

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

MINUTES

George HW Bush Building (room 4.300)
1801 N. Congress Ave., Austin

January 25, 2024

Regular Quarterly Meeting

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board convened at 9:00 a.m. on January 25, 2024, with the following members present: Fred Farias, presiding; Donna Williams; Javaid Anwar; Ashlie Thomas; Daniel Wong; and Cage Sawyers, Ex-Officio. Emma Schwartz and Welcome Wilson joined the meeting at 9:05am.

Members absent: Richard Clemmer and Stacy Hock

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
I. Call to Order: Opening Remarks	<p>Dr. Fred Farias called the meeting of the Coordinating Board to order and called roll. All members were present except for Ms. Stacy Hock and Mr. Richard Clemmer.</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Donna Williams, seconded by Mr. Javaid Anwar, the Board voted to excuse these absences.</p> <p>Ms. Emma Schwartz and Mr. Welcome Wilson joined the meeting at 9:05am.</p>
II. Commissioner's Comments	<p>No action required. Commissioner Harrison Keller provided remarks on some of the agenda items.</p>
III. Public Testimony	<p>Dr. Farias announced that no testimony had been received.</p>
IV. Approval of Minutes A. October 26, 2023, Quarterly Board Meeting	<p>On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Ashley Thomas, the Board approved the minutes for the October Quarterly Board Meeting. The vote was unanimous.</p>
V. Approval of the consent calendar	<p>On a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Ms. Thomas, the Board approved the non-rule consent calendar. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Items approved on the consent calendar were: 7-E; 8-B; 8-C; 10-B; 10-C; 10-F; 11-B; and 11-C.</p>

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
	<p>On a motion by Dr. Daniel Wong, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved the rule consent calendar. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Items approved on the rule consent calendar was 8-D (1 through 12); 8-D (14); 8-D (16 through 17); 8-D (19); and 10-I (2 through 8).</p>
<p>VI. Major Policy Discussion: Presentation on Regional Accreditation</p>	<p>No action required. Dr. Hironao Okahana, Assistant Vice President & Executive Director of Education Futures Lab at the American Council on Education, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
<p>VII. Matters Relating to the Full Board</p>	
<p>A. Update on the Texas Higher Education Foundation</p>	<p>No action required. Mr. Neal Adams, chair and president of the Texas Higher Education Foundation, presented this item and was available for questions. Ms. Melissa Henderson, Executive Director of the Texas Higher Education Foundation, was also available for questions.</p>
<p>B. Update on <i>Building a Talent Strong Texas</i></p>	<p>No action required. Ms. Henderson, Chief of Staff and Executive Director for the Texas Higher Education Foundation, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
<p>C. Update on Texas transfer initiatives</p>	<p>No action required. Ms. Elizabeth Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
<p>D. Update on program approval</p>	<p>No action required. Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
<p>E. Consideration and possible action to acknowledge gifts and donations to the Board</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar.</p>
<p>F. Discussion and Overview of Proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Community College Finance System Rules</p>	<p>No action required. Ms. Emily Cormier, Assistant Commissioner for Funding, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>

VIII. Matters Relating to the Committee on Innovation, Data, and Educational Analytics

A. Committee chair’s overview	No action required. Mr. Anwar provided an overview of the items on the agenda.
B. Report on Financial Aid Advisory Committee activities	This item was approved on the consent calendar.
C. Consideration and possible action to approve the replacement of a member on the Standing Advisory Committee for Public Junior Colleges for the 2026-2027 biennium	This item was approved on the consent calendar.
<p>D. Proposed Rules:</p> <p>(1) Consideration and possible action to repeal and adopt Board Rules, Chapter 1, Subchapter K, Sections 1.156-1.162, concerning replacement of the Community and Technical Colleges Formula Advisory Committee with the Standing Advisory Committee for Public Junior Colleges</p> <p>(2) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 1, Subchapter L, Sections 1.164-1.167, concerning changes to the membership of the General Academic Institutions Formula Advisory Committee</p> <p>(3) Consideration and possible action to repeal Board Rules, Chapter 9, Subchapter B, Sections 9.28 and 9.29, concerning the certification of public community colleges as eligible to receive state appropriations</p> <p>(4) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter A, Section 13.1, concerning finance-related definitions</p> <p>(5) Consideration and possible action to repeal Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter D, Section 13.62, concerning updates to a manual for community college annual financial reports</p> <p>(6) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may</p>

