Minutes
State Board of Education
June 23, 2017

The State Board of Education met at 9:12 a.m. on Friday, June 23, 2017, in the State Board of Education Room, #1-104, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. The following members of the board were present:

Presiding: Donna Bahorich, Chair; Lawrence A. Allen, Jr.; Erika Beltran; David Bradley; Barbara Cargill; Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary; Keven Ellis; Pat Hardy; Tom Maynard; Sue Melton-Malone; Georgina C. Pérez; Marisa B. Perez-Diaz; Marty Rowley, Vice-Chair

Absent: Ken Mercer; Geraldine “Tincy” Miller

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

State Board of Education, April 21, 2017
State Board of Education, May 10, 2017

MOTION AND VOTE: The State Board of Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the April 21 and May 10, 2017 meetings of the State Board of Education, as printed.

1. Resolutions and Presentations

Resolution Honoring Sharon Pierce

The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution honoring Sharon Pierce upon her retirement as the state advisor of the Texas Association of Family Career and Community Leaders of America.

(ATTACHMENT 1, page 15)

Student Heroes Awards Resolution

The State Board of Education, by unanimous consent, adopted a resolution recognizing each of the following students and commending them for their unselfishness, good character and altruism towards others: Amanda Aguirre, Jade Sosa, Harlie Montez, ZaDarius Webber, Hunter Beaton, Madeline Neff, Sarah Schilberg, Dylan Keene, Bao Catteau, Corey Carroll, Brock Crymes, Emilee Gant, Cooper Philpot, Cole George, and Christabel Salinas.

(ATTACHMENT 2, page 17)
Public Testimony - Individual testimony will be taken to address items other than those on the board agenda. 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/ or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The State Board of Education received no presentations of public testimony.

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. Bahorich reported that consent agenda item #(1)—Selection of Board Members to Serve on the Long-Range Plan Steering Committee—was being pulled from the original consent agenda.

In addition to the items on the original consent agenda, the following item received unanimous approval in committee and was brought forward for board approval:

- Official Agenda Item #5—Update on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Review

The State Board of Education approved the following items on the consent agenda.

(1) Selection of Board Members to Serve on the Long-Range Plan Steering Committee

(Board agenda page I-55)

(COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD)

This item was pulled from the consent agenda

The Committee of the Full Board recommended that the State Board of Education approve the election of Marty Rowley, Tom Maynard, and Georgina Pérez to serve on the long-range plan steering committee along with the board chair and the chair of the Committee on School Initiatives and approve the start of the nomination and selection process for the 10 members of the steering committee from stakeholder groups across the state.
MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Dr. Ellis, seconded by Ms. Perez-Diaz, and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve the election of Marty Rowley, Tom Maynard, and Georgina Pérez to serve on the long-range plan steering committee along with the board chair and the chair of the Committee on School Initiatives and that three seats of the committee be reserved for appointees of the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Workforce Commission, with the final 10 seats:

- filled by the remaining State Board members submitting three nominees for consideration;
- and the five board members serving on the steering committee making the final selections;
- with a guarantee that one of the nominees from each of the 10 nominating board members shall be selected to serve on the committee.

(2) 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
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Board agenda page III-1)
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved for first reading and filing authorization the 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, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(3) Ratification of the Purchases and Sales of the Investment Portfolio of the Permanent School Fund for the Months of March and April 2017
(Board agenda page III-5)
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education ratified the purchases and sales for the months of March and April 2017 in the amount of $709,522,829 and $706,821,627, respectively, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(4) Update on Permanent School Fund Related Legislation
(Board agenda page III-7)
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education took no action on this item.
Decision on Real Estate Investments
(Board agenda page 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 execute agreements:

- with Trumbull Property Fund G.P., LLC, to effect a 100% redemption of interests in the UBS (US) Trumbull Property Fund LP, and delegated authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education; and,

- with Morgan Stanley Real Estate Advisor Inc., as manager, necessary to make an investment commitment of up to $225 million in Prime Property Fund, LLC, subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms, and delegated authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education; and,

- with IRI Core I, L.P., as general partner, necessary to make an investment commitment of up to $75 million in Invesco Core Real Estate – U.S.A., L.P., subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms, and delegated authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education.

The State Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund to execute agreement(s) with Prologis, L.P., as General Partner, necessary to make an investment commitment of up to $100 million in Prologis Targeted U.S. Logistics Holdings II, L.P., a U.S. dollar denominated fund, subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms, and delegated authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education, and approved a waiver of the PSF Real Estate Investment Policy Statement requirement for the investment manager to be registered as an investment advisor.

