

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

December 10, 2020

MEETING HELD - MEMBERS PRESENT

The Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) held a regular meeting on December 10, 2020, beginning at 1:02 p.m. in the Board Services Conference Room of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, 4400 West 18th St., Houston, TX 77092.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived	Departed
Sue Deigaard	District V Trustee, President	Present		
Judith Cruz	District VIII Trustee, Second Vice-President	Present		
Patricia Allen	District IV Trustee, Secretary	Present		
Dani Hernandez	District III Trustee, Assistant Secretary	Present		
Elizabeth Santos	District I Trustee	Remote		
Kathy Blueford-Daniels	District II Trustee	Remote		
Holly Maria Flynn Vilaseca	District VI Trustee	Present		
Anne Sung	District VII Trustee	Remote		
Myrna Guidry	District IX Trustee	Present		

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - PURPOSE

President Deigaard called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District at 1:02 p.m. and declared the board convened to consider matters pertaining to the Houston Independent School District as listed on the duly posted meeting notice.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board adjourned to closed or executive session under Section D of Chapter 551 of Texas Government Code, Open Meetings Act, Subsections 551.004, 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.076, 551.082, 551.0821, 551.083, 551.084, and 551.089 at 1:02 p.m. for the purposes stated in the notice of this meeting. If any final action, vote or decision on any matter considered in the closed session was required, such final action, vote or decision was taken at the open meeting covered by the notice upon the

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reconvening of this public meeting or at a subsequent meeting of the board upon notice thereof.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION IN THE BOARD AUDITORIUM

Board President Deigaard called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District at 4:35 p.m. and declared the board convened to consider matters pertaining to the Houston Independent School District as listed on the duly posted meeting notice.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL FINANCIAL INTEGRITY RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS

Glenn Reed, chief financial officer, delivered the required public presentation on the district's Schools Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) report for 2019–2020 as submitted to the Texas Education Agency.

MEETING RECESSED

Board President Deigaard recessed the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION IN THE BOARD AUDITORIUM

Board President Deigaard declared the meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. to consider matters pertaining to HISD as listed on the duly posted meeting notice.

SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION ON INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S PRIORITY ITEMS

- A-1. Approval Of Personal Services Performed By The Superintendent, Including Speaking Engagements, Panel Discussions, Workshops, Etc., In Accordance With Texas Education Code Section 11.201(E)

Approved by Consensus

Speakers:

- Gerry Monroe
- Ted Weisgal

Any supplemental information to Agenda Items may be found in the Meeting Folder of this date located in the Office of Board Services, Houston Independent School District.

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RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Hernandez
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

A-2. Approval Of Board Monitoring Update: Presentation Of Goals 1 And 4 Progress Measures 1, 2, And 3

Speakers:

- Mikel Quesada (student)
- Christopher Williams
- Allison Newport
- Katherine Goodman
- Karina Quesada
- Sarah Rivlin
- Sister Mama Sonya
- Dr. Pamela Boveland
- Ruth Kravetz

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Holly Maria Flynn Vilaseca, District VI Trustee
AYES:	Guidry, Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Santos

B. TRUSTEE ITEMS

B-1. Appointment Of Houston Independent School District Representatives To The Houston Land Bank Board Of Directors

Approved by Consensus

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RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Hernandez
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

B-2. Receive And Act On Report And Recommendations From Board Audit Committee

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Hernandez
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

B-3. Discussion Of Police Function – Next Steps

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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Speaker:

- Jon Garcia

C. CLOSED SESSION

C-1. Personnel

- a. Deliberate the duties of the interim superintendent of schools, chief officers, assistant superintendents, principals, employees, chief audit executive, and board members; evaluations of the interim superintendent and chief audit executive, consideration of compensation, and contractual provisions.
- b. Consider and approve proposed appointments, reassignments, proposed terminations, terminations/suspensions, contract lengths, proposed nonrenewals, renewals, and resignations/retirements of personnel including teachers, assistant principals, principals, chief officers, assistant superintendents, and other administrators, and, if necessary, approve waiver and release and compromise agreements.

