

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HARLINGEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Harlingen CISD Administration Building located at 407 N. 77 Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas. Cesar Maldonado, Board President, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cesar Maldonado, George McShan, Javier De Leon, Gerry Fleuriet, Verna Young and Lyle Garza

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Linda Wade, Tricia Morrow, Art Cavazos, Ramiro Flores, Julio Cavazos, Rosalinda Vargas, Randy Cretors, Allen Aleshire and Sonia Brown

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: The following campuses were recognized by the Board for having received the Gold Performance Acknowledgement Awards: HHS, HHS-South, Coakley, Gutierrez, Memorial, Vela, Vernon, Austin, Bonham, Bowie, Crockett, Dishman, Houston, Jefferson, Lamar, Long, Milam, Rodriguez, Stuart Place, Treasure Hills and Wilson.

The following students were recognized by the Board for having been named Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program: Andy Ting-Uy Kuo, Amy A. Mark, and Ethen G. Sanchez.

The following student was recognized for having been referred in the National Achievement Scholarship Program: Samantha Haynes

The following students were honored for qualifying as scholar finalists in the 2007-2008 National Hispanic Recognition Program: Andrew Johnson, Jonathan Davis, Marco Minor, Richard C. Becerra, Amber Campillo, Anthony Dominguez, Angel Elizondo, Hector Loya, Amy A. Mark, Eli J. Perez, Caleb Rodriguez, Jorge R. Salinas, Ethen G. Sanchez and Evangelina Yanez.

The following students were honored for qualifying as honorable mention finalists in the 2007-2008 Hispanic Recognition Program: Elisabeth Heredia, Jose D. Lerma, and Daniel Quintanilla.

The following students were honored for qualifying for the national AP Scholar Award: Jonathan Davis, Robert Davis, Rudy Ferguson, Samantha Haynes, Joeann Lozano, James Stevens, Joseph Whitt, Phillip K. Chen, Jorge A. Mata, and Emily J. Wetch. AP Scholar with Distinction was Nicholas Tozzo.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS: Eloisa Ackerman, Principal at Dishman Elementary School, reported that she and her staff are very proud of the fact that they have been a recognized campus for eight consecutive years. Mrs. Ackerman stated that during the 2006-2007 school year, Dishman was the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Students at Dishman helped in the restoration of the Bajia Grande wildlife area by planting and growing mangroves. Kimberly Hicks, Critical Skills Teacher, presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the students' activities while they were participating in the restoration project. Ms. Hicks was happy to report that Dishman will

be receiving an additional \$5,000 during the 2007-2008 school year to continue their work on the project.

Diana Rodriguez, Principal at Houston Elementary School, reported that staff and students are having a wonderful school year. Mrs. Rodriguez stated that students are having a great time in the library due to their participation in the OASIS Project funded through the U.S. Dept. of Education. Raving Beauty and Dashing Prince, Houston students dressed up as storybook characters and acting as reporters with KSHE Fairy Tale News, interviewed Little Red Riding Hood, Snow White, Humpty Dumpty, Goldilocks and other characters regarding their exciting storybook adventures. Mrs. Rodriguez was happy to report that Houston has been awarded funds from the Texas Educator Excellence Grant. Mrs. Rodriguez stated that students at Houston are “leaping into learning.”

**REQUEST TO
ERECT PLAQUE
AT STUART:**

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve the erection of a plaque at Stuart Place Elementary School commemorating Cheryl Gray’s noteworthy contributions to the campus. George McShan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS:**

None

**ARCHITECT’S
REPORT:**

Ramiro Flores reported on the following construction projects: **Boggus Stadium** – American Contracting has completed the bus drop off lane. Work progresses on the drop off lane at Vernon. Still pending is the bus drop off lane at Memorial, punch list walk-through and landscaping. **New Elementary School** – Scoggins Construction has completed the building pad for the kitchen/cafeteria area and is in progress of constructing the central corridor building pad. Underground plumbing rough-in at the kitchen/cafeteria should start in the immediate future.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

A motion was made by George McShan to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the October 8, 2007 Special Board Meeting/Board Workshop, October 9, 2007 Public Hearing, and October 9, 2007 Regular Board Meeting as written.
- b. Approval of Proclamations proclaiming American Education Week as Nov. 12-16, 2007, Parental Involvement Day as Nov. 15, 2007 and Go Apply College Application Awareness Month as Nov. 2007.
- c. Award of Proposals as follows: 1) Special Education Materials & Equipment Catalog Term Bid, 2) Instructional Supplies & Equipment for Gifted and Talented & Advance Placement Programs Catalog Term Bid, 3) Physical Education Equipment and Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 4) Utility Trailer & Hitch Accessories Catalog Term Bid, 5) Air Filter Media and Air Filters Line Item Term Bid, 6) Air Filter Media and Air Filters Catalog Term Bid, 7) Custodial Paper Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 8) Custodial Paper Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 9) Custodial Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 10) Custodial Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 11) Maintenance Lawn Equipment Line Item Term Bid, and 12) Maintenance Law Equipment Catalog Term Bid.
- d. Budget Amendments as recommended by the Administration.
- e. November tax refunds as recommended by the Administration.
- f. Approval of Board Policy Manual Update 81 on 1st reading as recommended by the Administration.
- g. Revision of Board Policy EIC (Local) on 1st reading as recommended by the Administration.

Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Proclamations, Budget Amendment, Tax Refunds, and Award of Proposals are filed with these minutes.)**

**APPROVAL OF
OUT-OF-STATE
TRIP FOR HHS
BAND:**

A motion was made by Verna Young to approve of an out-of-state trip for the Harlingen High School band to travel to New York City on May 11-14, 2008. Gerry Fleuriet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
SICK LEAVE
BANK:**

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve the Sick Leave Bank for the 2007-2008 school year as presented by Rachel Cortez, Risk Management/Employee Benefits Coordinator. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
CONTRACT
EXTENSION
AT HHS:**

A motion was made by Omar Cano to approve the contract extension for the Harlingen High School renovation project as presented by Ramiro Flores. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
SITE FOR HIGH
SCHOOL:**

A motion was made by Omar Cano to approve the 50 acres off of Fair Park that the District currently owns as the site for the location of the third high school. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AWARD OF
PROPOSALS FOR
HHS BAND HALL
IMPROVEMENTS:**

A motion was made by Omar Cano to approve the award of proposals for the Harlingen High School band hall improvements to Peacock Construction Company. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**DISCRETIONARY
GRANTS UPDATE:**

Connie Saenz, Grant Writer, presented a Discretionary Grants Update. Grants that have been awarded to the District are: Improving Literacy Through School Libraries; Texas High School Completion and Success Initiative, Cycle 3; Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 2, Year 3; Early College High School Grant, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant, NASA Explorer School, Texas Fitness Now Grant; Texas Educator Excellence Grant, Cycle 2; and Texas Summer 9th Grade Transition Program. Partnership Grants are: T-STEM Centers Grant; Teaching American History Grant. Grant in progress is: the Texas Educator Excellence Grant, Cycle 3. Pending grant is: Lowes Toolbox for Education. Mrs. Saenz reported that the District has received a total amount of \$2,374,486 in grant monies for the 2007-2008 school year.

**QUARTERLY
INTERNAL
AUDIT REPORT:**

Nellie Ledesma, Internal Auditor, presented a Quarterly Internal Audit Report. Audit reports presented were: Special Activity Fund Audit, Travis Elementary; Review of Quarterly Inventory Observations for FY 2006-2007; Test of Physical Inventories as of August 31, 2007 – Maintenance Department, Custodial Department, Transportation Department and Child Nutrition Department; and Child Nutrition a la Carte Sales

**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

REVENUE FUNDS 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.)**

REPORT ON BOARD TRAINING:

Dr. Linda Wade reported that all Board members have completed all required training for the period ending November 13, 2007.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER REPORT:

Rosalinda Vargas presented Highly Qualified Teacher Summary Reports for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. Mrs. Vargas reported that all campuses are being taught by 100% highly qualified teachers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Presiding Officer Cesar Maldonado called for an Executive Session at 9:40 p.m. in accordance with Sections 551.071, 551.074 and 551.082, the Texas Open Government Code (the Texas Open Meetings Act) to discuss:

- a. Discuss Level IV Appeal – Reyna**

OPEN SESSION:

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 11:32 p.m.

CONSIDER LEVEL IV APPEAL – REYNA:

A motion was made by George McShan to approve an appeal brought forth by Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Reyna to allow their children to attend the Harlingen School District and that the children be allowed to remain in Harlingen schools tuition free and with transportation provided for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. In addition, the children will be allowed to enroll for the 2008-2009 school year only on the condition that they pay tuition and that the family provides transportation. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Presiding Officer Cesar Maldonado called for an Executive Session at 11:34 p.m. in accordance with Sections 551.071, 551.074 and 551.082, the Texas Open Government Code (the Texas Open Meetings Act) to discuss:

- a. Discuss Employment of Assistant Director of Child Nutrition**
- b. Discuss Employment of Teachers and Other Professional Staff**
- c. Consultation with Attorney on Water & Sewer Rates**

OPEN SESSION:

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 12:23 a.m. on November 14, 2007.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT OF ASST. DIR. CHILD NUTRITION:

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to employ Cindy Montes as the Assistant Director for Child Nutrition. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS & OTHER PROF. STAFF: A motion was made by George McShan to employ the following teachers and other professional staff for the 2007-2008 school year: Yolanda Chapa, Cynthia Clayborn, Emily Lescano, Andrew Molitoris, and Veronica V. Trevino. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSULTATION WITH ATTY. REGARDING WATER & SEWER RATES; Discussion only. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:25 a.m. on November 14, 2007.

READ AND APPROVED:

PRESIDING OFFICER

DATE