Review of the Permanent School Fund Private Market Policies and Real Estate Tactical Plan
(Board agenda page III-11)
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)

The State Board of Education approved the proposed change to the Real Estate Investment Policy Statement and approved the Real Estate Annual Tactical Plan, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

The State Board of Education approved the proposed change to the Private Equity Investment Policy and Guidelines, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.
(7) Proposed Amendments to the Investment Procedures Manual  
(Board agenda page III-13)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)  

The State Board of Education approved amendments to the Investment Procedures Manual, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(8) Selection of Qualified Respondents to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Fiduciary Counsel, Alternative Assets Portfolio/Contracting and Tax Counsel for the Permanent School Fund  
(Board agenda page III-15)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)  

The State Board of Education approved a list of qualified respondents for the categories of fiduciary counsel, investment contracting, real estate, tax, and disclosure counsel and approved a contract with Jackson Walker L.L.P. for fiduciary counsel services and authorization for contract execution by the Commissioner of Education, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

(9) Per Capita Apportionment Rate for the 2016-2017 School Year  
(Board agenda page III-16A)  
(COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND)  

The State Board of Education adopted a per capita apportionment rate of $390.300 for the 2016-2017 school year, as recommended by the Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund.

5. Update on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Review  
(Board agenda page I-47)  

The State Board of Education approved the revised TEKS review process and the proposed TEKS and instructional materials review and adoption schedule, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

(ATTACHMENT 3, page 19)

Items were considered in the following order: Item #9 and #3 through #8.
COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD

3. Approval of 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 Proclamation 2019 Questions and Answers, as amended and recommended by the Committee of the Full Board. (Ms. Hardy was absent for the vote).
   
   (ATTACHMENT 4, page 23)

4. Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 110, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading, Subchapter C, High School, and 19 TAC Chapter 128, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Spanish Language Arts and Reading and English as a Second Language, Subchapter C, High School
   (Second Reading and Final Adoption)
   (Board agenda page I-5)

   **MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Rowley 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 new 19 TAC Chapter 110, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading, Subchapter C, High School, and Chapter 128, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Spanish Language Arts and Reading and English as a Second Language, Subchapter C, High School, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register, as recommended by the Committee of the Full Board.

   **MOTION AND VOTE:** It was moved by Dr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Rowley, and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education maintain the original language in §110.36(c)(7)(D)(ii) as follows:

   “multiple organizational design and patterns within a text to develop the thesis;”

   **MOTION AND VOTE:** It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded by Ms. Hardy, and carried by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board to suspend the State Board of Education’s Operating Rules to consider amendments to ELAR and ESOL.

   **MOTION AND VOTE:** It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education to amend §§110.36(b)(2), 110.37(b)(2), 110.38(b)(2), 110.39(b)(2), 1238.34(b)(2), and 128.35(b)(2) by striking the following sentences:

   “It is important to note that encoding (spelling) and decoding (reading) are reciprocal skills. Decoding is internalized when tactile and kinesthetic opportunities (encoding) are provided.”

   **MOTION AND VOTE:** It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education amend §110.39(c)(5)(H) to read:

   “respond orally or in writing with appropriate register and purposeful persuasive vocabulary, tone, and voice;”
MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education amend §110.36(c)(5)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support a comprehensive appropriate response;”

§110.37(c)(5)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support an interpretive appropriate response;”

§110.38(c)(5)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support an analytic appropriate response;”

§110.39(c)(5)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support an evaluative appropriate response;”

§128.34(c)(7)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support a comprehensive appropriate response;”

§128.35(c)(7)(C) to read:

“use text evidence and original commentary to support an interpretive appropriate response;”

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education amend §§128.34(c)(4) and 128.35(c)(4) to read:

“Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking—fluency. The student reads grade-level text with fluency and comprehension. Based on the student’s language proficiency level, and with appropriately provided English language development scaffolding, the student is expected to adjust fluency when reading grade-level and language-proficiency level text based on the reading purpose.”

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education amend §128.34(c)(3)(B) to read:

“discuss and analyze context and use cognates to distinguish between the denotative and connotative meanings of determine denotation and connotation of unfamiliar words and phrases;”

MOTION: It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich that the State Board of Education amend §128.36(c)(6)(N) to read:

“use cohesive devices appropriately with increasing accuracy.”
**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Maynard and seconded by Mr. Bradley that the State Board of Education amend §128.36(c)(6)(N) to read:

“use cohesive devices appropriately with increasing accuracy.”

Mr. Maynard withdrew his motion.

