



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. Innovators. Scholars. Doers.

Dr. Priscilla Canales, Superintendent

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:	Regular Board Meeting
Place:	WISD Board Room
Location:	319 W. Fourth Street
Date:	November 11, 2019
Time:	6:05 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
Erasmus Lopez, Trustee

*Dr. Jaime Rodriguez joined the meeting at 6:26 p.m.
Andrew Gonzalez and Dr. Richard Rivera were absent.*

- III. Opening Prayer

Rachel Anzaldua, Language Arts Teacher at Central Middle School delivered the invocation.

- IV. Pledge of Allegiance/Texas Pledge

The following students from Central Middle School led the pledge of allegiance:

- Hailey Herrera is an eighth grader and is the daughter of Lawrence Herrera and Lynda Balli. Hailey is the Student Council President and a member of the cross-country team. She attends Rita's Dance Studio when not in school. Hailey hopes to attend Brigham Young University and become a forensic scientist.
- Cody De Leon is an eighth grade student and is the son of Elodia De Leon. Cody's favorite classes are math, computers and technology. During his spare time, Cody enjoys playing the violin. He hopes to attend Colorado Technical University and become an electrical engineer.

V. Awards and Recognitions

Student Recognition

➤ **Battle of the Bands (Pigskin Jubilee)**

The Board recognized both of the high school bands for their outstanding performance at the annual Battle of the Bands also known as the Pigskin Jubilee. The students delivered great shows with amazing music and marching skill.

- The Weslaco High School Panther Corps received a Division I Superior Rating at this event.

Representing the Panther Corps:

Assistant Drum Majors: Lillian Bravo and Nataly Estrada

Head Drum Major: Maricruz Perez

Band Director: Rodrigo Leal

- The Wildcat Regiment also received a Division I Superior rating.

Representing the Wildcat Regiment:

Assistant Drum Majors: Makayla Moreno and Adriana Moreno

Head drum major: Andrea Perez

Band Director: Armando Cuellar

➤ **State Cross Country Competition**

Representing Weslaco East High School:

Senior Tessie Garcia finished the season ranked 2nd in the RGV in Girls Cross Country. She had two individual wins this season and two 2nd place finishes. Tessie is a 3-time Cross Country regional qualifier and the first ever-individual State qualifier in the school’s history.

Head Coach is Joshua Davis.

Representing Weslaco High School:

Junior Amity Ebarb is the 2019 District 31-6A district champion. She was undefeated in the Valley winning 6 out of 8 meets. Amity won 1st place at the 2019 Rio Grande Valley Cross Country Meet of Champions and claimed her spot as the best runner in the RGV for the 2019 season. At the 2019 Regional Championship she finished in 6th place to secure a return to the state meet for the 2nd consecutive year.

➤ **Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival**

The RGV Birding Festival includes an art category that promotes the wild birds that populate our Valley. Students from Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties submit their entries.

Brandy Quiroga from Mary Hoge Middle School won 1st place and Best of Show in the 8th grade division.

Superintendent Dr. Canales took a few minutes to acknowledge the veterans in honor of Veteran’s Day. She said, “We thank you for your service for defending what we understand because of your sacrifice, our way of life - we treasure it, we hold it dearly, and part of that is the educational process for children, so we salute you, thank you, we honor you.”

VI. Proclamation for Parental Involvement Day, November 21, 2019

The Board proclaimed November 21, 2019 as Parental Involvement Day. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, I, School Board President Isidoro Nieto, will be the Honorary Co-Chairperson of the community focusing on Parental Involvement Day; and,

WHEREAS, Weslaco ISD promotes parental involvement targeting student success in the public schools at the “grassroots” level, integrating community awareness in a united effort with representatives throughout the community; and,

WHEREAS, parents, families, educators, and communities are key stakeholders for improving student achievement by supporting Weslaco ISD We Read, We Lead, literacy initiative;

WHEREAS, the community of Weslaco encourages all of Weslaco parents and family members to visit their child’s school and be actively involved in their child’s learning process in this nationwide event reminding parents, educators, and community partners of the important roles they play in the education of children;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Isidoro Nieto, Weslaco ISD School Board President, do hereby support and proclaim the day of November 21, 2019 as **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT DAY**.

