



### Board Meeting Attendance

Board Members Present:	Dr. Shari Albright, Erik Nieves, Rene Dominguez, Katie Chain, and Jeanne Russell
Board Members Absent:	Lisa Lewis, Dr. Lyssa Ochoa
Staff Present:	Amanda Sierra, Al Perez, Heriberto “Eddie” Rodriguez, Carol Mendenhall, and Mariah Lane

### Action items for board

- Board Member Rene Dominguez, welcomed the board and CAST Schools Staff to Velocity Texas and shared how CAST Schools is partnering with Velocity to create STEM experience for middle school students in San Antonio through the STEP INTO STEM Initiative
- Board was:
  - Encouraged to help spread the word that all CAST Schools are now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year
  - Given the opportunity to sign up to and to encourage their organization to judge at this year’s Speak Up Speak Out San Antonio Civics Fair
  - Provide an update if they are traveling with CAST to Mexico City in February (Katie Chain will be joining us and Erik Nieves will participate for a portion of the trip)
  - Challenged to adopt a CAST School or have a person from their institution join (at least) one advisory board

### ITEMS RELATED to the CAST Network

- Guest presenter, Sophie Torres, Regional Advocacy Director – Greater San Antonio for Raise Your Hand Texas, shared insights into:
  - How the Texas Legislature works
  - Preview of education topics during the upcoming legislative session
- Board member, Dr. Shari Albright, led a session to help the board identify focal policy areas for CAST Schools and next steps to include:
  - Identify what matters to employers: Soft Skills, Communication Skills, How to measure growth of soft skills, what are relevant KPI’s
  - What is unique about CAST Schools: Culture of the school, Collaborative Learning, Access to Dual Credit, No Shifting and Sorting, Partnership with Industry, Curriculum supporting industry standards and certifications, Travel, Internships, Work Based experiences
  - Present to local organizations: Greater SATX Board, Host Bexar County Delegation (Breakfast), Chambers of Commerce, Texas Association of School Administrators

### Consent Agenda

Jeanne Russell moved to approve consent agenda items, the meeting minutes from the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Erik Nieves, and all voted in favor

## **Financials**

- Erik Nieves moved to approve the budget, Katie Chain second the motion, all board members voted in favor
- Rene Dominguez moved to approve the financial audit, Erik Nieves second the motion, all board members voted in favor

## **Celebrations/Updates**

- CAST Schools received a grant from Firstmark Credit Union to continue supporting Teacher Induction and Retention strategies and is expected to receive in January
- CAST Schools successfully welcomed 14 senior leaders from H-E-B at CAST Tech High School. Leaders toured the school and met with students and educators. Board Member, Katie Chain, was instrumental in leading a panel on the benefit of offering high school students work-based experiences
- Three Years of Fear, a play written and performed by CAST Students, was selected to be performed at this year's Texas Thespian Festival. The play was awarded by set design and best supporting actor
- CAST Lead High School will begin to build Katie's Closet, a professional closet where students will have the ability to access clothing that they can keep and use for interviews

## **Close**

### Shared Upcoming Events:

- 1/9: CAST Schools Speak Up Speak Out San Antonio Civics Fair
- 1/12: CAST Schools Partner Breakfast for Employers
- 3/30: CAST Schools Hiring Fair
- 4/21: CAST Schools Youth Rally at the DoSeum
- 5/18: CAST Champions at CAST Med

## **Adjourn**