**VOTE:** A vote was taken on the motion to amend §128.36(c)(6)(N) to read:

“use cohesive devices appropriately with increasing accuracy.”

The motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Ms. Pérez and seconded that the State Board of Education amend §128.35(c)(1)(C) to read:

“follow, restate, and give increasingly complex oral instructions to perform specific tasks, answer questions, or solve problems and increasingly complex processes;”

§128.35(c)(3)(B) to read:

“discuss and analyze context and use cognates to distinguish between among denotative, connotative, and figurative meanings of words;”

§128.35(c)(3)(E) to read:

“use multiple-meaning words, homographs, homophones, and commonly confused terms with increasing accuracy correctly; and”

§128.34(c)(7)(K) to read:

“express opinions, ideas, and feelings, ranging from communicating single words and short phrases to participating in increasingly extended discussion.”

§128.34(c)(9)(E) to read:

“identify and analyze characteristics and structural elements of increasingly complex argumentative texts such as:”

§128.34(c)(11)(B) to read:

“develop drafts into an increasingly a focused, structured, and coherent piece of writing in timed and open-ended situations by:”

§§128.34(c)(11)(B)(ii) and 128.35(c)(11)(B)(ii) to read:

“developing an engaging idea reflecting increasing depth of thought with specific details, examples, and commentary;”
§128.34(c)(11)(E) to read:

“use sentence-combining techniques to create an increasing variety of sentence structures and lengths;”

**MOTION**: It was moved by Dr. Ellis that the State Board of Education consider the previous amendments separately.

Dr. Ellis withdrew his motion.

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Hardy, to close debate. The motion carried with two-thirds of the members voting Aye.

**VOTE**: A vote was taken on the motion that the State Board of Education amend §128.35(c)(1)(C) to read:

“follow, restate, and give increasingly complex oral instructions to perform specific tasks, answer questions, or solve problems and increasingly complex processes;”

§128.35(c)(3)(B) to read:

“discuss and analyze context and use cognates to distinguish between among denotative, connotative, and figurative meanings of words;”

§128.35(c)(3)(E) to read:

“use multiple-meaning words, homographs, homophones, and commonly confused terms with increasing accuracy correctly; and”

§128.34(c)(7)(K) to read:

“express opinions, ideas, and feelings, ranging from communicating single words and short phrases to participating in increasingly extended discussion.”

§128.34(c)(9)(E) to read:

“identify and analyze characteristics and structural elements of increasingly complex argumentative texts such as:”

§128.34(c)(11)(B) to read:

“develop drafts into an increasingly focused, structured, and coherent piece of writing in timed and open-ended situations by:”

§§128.34(c)(11)(B)(ii) and 128.35(c)(11)(B)(ii) to read:

“developing an engaging idea reflecting increasing depth of thought with specific details, examples, and commentary;”
§128.34(c)(11)(E) to read:

“use sentence-combining techniques to create an increasing variety of sentence structures and lengths;”

The motion failed.

Mr. Maynard stated he had several amendments to bring forward for the purpose of alignment.

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Rowley, seconded, and carried by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board that the State Board of Education consider amendments by Mr. Maynard separately.

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Maynard and carried to amend §128.34(c)(1)(C) to read:

“follow, restate, and give increasingly complex oral instructions to perform specific tasks, answer questions, or solve problems and complex processes;”

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Maynard and carried to amend §128.35(c)(7)(K) to read:

“express opinions, ideas, and feelings ranging from communicating in single words and short phrases to participating in increasingly extended discussions.”

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Maynard and carried to amend §128.35(c)(11)(B) to read:

“develop drafts into an increasingly focused, structured, and coherent piece of writing in timed and open-ended situations by:”

**MOTION AND VOTE**: It was moved by Mr. Maynard to amend §128.34(c)(1)(F) to read:

“give a presentation using informal, formal, and technical language effectively to meet the needs of audience, purpose, and occasion, employing eye contact, speaking rate such as pauses for effect, volume, enunciation, purposeful gestures and with increasing mastery of conventions of language to communicate ideas effectively;”

and to amend §128.35(c)(1)(E) to read:

“give a formal presentation that incorporates a clear thesis and a logical progression of valid evidence from reliable sources and that employs eye contact, speaking rate such as pauses for effect, volume, enunciation, purposeful gestures and increasing mastery of conventions of language to communicate ideas effectively;”

The motion failed.
MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Ms. Pérez and carried to amend §110.39(c)(7)(B) to read:

“analyze the effects of differences in sound, form, figurative language, graphics, and dramatic structure in poetry across literary time periods and cultures;”