VII. Proclamation for National Family Literacy Month

The Board proclaimed November 2019 as Family Literacy Month. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the need for a highly literate citizenry increases as Weslaco ISD moves toward an increasingly technological future; and

WHEREAS, reading aloud to a child at least 15 minutes a day helps brain development, vocabulary, and future success in school and life; and

WHEREAS, Kids who read for at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words every year; and

WHEREAS, Children who are read to at least three times a week by a family members are almost twice as likely to score in the top 25% in reading compared to children who are read to less than three times a week; and

WHEREAS, National Family Literacy Month reminds us all that reading, writing, and basic math remain an elusive target for nearly 800 million adults around the globe, including in our community; and

WHEREAS, skillful, critical, and voluminous reading is one of the most important personal habits that lead to a successful academic career and a happy, productive life.

VIII. Proclamation for National Bullying Prevention Month

WHEREAS, bullying is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or group of people; and

WHEREAS, bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, and through technology, such as the internet and cell phones; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Hidalgo County children and adolescents are affected by bullying annually; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear activities as riding the bus, going to school, and attending community activities; and

WHEREAS, children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, Weslaco ISD will observe Bullying Prevention Month with activities and conversation about respectful and non-violent relationships in their homes, schools, and communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Isidoro Nieto, Weslaco ISD School Board President, do hereby support and proclaim November 2019 as **BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH**.

IX. Public Comments

> *Ana Guevara, 2810 Mi Cielo Drive, Weslaco, Tx.*

Ms. Guevara addressed the Board as a concerned parent. According to Ms. Guevara, her daughter has been bullied in school since she was in fourth grade. She made the following comments, “It’s gotten to the point to where in restroom stalls she’s seen post where it says her name should kill herself, and I want to see consequences; I don’t want to hear this and this got done, getting slaps on the hands. They’re not doing anything to students, they just tell them this (slap on wrist), don’t do it again. No, it has to stop. I want to see consequences, I want to see that they’re getting suspended, doing something. I want letters to be sent out to parents so parents can know what is going on so they can talk to their children, telling them about bullying because it has gotten to the point where my daughter has tried to cut herself. I don’t want to go home one day to find her just thrown on the floor, so I want to see consequences. I want to be heard; I want my daughter to be heard. I want teachers to be there for them, not to where she goes up to a teacher, “Hey, can I show this to the principal, and they’re like “no”, just wait five minutes and then you can go. That has to stop. I mean, administrators telling my kid, ‘We’re just gonna cover it with paint and that’s gonna resolve everything’. Yes, it covers, but it does not resolve anything, so I’m a very concerned parent so I need solutions. I need help. It has gotten to the point where she came up to me telling me, ‘I need counseling Mom, because this is just too much.’ She does not want to go to school anymore for the reason being that she is getting bullied on a daily basis; yet, it falls under David’s law because it’s getting through cyber, it’s at school, it’s at home, it’s everywhere, it follows her. I’ve gotten to the point where I minimized people on her snapchat cos that’s what she has. It’s only family members but she gets text saying, ‘Hey, they’re saying this about you, they’re doing this, they’re calling you’. There’s just so much stuff, so that’s it, I am just a very concerned parent - before it gets to anything else serious.”

Board President Isidoro Nieto asked Superintendent Dr. Canales to follow up on this concern.

X. Superintendent’s Report

- Student Enrollment/ADA

Superintendent Dr. Canales presented the following report.

- > Enrollment for the 11th week of school is 17,216 for a difference of 58 less students than last year at the same time.
- > ADA comparison for 11th week enrollment: 15,964 for 2020 vs 15,883 for 2019 – difference in ADA funding is a positive 81.