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On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board approved the balance of the closed session personnel agenda, including specifically terminations of continuing term and probationary contracts, end-of-term terminations of probationary contracts; nonrenewals of term contracts, and issuance of fourth-year probationary contracts, and the board authorized the interim superintendent or her designee to provide notice of same. The board approved separation and release agreements; withdrawals of contract recommendations and issuance of final orders of contract terminations and nonrenewals as discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [7 TO 1]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz, Guidry
NAYS:	Santos
ABSTAIN:	Flynn Vilaseca

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board approved a finding of no good cause for educators to resign or abandon employment contracts without district consent under Sections 21.105 (c), 21.160(c), or 21.210(c) of the Texas Education Code as discussed in closed session and authorized the interim superintendent or her designee to submit a written complaint to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to impose sanctions, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [6 TO 2]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
NAYS:	Guidry, Santos
ABSTAIN:	Flynn Vilaseca

- c. Hear complaints against and deliberate the appointment, evaluation, and duties of public officers or employees and resolution of same.

C-2. Legal Matters

- a. Matters on which the district's attorney's duty to the district under the Code of Professional Responsibility clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Law, including specifically any matter listed on this agenda and meeting notice.
- b. Pending or contemplated litigation matters and status report.
- c. Update on federal law enforcement activity on February 27, 2020.

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- d. Legal discussion and advice concerning House Bill 1842 (84th Leg., 2015), Senate Bill 1882 (85th Leg., 2017), and the district's options.
- e. Legal discussion concerning Houston ISD v. Texas Education Agency, et al., in the 459th Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. D-1-GN-19-003695.
- f. Legal Update on Special Education Accreditation Investigation.
- g. Receive legal advice concerning the superintendent search process and timelines.
- h. Consideration and authority to settle Nader Ramadi v. Jamal Morris and Houston ISD; in the 334th Judicial District Court of Harris County, TX; Cause No. 2019-52490.

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the matter of Nader Ramadi v Jamal Morris and Houston ISD in the 334th Judicial District Court of Harris County, TX; Cause No. 2019-52490, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz, Guidry
ABSTAIN:	Flynn Vilaseca

- i. Consideration and authority to settle Pedro Balderas v. Houston ISD, et al.; in the 234th Judicial District Court of Harris County, TX; Cause No. 2019-69491

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the matter of Pedro Balderas v. Houston ISD, et al.; in the 234th Judicial District Court of Harris County, TX; Cause No. 2019-69491, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

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RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Guidry, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Flynn Vilaseca

- j. Consideration and authority to settle the subrogation lien of Cecil Collins against Mario Garza and Progressive Insurance for workers' compensation benefits; Progressive Insurance Claim No. 185975839

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the subrogation lien of Cecil Collins against Mario Garza and Progressive Insurance for workers compensation benefits; Progressive Insurance Claim No. 185975839, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Guidry, Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz

- k. Consideration and authority to settle the special education matter of S.E., b/n/f N.M.E. and C.E. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 333-SE-0820

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the special education matter of S.E., b/n/f N.M.E. and C.E. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 333-SE-0820, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Guidry, Cruz

- l. Consideration and authority to settle the special education matter of K.H., b/n/f W.L. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 301-SE-0720

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the special education matter of K.H., b/n/f W.L. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 301-SE-0720, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

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RESULT:	APPROVED [7 to 2]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen
NAYS:	Guidry, Cruz

m. Consideration and authority to settle the special education matter of V.R., b/n/f D.R. and C.R. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 188-SE-0220

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board authorized the district's attorneys to settle the special education matter of V.R., b/n/f D.R. and C.R. v. HISD, TEA Docket No. 188-SE-0220, on the terms discussed in closed session, effective December 11, 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Guidry, Cruz

C-3. Real Estate

D. **ACADEMIC SERVICES - NO ITEMS**

E. **SCHOOL OFFICES**

E-1. Approval Of Targeted Improvement Plans For Comprehensive And F-Rated Campuses

