

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HARLINGEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 14, 2006**

The Board of Trustees of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Central Media Center located at 1409 E. Harrison, Harlingen, Texas. Lee Means, Board President, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Means, Cesar Maldonado, George McShan, Gerry Fleuriet, Verna Young, Omar Cano and Javier De Leon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Linda Wade, Tricia Morrow, Art Cavazos, Ramiro Flores, Julio Cavazos, Rosie Vargas and Sonia Brown

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: Tricia Morrow, Asst. Supt. for Elementary Education, was proud to announce that the following campuses received Gold Performance Acknowledgements: Austin for Attendance; Harlingen High School and HHS-South for Recommended High School Program/DAP; HHS-South for Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate; Coakley, Memorial, Gutierrez, Vela, Bonham, Bowie, Crockett, Houston, Jefferson, Lamar, Long and Stuart Place for Commended Performance Reading/ELA; Vela, Bonham, Bowie, Crockett, Dishman, Houston, Jefferson, Lamar, Long, Stuart Place, Treasure Hills and Wilson for Commended Performance Mathematics; Coakley, Memorial Gutierrez, Vela, Vernon, Bowie, Crockett, Lamar and Treasure Hills for Commended Performance Writing; Bonham, Houston, Jefferson and Long for Commended Performance Science; Memorial and Gutierrez for Commended Performance Social Studies; Memorial and Crockett for Comparable Improvement Reading/ELA, and Memorial, Vernon, Crockett, Houston, and Zavala for Comparable Improvement Mathematics.

Judy Nading, Director of AP/College Admissions/GT, was pleased to inform the Board of the following commended students in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program: Joann Lozano, Matthew Van Norman, David M. Amaral, Jennifer M. Calderin, and Anneka N. Quellhorst. Semi-finalist in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program was Emily J. Wetch.

Scholar finalists in the 2006-2007 National Hispanic Recognition Program were: Joann Lozano, James W. Stevens, Kennedy Tlaseca, Matthew Van Norman, Matthew Vera, Caitlin Walker, Jennifer M. Calderin, Robert A. Flores, Rollyn S. Reyes, and Kyle Seymour.

Honorable Mention Finalists in the 2006-2007 National Hispanic Recognition Program were: David M. Amaral and Harold A. Fisch.

AP Scholars were: Claudia Duncan, Jennifer Valencia, Jessica Phillippus, Elizabeth Nichols, Kaitlin Coppins, Brittany Pratt, Nicholas Tozzo, Laura Wallace, Jessica Plata, John Friebele, Lindsay Taylor, Crystal Canales, Stephanie Lapka, and Rene Fernandez.

AP Scholars with Honor were: Jonathan Torrez, Stephen Gonzalez, and Kiran Sreenivas.

AP Scholars with Distinction were: Claudia Duncan and Elizabeth Reagan.

The Board recognized Lee Ann Ince and the Harlingen High School South National Forensic League for having been awarded the Leading Chapter Award in the Gulf Coast District.

The Board recognized Jefferson Elementary School for having been awarded the Teacher Attendance Award for the 2005-2006 school year. Under the leadership of Mr. Manuel Olivo, Jefferson won this award with a 98.02% attendance.

**PRINCIPALS’
REPORTS:**

Mrs. Cathy Silstorf, Principal at Bonham Elementary School, reported that they are very proud of their students. Fourth and fifth grade students dressed up in elegant tuxedos and pretending to be waiters presented a program entitled “Serving Up Success Daily at Bonham Elementary.” The students distributed menus to the Board which described all of Bonham’s daily specials. Student “servers” were Kelia Lopez, Victoria Burbach, Bobby Arias, Paula Perez, Roxie Davis, Alyssa Cruz, Mark Rosales, Brandon Balboa, and Michael Castaneda.

Mrs. Lori Romero, Principal at Long Elementary School, presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting some of the school’s exciting activities. Mrs. Romero stated that the theme at Long is “Constructing Great Minds.” Mrs. Romero reported that parental involvement is very important and they currently have 500 PTA members. Long Elementary students, Alyssa Anglin and Marcela Trevino, who will be participating in the Elementary Academic Olympics this weekend, delighted the Board with the poems they will be presenting at the competition.

**ARCHITECTS’
REPORTS:**

Ramiro Flores reported on the following construction projects: **Central Administration Building** – Interior wall framing is complete. Interior ceiling insulation is complete and MEP rough-in work is nearing completion. Exterior doors have been cut and frames have been installed. Interior walls have been taped, floated and painted. Ceiling grid installation continues to progress. Ceramic tile installation is complete in restrooms. Site work has begun. **Milam** – Block work is complete along with the MEP rough-in work. Re-roofing continues on exterior finger wings. One wing of classrooms has moved into the portables and a/c work is nearing completion on the wing. Exterior brick veneer has begun. Roof trusses and metal deck are in place. **HHS-South** – Landscaping has begun. A/C and mini gym issues are being addressed. **Bonham**- Work is complete in the four classroom area and all rooms are occupied. Exterior site work at kitchen is pending approval of cost proposal. **HHS** – Gym work is nearing completion. Interior work on Wing 9 is nearing completion. The bathroom in Wing C is complete. Landscaping plans are complete with pricing to follow. Life Skills building is complete and occupied by the District. **Long** – All areas are complete and occupied by the District. Final punch list for the entire project has been requested.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Verna Young to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the October 10, 2006 Regular Board Meeting as written.
- b. Approval of a Proclamations declaring Parental Involvement Day as November 9, 2006, American Education Week as November 13-17, 2006, National Children’s Book Week as November 13-17, 2006 and *Go apply* College Application Awareness Month as November 2006.

