

Bond Oversight Committee Meeting February 18, 2016 Minutes

On the 18th of February 2016, the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) of the Ysleta Independent School District met at 6:00 p.m. at Central Office, 9600 Sims, El Paso, Texas. Attached to these minutes is a list of the BOC members, with attendance noted. Also present was Dr. Xavier De La Torre, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Sotero Ramirez, Board member from the Ysleta area; Mr. Pat O'Neill, Associate Superintendent of Operations and Ms. Abigail Tarango, Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives Director. Other Ysleta ISD staff attending included: Gloria Chavez, TIS; Mike Williams, Athletics; Robert Luna, Maintenance; Mario Rodriguez, Maintenance; Scott Thoreson, Fine Arts; and Shinping Chyi, Auditor. Members of the VLK Architects (Bond Program Manager) present were: Rene Aguilar and Edgar Goytia, Program Managers.

Following a welcome, Dr. De La Torre asked each BOC member to introduce themselves and speak briefly to their expectations of the BOC. Many members referenced content of the BOC Charter, and their commitment to the ideals established in that document. As these informational introductions ended, Dr. De La Torre commented that the BOC was a very unique, diverse group with a high level of education, experience, and knowledge of the YISD.

The group present elected Mr. Frank Hernandez, a City of El Paso Operations Manager, as the Chair of the BOC.

The eleven projects initiated as part of Phase I were briefly discussed, and detail of the bond sale plans explained. Sales are tied to a new, additional statewide homestead exemption, resulting in very few homeowners seeing an actual increase in their taxes. The Board and Administration are committed to bringing all bond projects in on time, under budget, as quality structures for our students, staff, and community. Priority will be given to local businesses when possible to fuel the El Paso economy.

Discussion continued about the role of the Program Manager (VLK Architects), and what this national firm would bring to the Ysleta ISD. VLK will serve as our representative, overseeing the planning and design of all bond construction projects. The civil engineers selected through an RFQ process provided a pool of local firms. Of the nineteen architect firms submitting proposals, the 9 that were selected are local firms who are pairing with larger firms to cover the 2 to 2.5 years it will take to design a school.

VLK Architects will conduct weekly meetings with the Administration to review all costs and time schedules, with periodic walk-throughs of projects planned once construction begins. These projects are expected to provide many local jobs for sub-contractors and labor. All solicitation processes will follow district policy. Architects will use established Technical Design Guidelines

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and the Education Specs. These specifications are posted on the district's Bond Webpage. VLK will sign off on each project.

The artificial turf projects have been selected as the first projects as they will get visible bond projects out in every area of the district. Dr. De La Torre and Mr. O'Neill responded to questions from the BOC members.

The next meeting of the BOC will be in late April or early May. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on February 18, 2016.

SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL
April 26, 2016

DRAFT