

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
Thursday, August 31, 2023**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023, in Room #1-111 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Will Hickman, chair; Rebecca Bell-Metereau; Staci Childs; L.J. Francis; Julie Pickren

Public Testimony

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda item #6. Information regarding the individual who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Discussion of Ongoing State Board for Educator Certification Activities
(Board agenda page IV-1)

Emily Garcia, associate commissioner for educator preparation, certification, and enforcement, shared updates on current and upcoming State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) activities and proposed SBEC rules and amendments.

ACTION ITEM

2. Review of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments, Subchapter C, Grades 6–8 Assignments, and Subchapter E, Grades 9–12 Assignments
(Board agenda page IV-3)
[Official agenda item #9]

Marilyn Cook, senior director, educator preparation and certification, explained that the proposed revisions to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments, Subchapter C, Grades 6–8 Assignments, and Subchapter E, Grades 9–12 Assignments, would incorporate courses approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE), add certificate areas to the list of credentials appropriate for placement into an assignment, and incorporate technical edits where needed to improve readability and align citations.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Pickren, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education take no action on the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 231, Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments, Subchapter C, Grades 6–8 Assignments, and Subchapter E, Grades 9–12 Assignments.*

DISCUSSION ITEM

3. Open-Enrollment Charter School Generation 29 Application Updates (Board agenda page IV-16)

Marian Schutte, executive director, authorizing division, presented information on the Generation 29 Open-Enrollment Charter Application process including goals, timeline, summary, and submission information.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Recommendation for One Appointment to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees (Board agenda page IV-17) [Consent agenda item #(2)]

Christopher Lucas, director, policy, planning, and operations, explained that one member of the board of trustees of Fort Sam Houston Independent School District (ISD) has retired. Brigadier General Russell Driggers has recommended that Colonel Aaron J. Braxton be appointed for a two-year term.

Invited testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Aaron J. Braxton
AFFILIATION: Fort Sam Houston

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Childs, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Brigadier General Driggers's recommendation, approve the appointment of Colonel Aaron J. Braxton to serve a two-year term of office, from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2025, on the Fort Sam Houston ISD Board of Trustees.*

5. Recommendation for Three Reappointments to the Lackland Independent School District Board of Trustees (Board agenda page IV-22) [Consent agenda item #(3)]

Mr. Lucas explained that the terms of three members of the board of trustees of Lackland ISD are expiring. Brigadier General Russell Driggers has recommended that Mr. John Sheehan, Jr., Mr. John Jackson, and Ms. Jere Pace be reappointed for two-year terms.

Invited testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: John Sheehan, Jr.
AFFILIATION: Lackland ISD Board of Trustees

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Dr. Bell-Metereau, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Brigadier General Driggers's recommendation, approve the reappointments of Mr. John Sheehan, Jr., Mr. John Jackson, and Ms. Jere Pace to serve two-year terms of office, from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2025, on the Lackland ISD Board of Trustees.*

6. Recommendation for Two Reappointments to the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-38)
[Consent agenda item #(4)]

Mr. Lucas explained that the terms of two members of the board of trustees of Randolph Field ISD are expiring. Brigadier General Russell Driggers has recommended that Mr. Patrick Luna and Mr. Peter Duffy be reappointed for two-year terms.

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Brian Holt
AFFILIATION: Randolph Field ISD

Invited testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Patrick Luna
AFFILIATION: Randolph Field ISD Board of Trustees

NAME: Peter Duffy
AFFILIATION: Randolph Field ISD Board of Trustees

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Pickren, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Brigadier General Driggers's recommendation, approve the reappointments of Mr. Patrick Luna and Mr. Peter Duffy to serve two-year terms of office, from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2025, on the Randolph Field ISD Board of Trustees.*

7. Recommendation for One Reappointment to the Boys Ranch Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-46)
[Consent agenda item #(5)]

Mr. Lucas explained that the term of one member of the board of trustees of Boys Ranch ISD is expiring. Mr. Richard Nedelkoff, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Boys Ranch ISD, has recommended that Mr. James Taylor be reappointed for a two-year term.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Francis, seconded by Ms. Pickren, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education, based on Mr. Richard Nedelkoff's recommendation, approve the reappointment of Mr. James Taylor to serve a two-year term of office, from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2025, on the Boys Ranch ISD Board of Trustees.*

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:31 a.m.