§§110.36(c)(10)(B), 110.37(c)(10)(B), 128.34(c)(12)(B), and 128.35(c)(12)(B) to read:

“compose informational texts such as personal essays, explanatory essays, and reports, and personal essays using genre characteristics and craft;”

§§110.38(c)(10)(B) and 110.39(c)(10)(B) to read:

“compose informational texts such as resumes, personal essays, explanatory essays, and reports, resumes, and personal essays using genre characteristics and craft;”

VOTE: A vote was taken on the motion 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 new 19 TAC Chapter 110, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading, Subchapter C, High School, and Chapter 128, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Spanish Language Arts and Reading and English as a Second Language, Subchapter C, High School, as amended, with an effective date of 20 days after filing as adopted with the Texas Register. The motion carried unanimously.

(ATTACHMENT 5, page 47)

5. Update on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Review
   (Board agenda page I-47)

   Action taken by the state Board of Education is addressed under item #2—Approval of Consent Agenda.

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION

6. Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 114, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English, Subchapter A, Elementary, §114.1 and §114.2, Subchapter B, Middle School, §114.11 and §114.12, and Subchapter C, High School, §§114.21-114.29
   (Second Reading and Final Adoption)
   (Board agenda page II-1)

MOTION AND VOTE: It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone 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 repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 114, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other than English, Subchapter A, Elementary, §114.1 and §114.2, Subchapter B, Middle School, §114.11 and §114.12, and Subchapter C, High School, §§114.21-114.29, with an effective date of August 28, 2017, as recommended by the Committee on Instruction. (Mr. Bradley was absent for the vote.)

(ATTACHMENT 6, page 85)
7. Proposed Approval of Innovative Courses  
(Board agenda page II-21)

**MOTION AND VOTE:** It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone and carried unanimously that the State Board of Education approve the following one-half credit innovative courses which do not fall within any of the subject areas of the foundation or enrichment curriculum for a period of five years: Making Connections III and IV. (Mr. Bradley was absent for the vote.)

8. Consideration of Removal of Certain Products from the List of Adopted Instructional Materials  
(Board agenda page II-25)

The State Board of Education took no action on this item.

**COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND**

All action items were on the consent agenda.

**COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES**

(Board agenda page IV-1)

Arnold Alaniz, assistant director, division of charter school administration, reported that the proposed open-enrollment charter schools had been invited to provide an overview of their charter proposal, their mission and vision, as well as answer any questions from board members. The presentations were provided in the following order: Bridgeway Preparatory Academy (Dallas), Etoile Academy Charter School (Houston), Legacy School of Sports Sciences (Houston), Valor Public Schools (Austin), and Yellowstone College Preparatory (Houston).

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mrs. Melton-Malone 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 Sports Sciences (Houston), Valor Public Schools (Austin), and Yellowstone College Preparatory (Houston).

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Cortez to reject Valor Public Schools (Austin).

The motion died for lack of a second.

**VOTE:** A vote was taken on the motion 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 Sports Sciences (Houston), Valor Public Schools (Austin), and Yellowstone College Preparatory (Houston). The motion carried with Ms. Pérez voting no.
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 gave a brief report on two Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund consent agenda items: Update on Permanent School Fund Related Legislation and Selection of Qualified Respondents to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Fiduciary Counsel, Alternative Assets Portfolio/Contracting and Tax Counsel for the Permanent School Fund

Committee on School Initiatives

Mrs. Cargill did not report on Committee on School Initiatives discussion items.

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.

The meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

___________________________________
Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Texas Association of Family Career and Community Leaders of America was established in 1945, and has had three state advisors, Sharon Pierce being the third and most recent and who has served in this state role for 36 years, half of the association’s history; and

WHEREAS during her 42 years as a classroom teacher, Texas Education Agency staff member and FCCLA State Advisor, Mrs. Pierce has impacted the lives of more than a million Texans; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Pierce has represented Texas and the FCCLA on a national scale having served as a member of the FCCLA National Board of Directors on three occasions and as an advisor to 27 national FCCA officers; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Pierce navigated the organization’s transition from a traditional home economics model known as Future Homemakers of America, to a robust family and consumer sciences model and the rebranding which followed this challenging and necessary transformation and has worked tirelessly to keep an association with a proud history current and relevant to workplace and student needs by establishing industry advisory groups to ensure that FCCLA career and leadership development initiatives, which are an integral part of the instructional program, remain on the cutting edge; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Pierce cultivated significant partnerships to support the post-secondary educational aspirations of Texas FCCLA members, resulting in a scholarship program which awards $1.9 million each year to graduating seniors; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Pierce’s relentless pursuit of excellence resulted in her being named the National State Advisor of the Year and a recipient of the National FCCLA’s Distinguished Service Award; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Pierce has announced her retirement, effective June 1, 2017, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education thank Mrs. Pierce for her years of dedicated and selfless service to the State of Texas, congratulate her on a remarkable 42-year career and commend her for her passionate, visionary leadership which has spanned half of this iconic organization's history in the state, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Sharon Pierce and that a copy be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

WITNESS our signatures this twenty-third day of June, two thousand seventeen, in Austin, Texas.