Campus	11 th Week Enrollment			11 th Week Average Daily Attendance (ADA)				
	2019	2020	Difference	2019	2020	ADA Diff	2019 ADA (%)	2020 ADA (%)
Sam Houston Elementary	742	767	25	699	707	8	98.06%	97.72%
Silva Elementary	665	629	(36)	603	578	(26)	97.68%	97.26%
Gonzalez Elementary	699	675	(24)	651	609	(42)	97.91%	97.71%
Margo Elementary	960	984	24	871	899	28	97.79%	97.50%
Airport Elementary	875	883	8	795	795	1	97.89%	97.42%
Memorial Elementary	995	1028	33	911	952	41	98.07%	97.82%
North Bridge Elementary	739	750	11	667	681	14	97.59%	96.94%
Rico Elementary	851	801	(50)	769	736	(33)	97.17%	97.45%
Cleckler-Heald Elementary	934	899	(35)	862	838	(24)	98.37%	98.64%
Ybarra Elementary	625	599	(26)	563	539	(24)	97.11%	97.02%
Mary Hoge Middle School	1004	963	(41)	972	930	(42)	97.09%	96.92%
Cuellar Middle School	767	783	16	736	749	13	96.77%	96.68%
Central Middle School	901	932	31	884	909	25	97.73%	97.38%
B. Garza Middle School	1126	1135	9	1086	1088	2	97.31%	97.31%
South Palm Gardens	53	33	(20)	65	46	(19)	92.61%	91.88%
East High School	2056	1988	(68)	1934	1975	42	94.06%	96.30%
Weslaco High School	2422	2493	71	2275	2400	125	94.88%	96.19%
Horton	80	53	(27)	44	29	(15)	85.77%	93.53%
JJAEP – Student Alternative	5	12	7	4	10	5	67.81%	84.56%
Hidalgo County Bootcamp	31	19	(12)	33	22	(11)	99.89%	99.66%
Early College High School	227	247	20	224	236	12	96.85%	96.93%
21 st Century ELF Academy	517	543	26	235	237	2	91.43%	93.20%
GRAND TOTAL	17274	17216	(58)	15883	15964	81	96.60%	97.02%

November 8, 2019

**Weslaco Independent School District
Enrollment/Average Daily Attendance Comparison**

CAMPUS	11 th Week Enrollment			11 th Week ADA				
	2018-2019	2019-2020	Difference	2018-2019	2019-2020	ADA Diff	2019 (ADA) %	2020 (ADA) %
Elementary Schools	8085	8015	(70)	7391	7332	(58)	97.58%	97.44%
Middle Schools	3798	3813	15	3678	3677	(1)	97.25%	97.10%
High Schools	116	84	(32)	81	61	(21)	84.49%	92.58%
Alternative	4758	4761	3	4498	4657	160	94.60%	95.33%
ELF – Academy	517	543	26	235	237	2	91.43%	93.20%
GRAND Total	17274	17216	(58)	15883	15964	81	96.60%	97.02%

Enrollment: Student Enrollment – Includes ALL students regardless of eligibility requirements.
ADA %: This is the percent attendance by campus and district. ADA includes 670 ADA days of Flex Attendance

November 8, 2019

Below is an Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Comparison for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year.

**Weslaco Independent School District
Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Comparison**

Six Weeks Period	School Year 2018-2019	School Year 2019-2020	Difference
First Six Weeks	15,839	15,906	67 +
Second Six-Weeks	15,828	15,963	135 +
Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for First Two (2) Six-Weeks Periods	15,833	15,934	101 +

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget	Six-Week Period	Refined ADA	Flex ADA SASI Program	Total ADA School Year 2019-2020
15,751 ADA	1 st	15,286	620	15,906
15,751 ADA	2 nd	15,219	744	15,963

• **2018-2019 First Indicators Rating**

Dr. Canales acknowledged Mr. Andres Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance, and his staff for receiving an Exemplary rating of 100 for the 2018-2019 year.

>Dr. Canales explained that Weslaco ISD had received a preliminary exemplary rating with a 98-point score. The district made bus purchases in the summer/fall of 2018 because of the flooding and these purchases affected one of the indicators. The district filed an appeal explaining the circumstances and the state accepted the waiver. Therefore, Weslaco ISD’s final rating is Exemplary with a perfect score of 100 points.

Weslaco Independent School District

2018-2019 FIRST Indicators Rating

- Weslaco ISD’s preliminary 2018-2019 FIRST Rating was *Exemplary* with a 98 point score.
- Weslaco ISD filed an appeal with the Texas Education Agency which was successful.
- Weslaco ISD’s Final Rating is **EXEMPLARY** with a **PERFECT SCORE** of 100 Points.