- c. Budget Amendments as recommended by the Administration.
- d. October Tax Refunds as recommended by the Administration.
- e. Award of Proposals as follows: 1) Portable Radios Catalog Term Bid, 2) Special Education Materials & Equipment Catalog Term Bid, 3) Instructional Supplies and Equipment for Gifted and Talented and Advance Placement Programs Catalog Term Bid, 4) Custodial Equipment and Supplies Line Items Term Bid, 5) Custodial Equipment and Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 6) Electronic Security and Security and Fire Detection Term Bid, 7) Physical Education Equipment and Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 8) Utility Trailer and Hitch Accessories Line Item Term Bid, and 9) Utility Trailer and Hitch Accessories Catalog Term Bid.
- f. Revision of Board Policy FMG (Local) on 2nd reading as recommended by the Administration.
- g. Revision of Board Policy DAA (Local) on 1st reading as recommended by the Administration.

Gerry Fleuriet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Proclamations, Budget Amendments, Tax Refunds, Award of Proposals, Board Policy FMG (Local) and Board Policy DAA (Local) are filed with these minutes.)**

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF
SUBMITTING
CEHI WAIVER
TO TEA:**

A motion was made by George McShan to approve the submittal to TEA of a Pregnancy Related Services Compensatory Education Home Instruction Waiver as presented by Gil Tello, Director of Career and Technology. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Waiver is filed with these minutes.)**

**APPROVAL OF
BETTERMENT
FUND CHANGE
PROPOSALS
FOR HHS:**

A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to approve betterment fund change proposals for Harlingen High School in the amount of \$44,300.00 for landscaping and \$38,265.00 for Building Q as recommended by the Administration. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
REALLOCATION
OF BETTERMENT
FUNDS:**

A motion was made by Omar Cano to approve the reallocation of betterment funds within the Bonham/Long contract as recommended by the Administration. Cesar Maldonado seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**SELECTION OF
ARCHITECTURAL
FIRMS TO BE
INTERVIEWED:**

A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to select the following architectural firms to be interviewed for the new elementary school project: PBK, Gignac and Vitetta. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
GROUP DISABILITY
INSURANCE
PROVIDER:**

A motion was made by George McShan to approve the selection of American Fidelity Insurance as the District's group disability insurance provider as recommended by the Administration. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Disability Insurance Provider information is filed with these minutes.)**

**GRANT
PROJECTS
UPDATE:**

Connie Saenz, Grant Writer, presented a Grant Projects Update for the Board's review. Mrs. Saenz reported that grants currently active are: Lowes Toolbox for Education for Crockett in the amount of \$5,000; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Dishman in the amount of \$5,000; Laura Bush Foundation for Jefferson Elementary in the amount of \$5,000; Texas Classroom Supply Teacher Reimbursement Program for use district-wide in the amount of \$120,000; Texas High School Completion and Success Initiative Cycle 3 in the amount of \$99,991 for HHS, and \$80,000 for HHS-South; Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers Cycle 2, Year 3 for the PEAKS Program at Vernon, Memorial, Coakley, Gutierrez, Vela and Dishman in the amount of \$874,856; T-STEM Center Grant; and Early College High School Grant in the amount of \$599,716 (pending negotiation). Stuart Place Elementary has submitted an application for the Lowe's Outdoor Classroom Grant in the amount of \$2,000-20,000; and Houston Elementary will be applying for the Laura Bush Foundation for American Libraries in the amount of \$5,000. Rodriguez Elementary will be re-applying for the NASA Explorer Grant in the amount of \$17,500. Grants not awarded were: Improving Literacy Through School Libraries; Advanced Placement Incentive Grant; and The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas. **(A copy of Grant Projects Update is filed with these minutes.)**

**MONTHLY TAX
COLLECTION
INFORMATION:**

Julio Cavazos provided monthly tax collection information for the Board's review. **(Monthly Tax collection information is filed with these minutes.)**

**SPECIAL
REVENUES FUND
INFORMATION:**

Julio Cavazos provided Special Revenue Funds Information for the Board's review. **(Special Revenue Funds Information is filed with these minutes.)**

**MONTHLY
FINANCIALS
REPORT:**

Julio Cavazos provided a Monthly Financials Report for the Board's review. **(Monthly Financials Report is filed with these minutes.)**

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

Board President Lee Means called for an Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. in accordance with Section 551.071, 551.074, and 551.082, the Texas Government Code (The Texas Open Meetings Act) to discuss:

- a. Discuss Employment of Teachers and Other Professional Staff**
- b. Consultation with Attorney to Seek Legal Advise Regarding Cause No. 2004-09-004704-A; The Insurance Co. of the State of Pennsylvania v. Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District; in the 107th Judicial District Court of Cameron County, Texas**

OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 9:25 p.m.

**EMPLOYMENT
TEACHERS AND
PROFESSIONAL
STAFF:**

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve the employment of the following teachers and other professional staff for the 2006-2007 school year: Valerie Cortez, Crystal P. Jauregui, Kari L. Smith, and Lucia Swartz. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUTHORIZE
SUPT. TO
NEGOTIATE
SETTLEMENT:** A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a settlement in Cause No. 2004-09-004704-A; The Insurance Co. of the State of Pennsylvania v. Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District; in the 107th Judicial District Court of Cameron County, Texas as discussed in Executive Session. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

READ AND APPROVED:

PRESIDING OFFICER

DATE