

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
Thursday, September 2, 2021**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:02 a.m. on Thursday, September 2, 2021, in Room #1-111 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Matt Robinson, chair; Aicha Davis, vice chair; Ruben Cortez, Jr; Will Hickman; Jay Johnson

Public Testimony

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda item #5. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

The Committee on School Initiatives considered items in the following order: Item number 2, 3, 4, 1, 5.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Recommendation for Reappointment to the Boys Ranch Independent School District Board of Trustees**
(Board agenda page IV-1)

Christopher Lucas, director, policy, planning, and operations, explained that one term on the board of trustees for Boys Ranch Independent School District (ISD) is expiring. The president and chief executive officer, Mr. Dan Adams, has recommended that Mr. James Taylor be reappointed to a two-year term.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the reappointment of Mr. James Taylor to serve a two-year term of office from September 3, 2021, to September 3, 2023, on the Boys Ranch ISD Board of Trustees.*

- 2. Approval of Special Purpose School District Advisory Board Members for Texas Tech University K-12**
(Board agenda page IV-12)

Monica Martinez, associate commissioner, standards and support services, explained that in compliance with State Board of Education rule, Texas Tech University (TTU) K-12 submitted its nominees to serve as members of the district advisory board for TTU K-12. Appointees will serve for staggered three-year terms.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the appointment of nominees submitted by Dr. Lawrence Schovanec, President, Texas Tech University, to serve a two-year term of office from September 3, 2021, to September 3, 2023, on the TTU K-12 advisory board.*

(Mr. Cortez was absent for the vote).

3. Approval of Special Purpose School District Advisory Board Members for University of Texas at Austin High School
(Board agenda page IV-15)

Ms. Martinez explained that in compliance with State Board of Education rule, The University of Texas (UT) at Austin High School had also submitted its nominees to serve as members of the district advisory board for UT Austin High School.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the appointment of nominees submitted by UT Austin High School to serve two-year terms of office from September 3, 2021, to September 3, 2023, on the UT Austin High School advisory board.*

(Mr. Cortez was absent for the vote).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Discussion of Required School Safety Training for District Trustees
(Board agenda page IV-17)

Ms. Martinez explained that House Bill 690, passed by the 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, requires the SBOE, in coordination with the Texas School Safety Center, to develop the curriculum and materials for school safety training to be completed by school district trustees. Dr. Kathy Martinez-Prather, director of the Texas School Safety Center, provided an overview of the proposed content for the school safety training curriculum.

5. Open-Enrollment Charter School Generation 27 Application Updates
(Board agenda page IV-18)

Marian Schutte, director, charter school authorizing and administration division, presented information on the Generation 27 Open-Enrollment Charter Application cycle, content, improvements, and timeline. Ms. Schutte answered questions regarding the application process.

Public testimony was provided virtually by the following individual:

NAME: Timothy Mattison
AFFILIATION: Self

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:30 a.m.