13, Subchapter D, Section 13.63, concerning requirements for community college financial reporting

- (7) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter F, Sections 13.101, 13.102, and 13.104, concerning limitations on the reporting of hours to the Coordinating Board for funding purposes
- (8) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter P, Sections 13.470-13.477, concerning the new community college finance system
- (9) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter Q, Sections 13.500-13.506, concerning the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) Program
- (10) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules in Chapter 13, Subchapter R, 13.520 through 13.529, relating to reporting, audit, and overallocation for community colleges
- (11) Consideration and possible action to adopt the repeal of Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter G, Sections 13.120-13.127, concerning Restricted Research Expenditures
- (12) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 13, Subchapter M, Sections 13.300-13.304, and new Section 13.305, concerning Total Research Expenditures
- (13) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 15, Subchapter B, Sections 15.20-15.30, concerning the Texas University Fund

be found in the agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.

This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.

On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Wong, the Board adopted new Board Rules, Chapter 15, Subchapter B, Sections 15.20-15.30, concerning the Texas University Fund. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.

Ms. Cormier, Assistant Commissioner for Funding, presented this item and was available for questions.

<p>(14) Consideration and possible action to adopt the repeal of Board Rules, Chapter 15, Subchapter C, Sections 15.40-15.44, concerning the National Research University Fund</p> <p>(15) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter K, Sections 22.200-22.210, concerning the Texas Transfer Grant Program</p> <p>(16) Consideration and possible action to adopt amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter L, Section 22.226, concerning the Texas EXcellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) Grant</p> <p>(17) Consideration and possible action to adopt amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter A, Section 22.1, concerning the General Provisions for Student Financial Aid Programs</p> <p>(18) Consideration and possible action to adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter M, Section 22.265, and amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter M, Sections 22.254, 22.256-22.259, 22.261, 22.262, and 22.264, concerning the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program</p> <p>(19) Consideration and possible action to adopt amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 23, Subchapter D, Sections 23.93-23.101, concerning Loan Repayment Program for Mental Health Professionals</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Thomas, the Board adopted new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter K, Sections 22.200-22.210, concerning the Texas Transfer Grant Program. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>Dr. Charles Contéro-Puls, Assistant Commissioner for Student Financial Aid Programs, presented this item and was available for questions.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>On a motion by Dr. Farias, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board adopted new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter M, Section 22.265, and amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter M, Sections 22.254, 22.256-22.259, 22.261, 22.262, and 22.264, concerning the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>Dr. Contéro-Puls, Assistant Commissioner for Student Financial Aid Programs, presented this item and was available for questions.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p>
---	--

