

Minutes  
State Board of Education  
September 15, 2017

The State Board of Education met at 9:07 a.m. on Friday, September 15, 2017, in the State Board of Education Room, #1-104, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Members of the board were present, as follows:

Present: Donna Bahorich, chair; Lawrence A. Allen, Jr.; Erika Beltran; Barbara Cargill; Ruben Cortez, Jr., secretary; Keven Ellis; Pat Hardy; Tom Maynard; Sue Melton-Malone; Ken Mercer; Geraldine “Tincy” Miller; Georgina C. Pérez; Marisa B. Perez-Diaz; Marty Rowley, vice chair

Absent: David Bradley

### **Student Performance**

The student presentation was provided by the Brownsville Independent School District Ballroom Dance Company.

### **Invocation**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Approval of Minutes**

State Board of Education, June 23, 2017

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *The State Board of Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the June 23, 2017 meeting of the State Board of Education, as printed.*

## **1. Resolutions and Presentations**

### **Resolution Honoring the 2017 National Geographic Bee Winner**

*The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution honoring Pranay Varada who as an eighth-grade student in Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD won the 2017 National Geographic Bee.*

(ATTACHMENT 1, page 9)

### **Heroes for Children, State Board of Education Districts 1–15**

*The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution recognizing Olga Charles, Maria Vega, Ian C. Hemmings, Carol Ann Youens, Chelsea Elliott, Cyndi Matteson, Frederick Jefferson, Stacie Jahn, Amanda Rogers, Mike Senchack, Thomas J. French, Teresa Cook, Mary Pencis, Charles Lyons, and Evelyn Lyles as Heroes for Children.*

(ATTACHMENT 2, page 11)

The State Board of Education received presentations of public testimony, as follows:

NAME: Bev Kilmer  
AFFILIATION: Freedom Speaks  
TOPIC: Harmony Schools

**2. Approval of Consent Agenda**

Any agenda item may be placed on the consent agenda by any State Board of Education committee. The State Board of Education may elect to take separate action on any item on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Miller reported that she was recusing herself from any discussion, and would not cast a vote, on Consent Agenda Item (4)—Decision on Real Estate Investments.

*By unanimous consent, the State Board of Education approved the following items on the consent agenda.*

**(1) Per Capita Apportionment Rate for the 2017-2018 School Year**  
(Board agenda page III-5)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education adopted the per capita apportionment rate of \$206.566 for the 2017-2018 school year, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(ATTACHMENT 3, page 13)

**(2) Ratification of the Purchases and Sales of the Investment Portfolio of the Permanent School Fund for the Months of May, June and July 2017**  
(Board agenda III-7)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education ratified the purchases and sales for the months of May, June, and July 2017, in the amount of \$1,313,244,900 and \$1,279,125,889 respectively, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

**(3) Determination as to Whether Transfers May be Made from the Permanent School Fund to the Available School Fund**  
(Board agenda III-9)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund to determine that a distribution of approximately \$1.236 billion for fiscal year 2018 is permitted under Texas Constitution Article VII, Subsection 5(a)(2).

**(4) Decision on Real Estate Investments**

(Board agenda III-13)

(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund to execute agreements with BREP Asia II L.L.C., its general partner, necessary to make an investment commitment of up to \$75 million in Blackstone Real Estate Partners Asia II, L.P., subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms, and authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education. Mrs. Miller recused herself from the vote.

**(5) Implementation of SB 1480 Related to the Bond Guarantee Program and Charter Schools**

(Board agenda III-15)

(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund that for Fiscal Year 2018, the monthly estimate of the available capacity of the Permanent School Fund to guarantee bonds for charter districts (19 TAC 33.67(d)) will incorporate the change in the calculation of the bond guarantee program's charter capacity pursuant to Senate Bill 1480, 85th Legislature, Regular Session. As authorized by SB 1480, the State Board of Education establishes the BGP charter capacity increase for FY 2018 at the full twenty percent (20%) allowed under the law.

**(6) Presentation on the Commodities Asset Class for the Permanent School Fund**

(Board agenda III-17)

(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund to direct staff and NEPC to explore the possibility of managing a portion of the commodity strategy in-house.

