



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. Innovators. Scholars. Doers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:
Place:
Location:
Date:
Time

Special Meeting
WISD Board Room
319 W. Fourth Street
August 5, 2019
6:23 P.M.

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Isidoro Nieto, Board President.
- II. A quorum was established. The following board members were present.

Isidoro Nieto, President
Andrew Gonzalez, Secretary
Armando Cuellar, Trustee
Erasmio Lopez, Trustee
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Trustee

Dr. Richard Rivera and Patrick Kennedy were absent.

- III. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District's Property & Casualty Insurance – Boiler & Machinery, Property & Contents, Inland Marine and Flood Insurance

Superintendent Dr. Canales informed the Board that staff received information pertaining to this item late this afternoon and did not have time to review the information. Therefore, staff requested to pull the agenda item and include on the agenda for the August 12 Regular Board Meeting.

Non-action item.

- IV. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 6:25 p.m.

A. Personnel Matters (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Employment of Personnel
2. Resignations
3. Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074 and 551.071)

- a. Superintendent's Recommendation for the Position of Director of Assessment & Accountability
 - b. Evaluation of Superintendent and Consideration Regarding Superintendent Contract
- B. Conduct Level Three Grievance Requested by X. Trevino Pursuant to Weslaco ISD Policy DGBA (Local)
- C. Consultation with Attorney Regarding: a) Pending or Contemplated Litigation: b) a Settlement Offer: or c) a Matter in Which the Duty of the Attorney to the Weslaco ISD under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas Clearly Conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Tex. Gov't. Code 551.071)

Trustee Andrew Gonzalez left the meeting during closed meeting.

V. Reconvene in Open Meeting

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:25 p.m. to take action on the following items.

A. Possible Action, If Necessary, on Items Discussed in Closed Meeting

1. Discussion and Possible Action on New Employment

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the contracts of certified professional personnel.

| Name | Position | Location |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Gerardo Aguirre | Athletic Trainer | Weslaco High School |
| 2. Emalee Bravo | Mariachi Teacher | Weslaco High School |
| 3. Sandra Cerda | From: Teacher @ B. Garza Middle School | To: Technology Instructional Coach @ B. Garza Middle School |
| 4. Yvonne Estrada-Johnson | 6 th Grade ELA Teacher | Cuellar Middle School |
| 5. Andres Garcia | From: Teacher @ Cuellar Middle School | To: Campus Instructional Facilitator @ Weslaco High School |
| 6. Susana Leiu | English Teacher | Weslaco East High School |
| 7. Melissa Mora-Rodriguez | From: Teacher @ Weslaco High School | To: Campus Instructional Facilitator @ Weslaco High School |
| 8. Andrew Rangel | Special Education Teacher | Silva Elementary School |
| 9. Pierre Sustaita | Mariachi Teacher | Weslaco East High School |
| 10. Anika Vallejo | From: Teacher @ Rico Elementary School | To: Technology Instructional Coach @ Rico Elementary School |

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the contracts of certified professional personnel as discussed in closed meeting. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Resignations

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the resignations as discussed in closed meeting.

| Name | Position/Location | Reason/Effective Date |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Kimberly Banda | Teacher Weslaco East High School | Ms. Banda is resigning to accept a full time position (promotion) with the University of Texas/RGV, effective May 31, 2019. |

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the resignations as discussed in closed meeting. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendation for the Position of Director of Assessment & Accountability

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve Mr. Elias Trevino for the position of Director of Assessment & Accountability.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve Mr. Elias Trevino for the position of Director of Assessment & Accountability as recommended by the Superintendent. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Trevino thanked the Board for the opportunity and looks forward to continue working with the team.

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Superintendent Evaluation and Possible Action on Contract

Erasmus Lopez made the motion to approve a raise of the superintendent's pay by 5% of the base salary, beginning July 1, 2019, upon approval of the 2019-2020 budget to be consistent with the administration's pay raise. Dr. Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Comments from the Board:

Mr. Lopez commented that he was very happy with the steps and path Dr. Canales has paved for them. He stated, "Dr. Canales is working very hard to get Weslaco back to the top and we can see it from here."

Armando Cuellar commented that he has seen many positive things in the short time he has been on the Board with the direction the district is taking. He stated, "Let's keep moving and let's get better."

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez acknowledged Dr. Canales and the administration for a great job in moving the district in the right direction and he looks forward to seeing continued improvement.

Board President Isidoro Nieto announced that he would be meeting with the superintendent to discuss concerns and/or positive comments addressed by the board members during closed session relative to the following:

- >Accountability
- >Facilities
- >Safety and Security
- >Keeping board members informed
- >Financial Stability
- >Visibility
- >Meeting with principals
- >Having an awesome Central Office staff
- >Following up on concerns from staff, parents, and board members

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Erasmo Lopez and seconded by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez to approve a raise of the superintendent's pay by 5% of the base salary, beginning July 1, 2019, upon approval of the 2019-2020 budget to be consistent with the administration's pay raise.

Dr. Canales made the following comments:

"I love our family, our team, our students; it's a great place to be. When I first came here, I said this to the principals and to all Central Office staff, "I said it felt like home". I recently met with my parents - my dad, my mom; they couldn't be prouder that I am serving the community of Weslaco, and I told them, "It's like home". We believe in continuously improving so that all our students soar, and we are on the move and I expect a lot more from self. I'm surrounded by team members who feel the same way no matter what role they play in the school district. I want to continue working as a team of eight and with all the employees in our school district so that better things happen every single year for children. It's not about us, it's about children, and that's why Weslaco ISD is definitely the place to be. Thank you so much."

CLOSED MEETING:

- B. Closed Meeting to Conduct Level Three Grievance Requested by X. Trevino Pursuant to Weslaco ISD Policy DGBA (Local)

The Board convened in closed meeting at 7:30 p.m. to hear the Level Three Grievance requested by X. Trevino.

RECONVENE IN OPEN MEETING:

The Board returned to open meeting at 8:28 p.m.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action on Level Three Grievance Requested by X. Trevino

Armando Cuellar moved to uphold the Level II decision issued in the grievance of Mr. Xavier Trevino and authorize the Board President to confer with the Superintendent as discussed in closed session. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.