IX. Lunch	The board did not break for lunch. The Chair announced a short break. The meeting adjourned at 11:15AM and re-convened at 11:22AM.
X. Matters Relating to the Committee on Academic and Workforce Success	
A. Committee chair's overview	No action required. Ms Williams provided an overview of the items on the agenda.
B. Consideration and possible action to adopt the report to the Board on school closures and/or teach-outs pursuant to Board Rule 7.7(6)	This item was approved on the consent calendar.
C. Consideration and possible action to adopt the recommendation relating to the July 2023 Annual Compliance Reports for institutions under a Certificate of Authorization (Names beginning with "P" through "Z")	This item was approved on the consent calendar.
D. Consideration and possible action to approve a two-year service contract with The University of Texas at Austin for creating and scaling the Texas Computer Science Pipeline Project at a cost not to exceed \$14 million	<p>On a motion by Dr. Farias, seconded by Ms. Thomas, the Board approved a two-year service contract with The University of Texas at Austin for creating and scaling the Texas Computer Science Pipeline Project at a cost not to exceed \$14 million. The vote was six for, none against. Mr. Anwar was absent for the vote.</p> <p>Dr. Michelle Singh, Assistant Commissioner for Digital Learning, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
E. Consideration and possible action to approve a resolution on the request by Barbers Hill Independent School District/Lee College regarding a branch campus maintenance tax election and branch campus approval	<p>On a motion by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Farias, the Board approved a resolution on the request by Barbers Hill Independent School District/Lee College regarding a branch campus maintenance tax election and branch campus approval. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the signed resolution can be found at appendix A.</p> <p>Dr. Tina Jackson, Assistant Commissioner for Workforce Education, presented this item and was available for questions.</p>
F. Consideration and possible action to delegate to the Commissioner the authority, subject to Board notification, to approve institutional awards over \$5 million for the Graduate Medical Education Expansion Grant Program	This item was approved on the consent calendar.

<p>G. Consideration and possible action to adopt the recommendation relating to a request from Healing Hands Massage Institute for a Certificate of Authority to grant a degree in Texas</p>	<p>On a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Ms. Thomas, the Board adopted the recommendation to deny the application from Healing Hands Massage Institute for a Certificate of Authority to grant a degree in Texas. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions</p>
<p>H. Consideration and possible action to approve the following requests for new degree programs:</p> <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO (1) Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Physics</p> <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON (2) Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Nurse Anesthesia</p> <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY (3) Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Computer Science with Interdisciplinary Applications</p>	<p>On a motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board approved the new degree program. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions. Dr. Stephen Crites, Dean of the Graduate School, and Dr. Mark Pederson, Chair of the Department of Physics, were also available for questions.</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Wong, the Board approved the new degree program. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions. Dr. Deborah Jones, Dean, School of Nursing, and Dr. Kristen Starnes-Ott, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and Endowed Chair in Nursing, were also available for questions.</p> <p>On a motion by Dr. Farias, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the Board approved the new degree program. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available for questions. Dr. Guy Bailey, President, and Dr. Emmett Tomai, Professor and Chair of Computer Science, were also available for questions.</p>
<p>I. Proposed Rules:</p> <p>(1) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, Section 2.87, and new Board Rules, Chapter 4, Subchapter J,</p>	<p>On a motion by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Farias, the Board adopted amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, Section 2.87, and new Board Rules, Chapter 4, Subchapter J, Sections</p>

<p>Sections 4.191-4.192, concerning institutional accreditation requirements</p> <p>(2) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 2, Subchapter J, Section 2.202, concerning approval of distance education for public institutions</p> <p>(3) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed amendments to Board Rules Chapter 4, Subchapter A, Section 4.9, concerning limitations on the number of courses that may be dropped under certain circumstances by undergraduate students</p> <p>(4) Consideration and possible action to adopt proposed repeal of Board Rules, Chapter 4, Subchapter P, Sections 4.255 through 4.264, concerning approval of distance education courses and programs for public institutions</p> <p>(5) Consideration and possible action to adopt amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter B, Section 5.24, and repeal of Board Rules Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Sections 5.41-5.46, 5.48, 5.50, 5.52-5.55, concerning academic program approval</p> <p>(6) Consideration and possible action to repeal Board Rules, Chapter 9, Subchapter J, Sections 9.181-9.186; Subchapter L, Sections 9.550-9.555; and Subchapter N, Sections 9.670-9.678, concerning academic program approval</p> <p>(7) Consideration and possible action to amend Board Rules, Chapter 21, Subchapter D, Sections 21.51 and 21.52, concerning the Texas First Early High School Completion Program</p>	<p>4.191-4.192, concerning institutional accreditation requirements. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>Ms. Mayer, Assistant Commissioner for Academic and Health Affairs, presented this item and was available to answer questions.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the supplemental agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p>
---	---

