

**Texas Urban Council**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting**  
September 24, 2021, 1:00pm

<u>Council Members Present:</u>	<u>Council Members Absent:</u>	<u>Others Present:</u>
LaTonya Goffney - Chair Stephanie Elizalde Kent Scribner Roland Hernandez Michael Hinojosa Xavier De La Torre	Rene Gutierrez Vince Sheffield Pedro Martinez Millard House	Sheleah Reed Javier Villareal Adrian Bustillos Toni Cordova Kimberly James Karen Griffith M. Kaye DeWalt Pamela Lear Brian Lusk Jack Kelanic Cynthia Wilson Shannon Trejo Dwayne Thompson Libby Daniels Karen Molinar Jerry Moore David Saenz Marcey Sorensen Cherie Washington Raul Pena Willie Burroughs Patricia Baumer Hillary Lilly Theresa Mendoza Abigail Tarango Susan Austin Matthew Conner Louann Martinez Todd Williams Miguel Solis Bridget Worley Ann Monroe

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by TUC Chair, LaTonya Goffney. A quorum of a majority of council members was established for the transaction of business.

**1. Welcome and Visioning**

Dr. Goffney opened the meeting by reflecting on the opening on the school year while encouraging members to engage in the day’s session. Additionally, she described the day’s agenda.

**2. Chair-Elect Nomination**

Dr. Goffney provided an update on the status of the TUC Chair-Elect position vacancy due to the previous office holder’s (Dr. Pedro Martinez) transition to become the CEO of the Chicago Public School system. After summarizing the Council by-laws pertaining to the vacancy, a motion nominating Dr. Stephanie Elizalde as Chair-Elect was moved by Fort Worth and seconded by Ysleta. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the previous June 21, 2021, Council meeting.

### **4. Membership Dues, Budget Review and Bylaws Amendment**

Prior to this meeting, membership dues were sent out to each district; it was noted that dues did not change from the previous year. The second item was a review of the TUC budget which was approved at the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Supt. Hinojosa provided an update with a reminder to the Council that if Louann Martinez needed to return to Special Sessions, their rate would remain the same as if in Regular Session. The Council then discussed changing the fiscal year to align with TUC's membership dues and TASA's fiscal year. Chair Goffney discussed changing TUC's fiscal year from July 1-June 30 to September 1-August 31 and updating the Bylaws with the following language: adds bullet "A" to "Section 5: Membership" and reads "The membership term begins on September 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year". Each bullet after in this section was changed to reflect the new numbering. Additionally, the words "Fiscal Year &" were added to the "Article 7" title and the language "The TUC fiscal year begins on September 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year" was added. A motion was made by Corpus Christi to approve and seconded by Dallas. The motion was approved 5-1 with Ysleta voting No.

### **5. Other Business**

#### **E3Alliance**

A presentation was delivered by Susan Dawson of E3Alliance which included an overview of their work in Central Texas as well as the proposed development of a TUC common data portal. The data tool was described using Austin ISD as an example. E3 requested an "opt-in" agreement of each TUC district that would allow E3 to share its data with the districts. It was noted that this agreement would be facilitated via e-mail at the conclusion of the meeting. Finally, it was stated that once TUC districts agreed to see the data, they would be provided a unique access code to log on and view data.

#### **Vision, Mission and Goals**

Miguel Solis and Todd Williams of the Commit Partnership led multiple activities aimed at creating a vision, mission and a set of comprehensive goals for the Council. After leading these exercises, the Council adopted the following vision and mission:

##### **Vision:**

"To transform Texas urban school districts into places where all students are prepared to thrive in the world."

##### **Mission:**

"We leverage the collective power of Texas' largest urban school districts to transform educational practices and improve student outcomes through collaborative innovation and strategic advocacy."

Additionally, the Council discussed suggested goals aligned with current district HB3 goals. These draft goals included:

**Goals:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Literacy and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Readiness in Math
  - No. 1A: The avg. percentage of students within TUC districts meeting 3rd grade reading standards will increase from 34% to 55% by 2026 (aligned with current board goals)
  - No. 1B: The avg. percentage of students within TUC districts meeting 3rd grade math standards will increase from 43% to 58% by 2026 (aligned with current board goals)
- College & Career Readiness
  - No. 2A: The avg. percentage of TUC graduates qualifying as CCMR per A-F accountability will increase from 61% to 70% by 2026
  - No. 2B: Actual CCMR Success Funding received by TUC districts (as a % of total possible funding assuming 100% graduate assessed as ready and successfully transition to college or career certificate) will increase from 15% based on 2019 results to 40% based on 2026 results

The Council discussion of these goals included identifying ways to capture race and socioeconomic status as well. It was suggested that revised goals and adopted vision and mission be brought to the Council during its November 2021 retreat for ratification.

Finally, Council members recommended updating the TUC website with the new vision, mission and goals once they are ratified in November.

**6. Government Affairs Update**

Louann Martinez and David Thompson discussed the third Texas Legislature Special Session along with redistricting. Updates on mask mandates and litigation were provided.

**7. Chair Closing Remarks**

Chair Goffney asked member to complete a post-session survey before leaving the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 3:30pm.

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Name, Secretary

**Actions taken:**

- The Council unanimously approved the minutes from the previous Council meeting.
- The Council unanimously approved Dr. Stephanie Elizalde as Chair-Elect.
- The Council approved the new fiscal year and respective update to the Bylaws.

**Upcoming meeting:**

November 12-14, 2021 (Annual Retreat/JW Marriott - San Antonio)