- Insurance

Mr. Mike De La Rosa, Risk Management/Employee Benefits Director, presented the following report.

>The chart below reflects the total cost for claims, prescriptions, and fixed costs.

>The total amount spent as of August 31, 2019 for 2019-2020 is \$2,362,199.23.

>The district has not been billed for the September stop loss premium for BCBS.

**WESLACO ISD
SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM
BCBS / Prime Therapeutics
2019-2020
Totals**

September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019	Claims	Rx	Fixed Costs	Total
BCBS / Araya 2018-2019	\$ 1,900,406.29	\$ 699,226.84	\$ 503,492.86	\$ 3,103,125.99
BCBS / Prime 2019-2020	\$ 1,583,154.24	\$ 539,859.18	\$ 239,185.81	\$ 2,362,199.23
	\$ (317,252.05)	\$ (159,367.66)	\$ (264,307.05)	\$ (740,926.76)
BCBS Admin	\$ 37.21	** Note Stop Loss Premium not Billed in September		
Fiduciary fee	\$ 1.00			
Behavioral health	\$ 1.05			
Rx admin	\$ 2.00	\$ 41.26		
ISL	\$ 97.14			
AGG	\$ 0.31			
Rx rebate credit	\$ (34.79)			
	\$ 103.92			

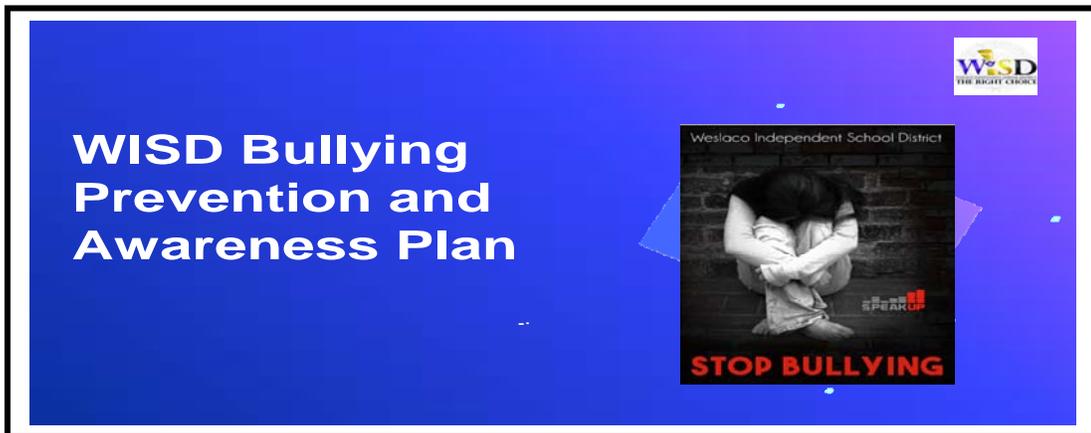
**WESLACO ISD
SELF-FUNDED Workers Compensation Program
2019-2020**

WISD 2 Year Claims Comparison

FY Loss	Number of Claims	Outstanding			
		Paid	Reserves	Incurred	
2018/2019	32	\$ 10,866.16	\$ 83,476.19	\$ 94,342.35	claims for FY 2018/2019 valued at 10/31/2018
2019/2020	14	\$ 18,886.16	\$ 28,721.04	\$ 47,607.20	claims for FY 2019/2020 valued at 10/31/2019

- Bullying

Mrs. Norma Brewer, Student Support Services Director, presented the district’s plan that staff members are following to prevent awareness and prevention of bullying. According to Mrs. Brewer, bullying is addressed throughout the year and not only in the month of October.



WISD Goal #2

Engaging Learning Environments:

Ensure safe, secure, drug-free, technology-rich, and inviting environments which promote high performance.

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The District’s message to students is to be kind or rewind, to be positive and be kind to others. Counselors are talking to students about character-building and how to communicate with each other. Also, to respect each other and someone else’s property and environment.