___________________________
Donna Bahorich, Chair

___________________________
Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary
WHEREAS the State Board of Education’s Student Heroes Award recognizes Texas public school students who engage in unselfish acts of kindness, charity or support towards their fellow students or community; and

WHEREAS the SBOE members reviewed nominations and selected 15 students across the state as recipients of the 2017 Student Heroes Award; and

WHEREAS Amanda Aguirre, a fifth-grade student at Don Jose Gallego Elementary School in the Laredo Independent School District, created care packages for military dependent children and donated to Locks of Love; and

WHEREAS Jade Sosa, an eighth-grade student at Valley View Early College High School in Valley View ISD created a mentoring program called Project 2.0 “Do Something;” and

WHEREAS Harlie Montez, a Memorial High School senior in Edgewood ISD, volunteers with multiple programs, including a summer camp that helps incoming freshmen learn engineering and robotic concepts; and

WHEREAS ZaDarius Webber, a Klein Forest High School senior in Klein ISD, is an active volunteer, working with groups such as the North East Men of Distinction, North Houston Junior Frontiers Club, and the Klein Forest African American Heritage Society; and

WHEREAS Amanda Aguirre, a fifth-grade student at Don Jose Gallego Elementary School in the Laredo Independent School District, created care packages for military dependent children and donated to Locks of Love; and

WHEREAS Hunter Beaton, a sophomore at Boerne High School in Boerne ISD, started a program that is now going national in which children in foster care are given a “Day 1” duffel bag containing items such as toiletries, blankets, underwear and books; and

WHEREAS Madeline Neff, an eighth-grade student at Salyards Middle School in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, worked to create a campus culture of volunteerism in which students help fellow students, the school staff, and residents of a local residential care facility; and

WHEREAS Sarah Schilberg, a West Brook High School junior in Beaumont ISD, founded Bruins Aiding in Community Service and volunteers at a nursing home, serving breakfast and providing companionship to seniors with Alzheimer’s; and,

WHEREAS Dylan Keene, a third-grade student at Whitcomb Elementary School in Clear Creek ISD, voluntarily assists a classmate who is new to the country and who has a medical condition that requires her to check in regularly with the school nurse; and

WHEREAS Bao Catteau, a senior at Denison High School in Denison ISD, performs many volunteer activities such as mentoring a student through the Big Brother, Big Sister program, and collecting and delivering food through Meals on Wheels and Helping Hands; and

WHEREAS Corey Carroll, a Milano High School senior in Milano ISD, increased school spirit by creating and directing a drum line that will now continue after he graduates; and

WHEREAS Brock Crymes, a senior at Birdville High School in Birdville ISD, is the founder of the Birdville High School Senate and has served as a senior teen court attorney for seven years at the North Richland Hills Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS Emilee Gant, a senior at Lovejoy High School in Lovejoy ISD, volunteers with Special Olympics organizing events, games and award ceremonies and has coached a Special Olympics cheer squad for four years; and

WHEREAS Cooper Philpot, an eighth-grade student at Bailey Junior High in Arlington ISD, each month for three years has set up and hosted birthday parties at Safe Haven, a shelter for women and children who are escaping domestic violence; and

WHEREAS Cole George, a Lorena High School freshman in Lorena ISD, raised funds to buy a battery-powered adaptive fork that bends and levels to help a classmate whose disability affects her motor skills, which made it difficult for her to bring a fork to her mouth; and

WHEREAS Christabel Salinas, a fifth-grade student at Bean Elementary School in Lubbock ISD, organized a clothing drive and a coin drive to help needy humans and pets in her community; and

WHEREAS these amazing students have modeled caring and compassion in their communities; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education extends its heartfelt thanks to each of these students and commends them for their unselfish volunteerism, good character and integrity; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to each of them and that a copy be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

WITNESS our signatures this twenty-third day of June, two thousand and seventeen, in Austin, Texas.

Donna Bahorich, Chair

Ruben Cortez, Jr., Secretary