



BOARD UPDATE

January 21, 2020

Action Items

The Board of Directors took action on the following:

- Approved Minutes of December 17, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting,*
- Approved Budget Amendments for December, 2019,*
- Approved Expenditure Report as of December 31, 2019*,
- Approved Announcement of Expiration of Board Member Terms and Calling of Region One Education Service Center Board Elections: Place 2-Jim Hogg, Starr and Zapata Counties and Place 5-Cameron County,
- Tabled action on the Simulation Technology and Training Center (STAT Center),
- Approved Change Order 3: Exterior Wall Insulation – Laredo Extension Office,
- Approved Evaluation of the Executive Director and Discussion of Contract and salary increase.

* Consent Agenda item

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Gonzalez reported on the following:

- The Region One ESC Board of Directors were the guests of honor at a reception held prior to the Board Meeting in celebration of School Board Recognition Month. Dr. Gonzalez and staff members shared with Board Members their appreciation for the Board's support of ESC programs and staff members. Dr. Gonzalez thanked the Board again for their commitment to Region One.
- City of Pharr representatives, Cynthia Garza and Jamison Merrick, shared with the Board preliminary information regarding a possible collaborative project between Region One ESC and the city that will provide a technology learning space in Pharr, Texas, for all students of the region. The STAT Center (Simulation Technology and Training Center) will provide classrooms, lecture hall space, and simulation classrooms for students interested in healthcare careers.
- Ms. Carmen Ocañas-Lerma, Director, Region One Food & Nutrition Program (FNP), provided a program update to Board Members. The FNP serves public school districts, charter schools, child care centers, and residential child care institutions and is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). She reported the focus of the work performed by the 7-member staff includes providing technical assistance, training opportunities, and technical assistance to help districts prepare for Administrative Reviews, Procurement Reviews, and Financial Reviews. According to Ocañas-Lerma the National School Lunch Program allocates over \$292 million to school districts, charter schools and RCCI entities in the Region One area.
- In the monthly construction update Mr. Juan Mujica, Gignac and Associates representative, shared that construction on the Laredo project is 70% complete with site preparation for the new access driveway and parking areas continuing. Interior renovation is underway and the general contractor is installing drywall throughout the facility. Mujica reported the substantial completion date for the project is April 2020. Work on the Edinburg construction project is progressing and is at 30% completion. Work on the parking lot between the addition and existing facility has been poured and the western parking lot paving is complete and its use can begin in March.
- In his Personnel Matters Report, Dr. Gonzalez shared the following: Additions: Brenda J. Balderaz, *Specialist, Office of Human Resources*; Jennifer A. Burns, *Speech Language Pathologist, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; Cynthia O. Cervantes, *Specialist/TIF (Project RISE), Division of Instructional Support*; Dianira Gonzales Negrete, *Speech Language Pathologist, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; Melissa C. Ray, *ECI Case Manager, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; Natalie O. Flores, *Speech Language Pathologist, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; Monica Valdez, *ECI Case Manager, Early Childhood Intervention Program*. Dr. Gonzalez also reported on the following changes: Berniece Trevino, is the new *Coordinator/SubHub, Office of Business Operations and Finance Support*. Resignations: Gilbert Requena, *Specialist, Food and Nutrition Services Program*. ❖



Region One ESC Announces Board Election

The Region One Education Service Center will hold an election for two places on the Region One ESC Board of Directors which will expire on May 31, 2020. The two seats up for election are Place 2 representing Jim Hogg, Starr, and Zapata Counties, currently filled by Mr. Ricardo Gutierrez, of Rio Grande City, Texas, and Place 5 representing Cameron County, currently filled by Mr. Ruben Cortez, Jr., of Brownsville, Texas.

Mr. Gutierrez has held his Place 2 seat since 2010 when he was first appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Noe R. Sanchez. He won his subsequent election in 2011. Mr. Cortez was first elected to the Board in June 2011. Board members are elected to a three (3) year term by school board members of the 38 school districts within Region One.

Applications for ballot places may be obtained at the Region One ESC Executive Director's Office, 1900 West Schunior, Edinburg, Texas, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning Tuesday, February 4, 2020. Notice of filing must be at the headquarters office in person or by certified mail no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

Any citizen of the United States who is at least 18 years of age, a resident in the county area represented by the seat, who is not engaged professionally in education or who is not a member of a school district board of trustees, a county board of trustees, or a board of an institution of higher education, may be elected to the Board of Directors membership.

If additional information is desired, contact Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez, Executive Director at (956) 984-6001. ❖



Ricardo Gutierrez



Ruben Cortez, Jr.

Board of Directors 2019-2020

Ruben Cortez, Jr., Chairperson
Place 5 – Cameron County

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

Sonia A. Falcon, Secretary
Place 4 – Hidalgo County

Alicia E. Requenez
Place 1 – Hidalgo County

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

Laura A. McCoy
Place 3 – Webb County

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

Roberto Moroles
Charter Schools Representative

Administration

Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez
Executive Director

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

Mr. Heriberto Villarreal
Deputy Director, Administrative Leadership,
School & Community Support

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

Ali Kolahdouz
Chief Technology Officer
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.

Board Update is intended as an informational document only and does not reflect the official board minutes. For questions or concerns, contact the Office of Communications & Creative Services at (956) 984-6011.

Upcoming Events

ESC Office Closure <i>Inclement Weather Day</i>	February 3, 2020
Board of Directors Meeting <i>to be held at the Brownsville Extension Office</i>	February 25, 2020
No Board Meeting is scheduled in March	
Spring Break	March 16-20, 2020
2020 NSBA Conference	April 4-6, 2020