## ARLINGTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Thursday, November 11, 2021 4:00 p.m.

## NOTICE of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at the J. W. Counts Building, Board Room, 1203 West Pioneer Parkway, Arlington, Texas Meetings may be viewed online at www.aisd.net.

While our school board meetings are open to the public, we want you to remain safe, and therefore recommend and encourage you to participate by watching the school board meeting online at **www.aisd.net.** One or more members of the Board of Trustees may participate in this meeting via videoconference call. A quorum of the Board of Trustees will be physically present at the J. W. Counts Building.

Members of the public who desire to address the board regarding an item on this agenda must comply with the following registration procedures: Members of the public seeking to provide comments concerning an agenda item or non-agenda item shall be required to register at https://www.aisd.net/boardmeetingspeakerrequest

# **OPENING CEREMONY:**

## **PROGRAM AND/OR PRESENTATION:**

This time has been designated for the purpose of allowing programs and/or presentations relating to matters such as curricular, extracurricular, co- curricular and PTA type activities.

- A. Student Performance by Duff Elementary and Hill Elementary Combined Choirs
- B. Student of the Month
- C. Community Engaged for Excellence Award of Appreciation

# CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Personnel Recommendations: New Hires, Retirements, Resignations, Leaves of Absence, Dismissals, Terminations, Non-Renewals, Non-Extensions
- B. Approval of Donations to Arlington Independent District
- C. Approval of Bids, Purchases, Construction Items RFP 22-06d Academic Educational Consultants and Professional Development Services RFP 22-20 Elementary Afterschool Program
- D. Approval of Purchases Greater Than \$50,000 Exempt from Bid 21-11-11-001 Science Field Trip for 2nd and 4th Grade 21-11-11-002 Theater Rigging for CVPA
- E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings, October 2021
- F. Approval of Additional Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Appraisers

### **DISCUSSION:**

- A. House Bill 3 and District Improvement Plan Progress Monitoring Update
- B. TRS Healthcare Update

#### **OPEN FORUM FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Must Pre-Register. Registration as stated above must be completed in its entirety and submitted no later than **3:00 p.m.** Any personnel concern should be brought directly to the Superintendent or Board President prior to the meeting, who will guide you to the proper procedure pursuant to Board Policy. Speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. When more than one individual wishes to address the same agenda item, the President may ask the group to appoint one spokesperson.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

This time is for the Superintendent to acknowledge varying kinds of activities occurring within the district. This includes such items as recognition of outstanding performance by district staff and/or students, the initiating of new programs and special activities.

The Superintendent will report on the following subjects:

- A. Recognition of outstanding performance by district staff and students
- B. Initiation of new programs and special activities

# SCHOOL BOARD'S REPORTS:

This time on the Agenda allows each member to inform other Board Members, the administrative staff and the public of activities which are of interest.

The Board Members will report on the following subjects:

- A. Board member attendance at various school and community events.
- B. Board member announcement of various upcoming school and community events.
- C. Board member visits to various campuses
- D. Board member recognition of outstanding performance by district staff and students
- E. Board member recognition of new programs and special activities

# **CLOSED MEETING:**

At any time during the meeting the Board may adjourn into closed meeting for consultation with its attorney (Tex. Gov't Code § 551.071) or for a posted agenda item pursuant to Texas Government Code sections 551.072 – 551.084 (see below).

## ADJOURNMENT

The agenda order may be adjusted by the Presiding Officer at any time during the meeting.

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, chapter 551, subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f).

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed meeting of the Board should be held or is required in relation to any item included in this notice, then such closed meeting is authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.001, et. seq., for any of the following reasons:

Section 551.071 - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects

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a hearing.

Section 551.0821 - For the purpose of deliberating in a matter regarding a public school student if personally identifiable information about the student will necessarily be revealed by the deliberation.

Section 551.083 - For the purpose of considering the standards, guidelines, terms or conditions the Board will follow, or instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employee groups in connection with consultation agreements provided for by Section 13.901 of the Texas Education Code.

Section 551.084 - For the purpose of excluding a witness or witnesses from a hearing during examination of another witness.

Should any final action, final decision or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed meeting, then such final action, final decision or final vote shall be at either:

- A. the open meeting covered by this notice upon the reconvening of this public meeting, or
- B. at a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting.

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#### ADDENDUM: NOTICE PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SEC. 2254.1036

WHEREAS, the Arlington Independent School District ("District"), will consider entering into a contingent fee contract with the law firm of Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP ("Firm") and hereby posts this notice pursuant to Sec. 2254.1036 of the Government Code.

WHEREAS, this notice shall be posted before or at the time of giving the written notice requiredby Government Code Sec. 551.041 for a meeting described by Sec. 2254.1036(2) of the Government Code and shall announce the following:

A. The District is pursuing a contract with the Firm for the collection of delinquent property taxes owed to the District and through this contract the District seeks to increase recovery of these delinquent debts as expeditiously as possible. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(A).

B. The District believes the Firm has the competency, qualifications, and experience necessary to fulfill this contract. GOV'T. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(B). The Firm has collected delinquent government receivables for over 45 years, including the collection of delinquent taxes. With over 2,500 clients being represented from offices located coast-to-coast, the Firm is a recognized leader in the collection industry. The Firm currently manages more than \$10 billion in delinquent accounts receivable for their public sector clientele. The Firm currently has 34 offices throughout Texas. The Firm has won numerous recognitions and awards, and is rated A+ by the Better Business Bureau and its attorneys are rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale-Hubbell. Its collection team consists of long-term Firm employees, including attorneys, call center associates, paralegals, law clerks, legal secretaries, collection software that can be tailored to meet any special need the District may have. This proprietary software also automates many aspects of the collection process, such as: account/debtor research, mailings and phone calls, return mail and address updates, payment notification and processing and workflow.

C. The nature of any relationship between the District and the Firm is as follows. GOV'T. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(C).

The Firm last represented the District in delinquent tax collection in the 2012-2013 school year.

D. The District is not set up to collect its delinquent taxes. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(D). The District currently does not have adequate support staff, computer software/programming, or experience to internally conduct these collection services and acquiring these will result in substantial expense to the District.

E. These collection services cannot efficiently be provided for an hourly fee. GOV'T. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(E). The Tax Code allows the assessment of a percentage-based fee to recover the costs of collecting delinquent taxes. This percentage-based fee is assessed only against parties delinquent in the payment of taxes to the District and not the District or taxpayers of the District. The collection of delinquent taxes is a high-volume practice, requiring a significant amount of research, mailing, and handling of outbound/inbound calls. An hourly fee for such work will likely exceed amount of delinquent taxes due. Moreover, the District will bear the cost of these hourly fees and not the debtor, because the Tax Code does not expressly authorize the District to pay forcollection services based on an hourly fee.

F. The District believes this contingent fee contract is in its best interest. GOV'T. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(F). Under the contingent fee contract, the Firm will be paid the amount of the percentagebased collection fee, regardless the number of hours the Firm spends researching, contacting and mailing to collect the delinquent debt. Additionally, the percentage-based collection penalty is a passthrough expense to the debtor and not an expense to the District or taxpayers in the District who are not delinquent in the payment of their taxes.