

**Report of the State Board of Education  
Committee on School Initiatives  
June 22, 2017**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2017, in Room #1-111 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. All members of the committee were present, as follows:

Presiding: Barbara Cargill, Chair; Marisa B. Perez-Diaz, Vice Chair; Ruben Cortez, Jr.; Keven Ellis; Marty Rowley

Non-Committee Members Present: Lawrence Allen; Donna Bahorich; Erika Beltran; Sue Melton-Malone

**Public Testimony**

This item provides an opportunity for the public to present testimony at the time the related item comes up for committee discussion or action. The procedures for registering and taking public testimony at State Board of Education committee meetings and general board meetings are provided at [http://tea.texas.gov/About\\_TEA/Leadership/State\\_Board\\_of\\_Education/SBOE\\_Meetings/SBOE\\_Operating\\_Rules\\_Amended\\_1-31-17/](http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Leadership/State_Board_of_Education/SBOE_Meetings/SBOE_Operating_Rules_Amended_1-31-17/) or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The Committee on School Initiatives received no presentations of public testimony.

**ACTION ITEM**

**1. Review of the Commissioner of Education's Generation 22 Charter Proposals**

(Board agenda page IV-1)

[Official agenda item #9]

Arnoldo Alaniz, assistant director, division of charter school administration, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives the commissioner's list of proposed Subchapter D Open-Enrollment Charter Schools scheduled to open in school year 2018-2019.

**MOTION:** *It was moved by Mr. Rowley, and seconded by Dr. Ellis, to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the commissioner of education's proposed Generation 22 open-enrollment charter schools: Bridgeway Preparatory Academy (Dallas), Etoile Academy Charter School (Houston), Legacy School of Sport Sciences (Houston), Valor Public Schools (Austin), and Yellowstone College Preparatory (Houston).*

**MOTION:** *It was moved by Mr. Cortez to recommend that the State Board of Education take action to veto the commissioner of education's proposed Generation 22 open-enrollment charter schools, Legacy School of Sport Sciences (Houston), and Valor Public Schools (Austin). There was no second to the motion.*

**MOTION:** *It was moved by Ms. Perez-Diaz, and seconded by Mr. Cortez, to amend Mr. Cortez's motion to recommend that the State Board of Education take action to veto the commissioner of education's proposed Generation 22 open-enrollment charter schools, Legacy School of Sport Sciences (Houston), and Valor Public Schools (Austin), by removing Valor Public Schools (Austin) from the motion, and vetoing only Legacy School of Sport Sciences (Houston). The motion failed, with 3 members voting Aye, and 2 members voting No, as follows:*

*Aye: Ms. Perez-Diaz  
Mr. Cortez*

*No: Mrs. Cargill  
Mr. Rowley  
Dr. Ellis*

**VOTE:** *A vote was taken on Mr. Rowley's motion to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the commissioner of education's proposed Generation 22 open-enrollment charter schools: Bridgeway Preparatory Academy (Dallas), Etoile Academy Charter School (Houston), Legacy School of Sport Sciences (Houston), Valor Public Schools (Austin), and Yellowstone College Preparatory (Houston). The motion carried, with 3 members voting Aye, and 2 members voting No, as follows:*

*Aye: Mrs. Cargill  
Mr. Rowley  
Dr. Ellis*

*No: Ms. Perez-Diaz  
Mr. Cortez*

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**2. Discussion of Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners, §157.41, Certification Criteria for Independent Hearing Examiners**

(Board agenda page IV-5)

Chris Maska, legal counsel, presented to the Committee on School Initiatives information regarding possible changes to 19 TAC § 157.41 to allow the Commissioner to consider whether an Independent Hearing Examiner has applied the appropriate legal standards when determining whether to recertify the individual and to allow the Commissioner to take action at any time against an Independent Hearing Examiner's certification for violating statutory requirements. In particular, background about the current certification process for certifying Independent Hearing Examiners and the role of Independent Hearing Examiners was provided. Questions about the need for the change were addressed.

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:47 .a.m.