**(7) Recommendation for Appointments to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees**

(Board agenda IV-1)

(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES)

The State Board of Education approved the appointments of Ms. Deborah Seabron, Mr. Willie E. White, and Mr. Kevin Anderson to serve a term of office, from September 15, 2017 through September 14, 2019, on the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(ATTACHMENT 4, page 15)

- (8) **Recommendation for Appointment to the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees**  
(Board agenda IV-49)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES)

The State Board of Education approved the appointment of CMSgt Rachelle Slater to serve a term of office, from September 15, 2017 through November 16, 2018, on the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.

(ATTACHMENT 5, page 23)

### **COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD**

3. **Approval of Clarification Questions and Answers for Proclamation 2019 Questions and Answers**  
(Board agenda page I-1)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve the two Proclamation 2019 Questions and Answers questions and corresponding answers as presented in Attachment II of the agenda. (Mr. Allen and Ms. Hardy were absent for the vote.)*

(ATTACHMENT 6, page 31)

4. **Review and Revision of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Health Education**  
(Board agenda page I-7)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Rowley and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Committee of the Full Board to request that the commissioner prepare a study of current health education research and state standards, including national best practices, that would be used as a guide for the State Board of Education to begin a review and revision of the health education TEKS.*

*The commissioner's recommendations would include the following:*

- *A framework for what the strands should be for kindergarten through grade 12*
- *Distinctions regarding grade levels and/or grade bands at which health concepts are most appropriately taught*
- *A summary of all statutory requirements related to health education and suggestions regarding the most appropriate way to integrate those requirements into the framework*

*(Ms. Hardy was absent for the vote.)*

## COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION

5. **Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 112, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science, Subchapter D, Other Science Courses, §112.71, Principles of Technology (One Physics Credit), and §112.72, Other Courses for Which Students May Receive Science Credit**

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)

(Board agenda page II-1)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education suspend its operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration at first reading and filing authorization and approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 112, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science, Subchapter D, Other Science Courses, §112.71, Principles of Technology (One Physics Credit), and §112.72, Other Courses for Which Students May Receive Science Credit.*

6. **Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 130, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education, Subchapter C, Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications, §130.121, Extended Practicum in Fashion Design (Two to Three Credits), Adopted 2015**

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)

(Board agenda page II-15)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education suspend its operating procedures in accordance with §5.2(a) to allow consideration at first reading and filing authorization and approve for first reading and filing authorization, the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 130, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education, Subchapter C, Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications, §130.121, Extended Practicum in Fashion Design (Two to Three Credits), Adopted 2015.*

## COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

7. **Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 105, Foundation School Program, Subchapter A, Definitions, §105.1, Rules for the Definition of Tax Levy and Tax Collection**

(Second Reading and Final Adoption)

(Board agenda page III-1)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mr. Maynard and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, approve for second reading and final adoption proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 105, Foundation School Program, Subchapter A, Definitions, §105.1, Rules for the Definition of Tax Levy and Tax Collection, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register.*

(ATTACHMENT 7, page 33)

**COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES**

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

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)  
(Board Agenda page IV-79)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** *It was moved by Mrs. Cargill and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners, §157.41, Certification Criteria for Independent Hearing Examiners, as recommended by the Committee on School Initiatives.*

9. **Review of Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter B, General Certification Requirements, §230.11, General Requirements**

(Board agenda page IV-87)

In accordance with TEC, §21.042, the State Board of Education took no action on the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 230, Professional Educator Preparation and Certification, Subchapter B, General Certification Requirements, §230.11, General Requirements.

10. **Review of Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal**

(Board agenda page IV-95)

In accordance with TEC, §21.042, the State Board of Education took no action on the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 232, General Certification Provisions, Subchapter A, Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements, §232.9, Inactive Status and Late Renewal.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS POSTED FOR DISCUSSION ON COMMITTEE AGENDAS**

Committee on Instruction

Mrs. Melton-Malone did not report on Committee on Instruction discussion items.

Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund

Mr. Maynard did not report on Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund discussion items.

Committee on School Initiatives

Mrs. Cargill gave a brief update on the Long-Range Plan Steering Committee and announced that the next meeting of the steering committee would take place on Monday, November 6, 2017.

**REPORTS OF OTHER STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND CONCERNS IN INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS**

Mrs. Bahorich gave board members an opportunity to provide information regarding agenda items or other relevant information about public education. Brief reports were made.