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

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F. STRATEGY AND INNOVATION

F-1. Authority To Negotiate And Execute An Interlocal Partnership Agreement With The University Of Houston For Student Tutorial Services

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

G. HUMAN RESOURCES - NO ITEMS

H. BUSINESS OPERATIONS - NO ITEMS

I. FINANCE

I-1. Approval Of Vendor Awards For Purchases Over \$100,000 And Ratification Of Vendor Awards For Purchases Under \$100,000

18-05-17-RFP/Carpet, Wood, and Other Flooring Services, Maintenance and Repairs

On motion by Trustee Cruz, with a second by Trustee Santos, the board approved Project Number 18-05-17-RFP/Carpet, Wood, and Other Flooring Services, Maintenance and Repairs

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Guidry, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Flynn Vilaseca

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- I-1. Approval Of Vendor Awards For Purchases Over \$100,000 And Ratification Of Vendor Awards For Purchases Under \$100,000

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

- I-2. Approval Of Current And Anticipated Donations For Districtwide And School-Specific Programs And Authorization To Negotiate, Execute, And Amend Necessary Contracts Associated With These Donations

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

- I-3. Acceptance Of Grant Funds In Support Of Districtwide And School-Specific Programs And Authorization To Negotiate And Execute Contracts Required Under The Grants

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABTAIN:	Guidry

- I-4. Approval Of Report For Disaster Assistance – Reduction In Recapture Payments For Facility Replacement

Approved by Consensus

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RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

I-5. Approval Of 2020 Tax Roll

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

I-6. Authority To Negotiate And Execute Interlocal Agreement With 1 Government Procurement Alliance

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

I-7. Authority To Negotiate And Execute Interlocal Agreement With Goodbuy Cooperative Lead Agency Region 2 – Education Service Center

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

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- I-8. Approval Of Annual Report For Disaster Assistance – Reduction In Recapture Payments For Facility Repairs

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

J. OTHER

- J-1. Approval Of Updated Internal Audit Charter And Audit Plan

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Flynn Vilaseca Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

- J-2. Approval Of Internal Audit Strategic Plan

Approved by Consensus

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Judith Cruz, District VIII Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Hernandez, Allen, Cruz
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

K. POLICY – NO ITEMS

L. SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION ITEMS

- L-1. Investment Report

RESULT:	REVIEWED
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MEETING RECESSED

Board President Deigaard recessed the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION

Board President Deigaard declared the meeting convened at 8:20 p.m. to consider matters pertaining to HISD as listed on the duly posted meeting notice.

HEARING OF THE COMMUNITY

Speakers:

- Isabella Vazquez (student)
- David Dzul (student)
- Alexavier Mendoza (student)
- Sarah Grace Kimberly (student)
- Kimberly Brill
- Margaret Sweeney
- June Nixon
- Anne-Lise Fishman
- Jennifer Jacobs
- Lisa Johnson
- Patricia Chambers
- Shiloh Miller
- Bryan Najera Demoraes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Sung, with a second by Trustee Santos to amend the minutes of the December 3, 2020 agenda review meeting to reflect her arrival at 6:04 p.m.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Anne Sung, District VII Trustee
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Santos, District I Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Allen, Cruz, Hernandez
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

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On motion by Trustee Blueford-Daniels with a second by Trustee Allen, the board approved the minutes from the special meetings held on December 2, 7, and 8, 2020, and the agenda review meeting held on December 3, 2020, as amended.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathy Blueford-Daniels, District II Trustee
SECONDER:	Patricia Allen, District IV Trustee
AYES:	Flynn Vilaseca, Sung, Santos, Deigaard, Blueford-Daniels, Allen, Cruz, Hernandez
ABSTAIN:	Guidry

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED

The foregoing minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District held on December 10, 2020, in the Board Auditorium of the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center of the Houston Independent School District, 4400 West 18th Street, Houston, Texas, were duly approved at a meeting held on:

ATTEST



Sue Deigaard
Board of Education, President
Houston Independent School District



Dr. Patricia K. Allen
Board of Education, Secretary
Houston Independent School District