



BOARD UPDATE

November 19, 2019

Action Items

The Board of Directors took action on the following:

- Approved Minutes of October 22, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting*
- Approved Budget Amendments for October, 2019*
- Approved Expenditure Report as of October 31, 2019*
- Approved Revision to the 2019-2020 Support Staff Pay Plan*
- Approved Change Order 2: CMU Wall Reinforcement – Laredo Extension Office
- Approved Agreement with Education Service Center Region 12 Universal Benefits Consortium (UBC)
- No Action Taken in Closed Session for the following: Deliberation Regarding the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property, and Personnel Matters. ❖

* Consent Agenda item

Next Board of Directors Meeting
December 17, 2019
4:00 p.m.

Executive Director's Report

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

- Dr. Gonzalez invited Mr. Juan Mujica of Gignac & Associates to report on the two on-going construction projects. Regarding the Edinburg project, Mujica reported that the project is 20% complete and there have been no delays on the project. Concrete columns that will be the structural support for the training room areas have been erected and the placement of steel beams should be underway by the end of the week. Mujica added that the parking lot on the west side of the ESC property is also underway with the construction of the detention ponds on the perimeter of the property. The Laredo construction project is more than half-way complete. According to Mujica, most HVAC, electrical, and plumbing is in place and sheetrock walls are being installed throughout the facility. Upon the recommendation of the general contractor, exterior walls will be reinforced.
- Dr. Gonzalez invited Ruben Degollado, Region One ESC Director for State Improvement Initiatives and ESSA Compliance to provide a program overview. Degollado shared with the Board that the focus of the department's work is to support teachers, leaders and staff members to meet or exceed student performance standards. Initially work focused on low performing schools in the region with intentional and deliberate campus leadership training sessions. However, Degollado reported that over the past 7 years the number of campuses not meeting standards has steadily declined from 32 campuses not meeting standards in 2012-2013 to only 4 campuses in the 2018-2019 accountability ratings release. With this improvement in student performance it allowed the opportunity to invite both high performing and low performing campus leadership to participate in, and benefit from, cohort learning groups such as the Turnaround Principal Institute, the Turnaround Leaders' Academy, and campus reviews. The professional development sessions encompass the domains of the TEA-created Effective Schools Network which outline the characteristics of an effective school leader. Above and beyond simply presenting a framework, Degollado says the Region One team utilizes data from the campus performance report to outline a personalized plan of action for campuses in need.
- Dr. Gonzalez invited Ali Kolahdouz, Region One Chief Technology Officer to provide an update to the ORION Project. Kolahdouz announced the approval of the 10-year \$6.7 million funding application by the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) for the ORION project. He added that the 28 consortium members will recognize a significant cost savings for the ORION internet. Kolahdouz explained that ORION enables members to share classroom resources over a private, high-speed network, demand aggressive pricing from vendors for services and products that they are

already purchasing, and allows members to pool their efforts and resources to build regional services. The target date for the ORION network to be installed at member districts is July 2020. Entities that did not join ORION can request to be added to the project for the next funding cycle.

- In his Personnel Services report Dr. Gonzalez announced the following new additions: Jesus Alfaro, *ECI Case Manager, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; Amelia Cepeda, *Specialist/Lesson Study, Laredo Extension Office*; Illiana Nino, *ECI Case Manager, Early Childhood Intervention Program*; and Marissa Seguara, *ECI Case Manager, Early Childhood Intervention Program*. Dr. Gonzalez also reported on staff resignations: Cesar Tamez, *Specialist, Office of Technology for Learning*. ❖

Upcoming Events...

Thanksgiving Break (ESC Closed)	November 25-29, 2019
Meeting of Board of Directors	December 17, 2019
Christmas Holiday Break	December 20, 2019-January 3, 2020
Meeting of Board of Directors	January 21, 2020

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



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