<p>(8) Consideration and possible action to adopt amendments to Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter T, Sections 22.550-22.552 and 22.554-22.556, concerning the Texas First Scholarship</p> <p>(9) Consideration and possible action to amend and adopt new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter N, Sections 22.265-22.277, concerning the Texas Leadership Scholars Program</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Wong, the Board adopted amendments and new Board Rules, Chapter 22, Subchapter N, Sections 22.265-22.277, concerning the Texas Leadership Scholars Program. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the Board rules as adopted may be found in the agenda materials.</p> <p>Dr. Jennielle Strother, Assistant Commissioner for Student Success, presented this item and was available to answer questions.</p>
---	--

XI. Matters Relating to the Agency Operations Committee

<p>A. Committee chair's overview</p>	<p>No action required. Ms. Schwartz provided an overview of the items on the agenda.</p>
<p>B. Report on grants and contracts</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar.</p>
<p>C. Review of the "Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Report" to the Board</p>	<p>This item was approved on the consent calendar.</p>
<p>D. Consideration and possible action to approve the updated Internal Audit Charter</p>	<p>On a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Dr. Farias, the Board approved the updated Internal Audit Charter. The vote was unanimous.</p> <p>Mr. Arby Gonzales, Assistant Commissioner, Internal Audit and Compliance, presented this item and was available to answer questions.</p>
<p>E. Auditor's update on Internal Audit reports and activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Started internal audit of the Texas Research Incentive Program (2) Started advisory project related to Community College Finance (3) Internal Audit Corrective Action Status Report - January 2024 	<p>No action required. Mr. Gonzales, Assistant Commissioner for Internal Audit and Compliance, presented these items and was available for questions.</p>

F. Auditor's update on state and federal compliance monitoring reports and activities

- (1) "Compliance Monitoring Audit of College Access Loan at St. Edward's University" (no findings)
- (2) "Compliance Monitoring Audit of Tuition Equalization Grant at Jarvis Christian University" (one finding)
- (3) "Compliance Monitoring Desk Review of the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant at Weatherford College" (no findings)
- (4) "Compliance Monitoring Desk Review of Formula Funding at the University of Houston" (no findings)
- (5) "Compliance Monitoring Corrective Action Status Report" – January 2024

No action required. Mr. Gonzales, Assistant Commissioner for Internal Audit and Compliance, presented these items and was available for questions.

XII. Adjournment

With no further business, on a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Anwar, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:08p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Javaid Anwar
Secretary of the Board

**RESOLUTION OF THE
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
ON BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S REQUEST TO HOLD A
BRANCH CAMPUS MAINTENANCE TAX AND LEE COLLEGE'S REQUEST TO
ESTABLISH A BRANCH CAMPUS WITHIN THE BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Date: January 25, 2024

On this date, we, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, hereby authorize the Barbers Hill Independent School District to hold a branch campus maintenance tax election at a rate not to exceed five cents on each \$100 valuation of taxable property within the Barbers Hill ISD. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in authorizing the branch campus maintenance tax election has determined that the requirements set forth in section 130.253 of the Texas Education Code have been met. Specifically:


- 1) The proposed tax does not exceed five cents on each \$100 valuation of all taxable property in Barbers Hill ISD's jurisdiction;
- 2) Barbers Hill ISD submitted to THECB a petition for the proposed branch campus maintenance tax election that Barbers Hill ISD determined is legal and genuine and is signed by over five percent of the registered and qualified voters within Barbers Hill ISD; and
- 3) The proposed tax is feasible and desirable under Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rules.

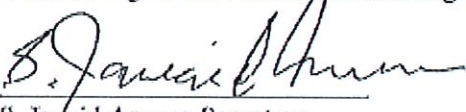
We further authorize Lee College's proposed formation of a branch campus within the Barbers Hill Independent School District contingent upon the passage of the branch campus maintenance tax.

The Commissioner of Higher Education shall deliver this resolution to Lee College and the Barbers Hill Independent School District.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstentions: _____

Signed: 
Fred Farias III, OD, MS, FAAO
Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Attested to: 
S. Jayaid Anwar, Secretary,
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board