Martinez, Director of Facilities and Operations reviewed the core content subject of the EOP.

2021-2022 Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Record of Changes Jacob Martinez, Director of Facilities and Operations reviewed revisions to the EOP for the upcoming year.

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Renovation of ESC Café Space Jacob Martinez, Director of Facilities and Operations provided information to Board Members regarding the re-purposing of the now-vacant ESCafe space located in the southwest corner of the ESC facility. With the ESC building renovation, the ESCafe space was re-located to a more accessible location for participants. Martinez explained that quotes provided by contractors estimate that renovation of the current space to office working spaces could be recouped in 2 years or less.

Region One ESC Board Meeting Calendar Dr. Cancino provided Board Members with a schedule of upcoming Board of Directors meetings for the 2021-2022 year.

Executive Director Search Timeline Brenda Balderaz, Human Resources Director provided an update to the progress of the Executive Director Search. She reported that the position closed on March 31 and the Search Committee met on April 13 to review applications. Balderaz reported that a list of qualified candidates will be shared with Board Members for approval later in the meeting. According to Balderaz, once approved the list of approved candidates will be submitted to the Commissioner of Education as candidates recommended to be interviewed. The Commissioner-approved candidates will be required to complete an Analytical Task and will be interviewed May 3-5. Finalists' names will be submitted to the Commissioner of Education for final approval. If approved, the Board of Directors will announce the finalist at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 15. The first official day of the new Executive Director is scheduled for July 1, 2021.

Personnel Matters Report

Dr. Cancino reported on the following:

Additions: Norma Reyna, Accountant, Finance and Internal Support.

Changes: Hector Gloria, Senior Accountant, Office of College, Career, and Life Readiness.

Resignations: Diana Jackson, Early Childhood Intervention, Speech Language Pathologist; Berniece Trevino, SubHub Coordinator; Amanda Aguayo, Early Childhood Intervention, Case Manager; Alma Cavazos, Coordinator, Office of College, Career, and Life Readiness; David Alvarado, Specialist, Office of Creative Services; Renan Ramirez, Director, Division of Technology for Learning; and Cynthia O. Flores, Early Childhood Intervention,

Board of Directors 2020-2021

Raul R. Chapa, Chairperson
Place 7 – Brooks County & Willacy County

Sonia A. Falcon, Vice-Chairman
Place 4 – Hidalgo County

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

Alicia E. Requeenz
Place 1 – Hidalgo County

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

Laura A. McCoy
Place 3 – Webb County

Ruben Cortez, Jr.
Place 5 – Cameron County

Roberto Moroles
Charter Schools Representative

Administration

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

Dr. Judith M. Solis
Deputy Director, Administrative Leadership,
School & Community Support

Connie Lopez, CPA
Deputy Director, Business,
Operations & Finance Support

Ali Kolahtouz
Deputy Director
Division of Technology for Learning



Board Update is an electronic publication of the Region One Education Service Center Office of Communications & Creative Services and is available at www.esc1.net.

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