



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
October 11, 2019
5:25 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
Armando Cuellar, Trustee
Patrick Kennedy, Trustee
Erasmio Lopez, Trustee
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Trustee

Andrew Gonzalez and Dr. Richard Rivera were absent.

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Scholastic Literacy Staff Development to be Held on Monday, October 14, 2019

Dr. Canales shared that Weslaco ISD continues to be a leader in promoting reading. WISD seeks to empower teachers to be reading experts while instilling in all students a love for reading. In the Spring of 2018, the Board approved a purchase from State Bilingual funds in the amount of \$164,191 to purchase additional classroom libraries. The classroom libraries had an impact across the district according to teachers who voiced that students were eager to arrive in class to read from the libraries. However, after district administrators visited the classrooms to evaluate the libraries, they felt it lacked a structured independent reading component to gauge the effectiveness of learning by reading independently. Structured independent reading centers on teacher-student conferencing on the books the student is reading independently.

Weslaco ISD has embarked in a partnership to lay the groundwork for establishing this structure independent reading and therefore half-day sessions are scheduled for all elementary, middle, and high school reading teachers on Monday, October 14, 2019. A total of 15 Scholastic presenters will reach approximately 450 reading teachers throughout the district. The cost of these trainings is \$48,986, which is above the \$25,000 threshold and thus requires board approval.

Erasmus Lopez made the motion to approve Scholastic Literacy Staff Development to be held on Monday, October 14, 2019 as presented. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion.

Mr. Lopez acknowledged Dr. Canales for moving the district in this direction, due to issues in the past with the writing and reading scores. He believes this initiative will help improve scores.

Mr. Kennedy wanted to know which account was to be used to pay for the additional cost.

According to Mr. Elias Trevino, Director of Assessment & Accountability and Bilingual/ESL, there is plenty of money allocated in the budget for Bilingual to cover these services.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Erasmo Lopez and seconded by Armando Cuellar to approve the Scholastic Literacy Staff Development to be held on Monday, October 14, 2019.

V. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 5:30 p.m.