

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives**

September 10, 2015

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:08 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2015, 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: Marty Rowley, chair; Martha M. Dominguez, vice chair; Donna Bahorich; Erika Beltran; Ruben Cortez, Jr.

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 4-17-15/](http://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Leadership/State_Board_of_Education/SBOE_Meetings/SBOE_Operating_Rules_Amended_4-17-15/) or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda item #2. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives considered items in the following order: #1 through #3, and #5 through #7.

CONSENT ITEM

1. Recommendation for Appointments to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees

(Board agenda page IV-1)
[Consent agenda item #(6)]

Ron Rowell, director, school governance, presented to the committee information regarding an appointment to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Dr. Dominguez, and carried by unanimous vote to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the appointment of Ms. Rebekah K. Sanchez, Mr. Willie E. White, Jr., and Ms. Andrea Nicholas to serve a two-year term of office, from September 11, 2015 through September 10, 2017, on the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees.*

ACTION ITEMS

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-57)

[Official agenda item #12]

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Nicole Shepherd
AFFILIATION: Texas State University

NAME: Dr. Sandra West
AFFILIATION: Science Teachers Association of Texas

Marilyn Cook, director, educator certification, presented to the committee information regarding the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapters 231. The proposed revisions would clarify the appropriate credential for placement in a particular teaching assignment and ensure alignment with changes to public school curriculum.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Dr. Dominguez, seconded by Mrs. Bahorich, and carried by unanimous vote to 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.*

3. Review of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 249, Disciplinary Proceedings, Sanctions, and Contested Cases

(Board agenda page IV-73)

[Official agenda item #13]

Laura Moriaty, legal services, presented to the committee information regarding proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 249. The proposed amendments clarify the requirements for superintendents reporting the resignation of educators when there is evidence of educator wrongdoing, clarify that the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) may sanction an educator for hiring or refusing to fire an educator in violation of Texas Education Code §22.085, allow SBEC to maintain an investigation flag on the educator's certificate while an agreed order is awaiting review by SBEC, and modernize the procedures that the SBEC follows for final agreed orders.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mrs. Bahorich, seconded by Dr. Dominguez, and carried by unanimous vote to take no action on the proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 249, Disciplinary Proceedings, Sanctions, and Contested Cases.*

4. Long-Range Plan for Public Education

(Board agenda page IV-97)

[Official agenda item #14]

No action was taken on this item.

5. Acceptance of Gifts and Donations for the Long-Range Plan on Public Education

(Board agenda page IV-99)

[Official agenda item #15]

Marty Rowley, committee chair, informed the committee that he has had several conversations and a meeting with representatives of a private foundation that may be interested in helping fund the Long-Range Plan for Public Education. He said he has been encouraged by the response he has received so far. Mr. Rowley indicated it may be necessary to break the project up into two phases. Phase one would include hiring a facilitator, who would hold several work sessions with the board, and putting together meetings around the state to prepare a vision document. The funds could be used for hiring the facilitator, board travel, and demographers to create the vision or blueprint of what education in Texas will look like in the next 5-7 years.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Charter Schools Updates

(Board agenda page IV-101)

Heather Mauzé, director, charter school administration, presented to the committee information on the commissioner's Generation Twenty-One Open-Enrollment Charter School Application and its timeline.

7. Review of 19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter A, General Provisions for Hearings Before the State Board of Education, and Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners

(Board agenda page IV-103)

Laura Moriarty, legal services, presented to the committee information related to 19 TAC Chapter 157 on the topic of hearings, appeals, and hearing examiners.

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:19 a.m.