➤Every single bullying concern is fully investigated. Principals act on the concerns immediately and contact the parents of the alleged perpetrator and victim to try and resolve the problem to ensure the students feel safe in their classrooms.

Texas Law

Texas anti-bullying laws cover off-campus conduct that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity **if the cyberbullying:**

- (A) interferes with a student’s educational opportunities; or
- (B) substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity.

WISD THE RIGHT CHOICE

➤The counselors provide presentations focused on the following lessons to Pre-K through 12 grade students at each classroom.

➤The social workers are also conducting group sessions at the middle school and high school level on a weekly basis to assist students who are struggling academically or emotionally.

Curriculum and Character Education



- **Guidance curriculum** is provided at our school to provide specific strategies for dealing with instances of bullying
- **Kindness, Courage, and Respect lessons** are provided to help build a culture of kindness, acceptance and empathy, as well as help students stand up for one another during conflict
- Elementary and middle schools are **Leader in Me schools**. This program, helps students strengthen their interpersonal skills.

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Communication



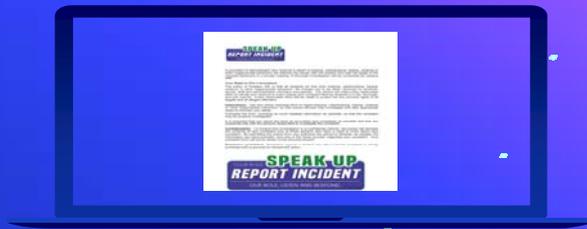
- Students are encouraged to contact a teacher or administrator any time they have any concerns regarding bullying or harassment
- Students and parents can submit reports anonymously using the WISD Anonymous Reporting System.
- Reports are automatically sent to campus principal.
- Administrators immediately start the investigation process.

- > Parents or students can submit a concern anonymously through the district's reporting system.
- > Principals, counselors, and central office administrative staff will receive the email and act on the concern immediately.
- > David's Law requires that districts have an anonymous reporting system.

WISD Anonymous Reporting System



www.wisd.us
Parents/Students
Online Reporting
System



Response



- All bullying incidents are handled as per the Weslaco School District Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Administrators investigate all incidents and meet with the students and parents. Students are referred to counseling.
- All incidents are documented in district approved forms.
- Group counseling sessions are taking place at all of the secondary schools and alternative campuses

- >Staff follows up with the parents of students who have been bullied to ensure they feel safe and are comfortable in their classrooms.
- >Staff also follows up with the parents of the perpetrators to make sure the students are behaving.
- >Social workers keep a calendar of the group lessons taught in each classroom and administrative staff make visits to ensure that the lessons are being held. Counselors submit lesson plans as well.

>Guidance & Counseling is comprised of four components:

- 1) Guidance Curriculum: classroom services
- 2) Individual Counseling
- 3) Responsive Services
- 4) System Support

Mrs. Brewer confirmed that every single bullying situation is addressed immediately by the campus principal and is investigated. The student receives counseling by district personnel or outside counseling is also available, if necessary.

Mr. Erasmo Lopez commented that bullying was a very serious matter that needed to be addressed immediately. He asked staff if they were in need of any programs to address this concern to come before the Board so that they can act on it promptly.

Mrs. Brewer informed the Board that the district has invested in a leadership program for elementary and middle school students, which helps build their leadership skills. Staff has also purchased curriculum for counselors and social workers to conduct the group sessions. However, if additional resources are necessary, staff will come before the Board for assistance.

XI. Consent Agenda

Superintendent Dr. Canales pulled out Item K for clarification purposes.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of Item K. Dr. Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of October 11, 2019, and the Regular Board Meeting of October 14, 2019

The Board approved the minutes as presented.

B. Approval of Out-of-Valley Trips

The Board approved the trips as presented.

Memorial Elementary

- >The 4th grade students will travel to San Antonio, Texas on April 9, 2020. In an effort to enhance students' knowledge on Texas history, the students will visit The Tower of Americas, Ripley's Believe It or Not!, The Alamo, The Riverboats, and IMAX Theatre.

Central Middle School

- >The GEAR Up 8th grade students will attend a field lesson set up by the East Foundation in partnership with the Willacy County Coastal Land Resource Center in Port Mansfield, Texas on February 28, 2020. This experience will provide students interested in careers in biology and marine life an understanding of how natural systems work.