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

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Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary

# RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS** an understanding of the world around us has always been important and necessary knowledge for an educated citizenry; and

**WHEREAS** the study of land and culture have long been important to Texans because of the state's own vast and storied history; and

**WHEREAS** a young Texan has again demonstrated superior knowledge of geography by winning the 2017 National Geographic Bee; and

**WHEREAS** Pranay Varada became fascinated with maps when just three years old; and

**WHEREAS** after diligent and dedicated study, Pranay Varada began to compete in geography bees; and

**WHEREAS** 2.6 million students nationwide competed in the 2017 geography bee; and

**WHEREAS** the event came down to a tense verbal dual between Pranay Varada, then an eighth-grade student in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District, and a Wisconsin student; and

**WHEREAS** the contest moved into a sudden-death play-off with Pranay Varada winning the first tie-breaker question by correctly identifying the Kunlun Mountains as the 1,200-mile range that separates the Taklimakan Desert from the Tibetan Plateau; and

**WHEREAS** this victory earned Pranay Varada the satisfaction of a job well done, as well as a \$50,000 scholarship, a trip to the Galapagos Islands and a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education congratulate Pranay Varada on his studious habits, his worldly knowledge, his persistence and his national championship; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this resolution be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

**WITNESS** our signatures this fifteenth day of September, two thousand seventeen, in Austin, Texas.

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Donna Bahorich, Chair

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Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary



# RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS** volunteers provide invaluable support to our Texas public schools through the donation of their time, talent and financial resources; and

**WHEREAS** the State Board of Education has honored outstanding school volunteers with the Heroes for Children award since 1994; and

**WHEREAS** Olga Charles has been an active volunteer in the Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District, mentoring struggling students, serving as a life coach, and organizing fundraisers; and

**WHEREAS** Maria Vega is known as “Momma Vega” at Leo Elementary School in La Joya ISD where she has volunteered almost daily for the past 11 years doing whatever is needed; and

**WHEREAS** Ian C. Hemmings arrives at school before dawn to work with Northside ISD children and he’s helped found a safety group called WATCH D.O.G.S. and Project ACORN, a replanting program; and

**WHEREAS** Carol Ann Youens who has volunteered in Galena Park ISD for 18 years, has helped countless children learn to read and is known as the “mother of the volunteers”; and

**WHEREAS** Chelsea Elliott, a volunteer in the Wayside Schools, through her Half Helen Foundation, has provided preventative vision and hearing screening to 15,000 students; and

**WHEREAS** Cyndi Matteson is known as a “global volunteer” in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD where she actively volunteers in the elementary, middle and high schools, and

**WHEREAS** Frederick Jefferson created the Man II Man support group for fathers of children with special needs and developed a guide to services available in the Pearland and Alvin districts; and

**WHEREAS** Stacie Jahn has worked diligently as a PTO leader to obtain needed equipment and facilities, such as a shade cover for the playground and funding for a gym, for her Conroe ISD schools; and

**WHEREAS** Amanda Rogers has volunteered in Elkhart ISD for two decades, helping little ones learn to read and assisting teachers in numerous ways; and

**WHEREAS** Mike Senchack has worked tirelessly for 23 years, providing audio-visual services, editing and post-production work for activities at five high schools and 10 middle schools in Round Rock ISD; and

**WHEREAS** Thomas J. French coached youth sports teams for 20 years and worked as a referee, a concession stand attendant and supported the robotics team in Burleson ISD; and

**WHEREAS** Teresa Cook is an active PTO leader at Harmony Public Schools and this year has strongly advocated for facilities funding for charters; and

**WHEREAS** Mary Pencis coordinates 50 volunteers who bring bilingual books and performances of children’s opera into Fort Worth ISD; with the aid of the Fort Worth Opera and The Red Oak Foundation; and

**WHEREAS** Charles Lyons teaches students the importance of patriotism, loyalty, community involvement and pride through the Copperas Cove High School Excel Club; and

**WHEREAS** Evelyn Lyles helps refugee families in Amarillo ISD find needed social services and helps them assimilate into American life on the high plains; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the State Board of Education recognizes these outstanding individuals as Heroes for Children.

**WITNESS** our signatures this fifteenth day of September, two thousand seventeen in Austin, Texas.

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Donna Bahorich, Chair

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Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary