

**Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
January 28, 2021**

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2021, in Room, #1-111, of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present: Matt Robinson, chair; Ruben Cortez, Jr.; Aicha Davis, vice-chair; Will Hickman; Jay Johnson

Non-Committee Members Present: Georgina C. Pérez

Public Testimony

The Committee on School Initiatives heard public testimony on agenda items #2 and #5. Information regarding the individuals who presented public testimony is included in the discussion of that item.

The Committee on School Initiatives considered items in the following order: Item number 1, 5, 2, 3, 4

ACTION ITEM

1. Election of Chair

(Board agenda page IV-1)

NOMINATION: Dr. Johnson nominated Dr. Robinson for chair of the Committee on School Initiatives for a two-year term.

Dr. Robinson was elected chair of the Committee on School Initiatives.

Dr. Robinson appointed Ms. Davis to serve as vice-chair.

DISCUSSION ITEM

2. Open-Enrollment Charter School Generation 26 Application Updates

(Board agenda page IV-2)

Heather Mauzé, director, charter school authorizing and administration division, presented information on the Generation 26 Open-Enrollment Charter Application cycle, its timeline, and next steps in the application process.

Public testimony was provided by the following individuals:

NAME: Carrie Griffith
AFFILIATION: Texas State Teachers Association

NAME: Nicole Dray
AFFILIATION: San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District

NAME: Patty Quinzi
AFFILIATION: TX-American Federation of Teachers

NAME: Cameron Vickrey
AFFILIATION: RootEd and Pastors for Texas Children

NAME: Vernagene Mott
AFFILIATION: Self

ACTION ITEMS

3. Adoption of Review of 19 TAC Chapter 30, Administration, Subchapter A, State Board of Education: General Provisions

(Adoption of Review)

(Board agenda page IV-3)

[Official agenda item #10]

Cristina De La Fuente-Valadez, director of rulemaking, informed the committee that no public comments were received on the rule review of 19 TAC Chapter 30, Subchapter A.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education adopt the review of 19 TAC Chapter 30, Administration, Subchapter A, State Board of Education: General Provisions.*

(Mr. Cortez was absent for the vote.)

The committee recommended that the item be placed on the consent agenda.

4. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 30, Administration, Subchapter A, State Board of Education: General Provisions, §30. 1, Petition for Adoption of Rule Changes

(First Reading and Filing Authorization)

(Board agenda page IV-8)

[Official agenda item #11]

Ms. De La Fuente-Valadez explained that the proposed amendment would update the rule and petition form to allow for the electronic submission of a petition. She stated that the proposed amendment would also include changes to update current procedures to ensure timely acknowledgement and review of a petition and improve readability. She informed the committee that this item was presented for consideration at first reading instead of discussion to timely provide the option of submitting a petition electronically.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education suspend the board 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 30, Administration, Subchapter A, State Board of Education: General Provisions, §30.1, Petition for Adoption of Rule Changes.

5. **Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter B, Special Purpose School Districts, §61.111, Applicability of State Law to Boys Ranch Independent School District (First Reading and Filing Authorization)**
(Board agenda page IV-13)
[Official agenda item #12]

Jeff Cottrill, deputy commissioner, governance and accountability, explained the need to provide Boys Ranch Independent School District with flexibility in scheduling the first day and last day of their school year.

Invited testimony was provided by the following individual:

NAME: Kenneth Brown
AFFILIATION: Boys Ranch Independent School District

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mr. Cortez, seconded by Ms. Davis, and carried unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve for first reading and filing authorization proposed new 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter B, Special Purpose School Districts, §61.111, Applicability of State Law to Boys Ranch Independent School District.*

The committee recommended that the item be placed on the consent agenda.

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 10:54 a.m.