Weslaco East High School

- The Girls Cross Country team will compete in the 2019 UIL State Cross Country Championships hosted by McNeil HS at Round Rock, Texas on November 8-10, 2019. The athletes have an opportunity to compete against state level.
- The Varsity Male Swim Team will compete in the 2019 South Zone TISCA Swim and Dive Meet held in San Antonio, Texas on December 5-7, 2019. The athletes will have a chance to advance to higher competition.
- The Girls Basketball Team will compete in the Pride of Texas Girls Basketball Tournament in Corpus Christi, Texas on December 12-14, 2019. The athletes will have a chance to compete against regional level and to qualify for state competition.
- The Boys Basketball Team will compete in the CalAllen Basketball Tournament held in Corpus Christi, Texas on December 27-28, 2019. The athletes will have a chance to compete against regional level and to qualify for state competition.

Weslaco High School

- The JROTC students will participate in the NEISD Raider Challenge held in San Antonio, Texas on December 6-7, 2019. The cadets will have the opportunity to represent WISD and compete against other teams in the state.
- The Varsity Boys Basketball Team will compete in the South San Antonio ISD Basketball tournament held in San Antonio, Texas on December 5-7, 2019. The athletes will have the opportunity to represent WISD and improve their skills for upcoming district play and various valley tournaments.
- The Varsity Girls Basketball Team will compete in the 2019 Border Olympics Basketball Tournament in Laredo, Texas on December 5-7, 2019. The athletes will have the opportunity to represent WISD and improve their skills for upcoming district play and various valley tournaments.
- The Varsity Swim Team will compete in the 2019 South Zone TISCA Swim and Dive Championships in San Antonio, Texas on December 5-7, 2019. The athletes will have the opportunity to represent and compete at a higher level of competition.
- The Wrestling Team will attend and compete at the Cy-Fair ISD Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Cypress, Texas on January 2-4, 2020. This valuable experience will give athletes the opportunity to represent WISD and compete against other teams in the state.
- The Varsity Cheerleading squad will attend and compete at the UIL Spirit State Championships in Fort Worth, Texas on January 16-19, 2020. Athletes will have the opportunity to compete against various squads at their level.

Weslaco East High School & Weslaco High School

- The FFA students and sponsors will attend and participate at the Area X FFA Leadership Development Events to be held in Robstown, Texas on November 24-25, 2019. These events are designed to help students prepare for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, and teamwork skills.

- C. Approval to Accept Donation of Dictionaries in the Approximate Amount of \$4,665.00 from Peter Piper Pizza in Weslaco for All Third Grade Students of Weslaco ISD

The Board accepted the donation of 1,560 dictionaries from Peter Piper Pizza in Weslaco. The dictionaries will be utilized by all 3rd grade students, as needed in their instruction.

- D. Approval to Accept Donation of Sixty Backpacks and School Supplies in the Approximate Amount of \$1,300.00 for Dr. R.E. Margo Elementary Students from Various Sponsors:

1. Weslaco Elks Lodge #2057
2. Security First Credit Union
3. Kids Brident Dental & Orthodontics
4. Calvary Christian Center

The Board accepted the donation of backpacks and school supplies as presented. The backpacks and supplies will be distributed to students in need.

- E. Approval to Accept Donation in the Amount of \$500.00 from Lillian Cisneros Ochoa with Phoenix DBD LLC for Students at Memorial Elementary School

The Board accepted the donation of \$500.00 from Lillian Cisneros Ochoa as presented. The funds were used to offset expenses for the Fall Festival held on Thursday, October 24, 2019.

- F. Approval to Accept Donations in the Amount of \$345.00 for Memorial Elementary School Illuminator's Student Activity Club Fund from Various Sponsors:

1. \$150.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Carranza
2. \$ 75.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Enrique Silva
3. \$ 50.00 from Mrs. Teresita V. Rodriguez
4. \$ 50.00 from Ms. Marissa Mariscal
5. \$ 20.00 from Mrs. Maureen Vos

The Board accepted the donation of \$345.00 for the Illuminator's student activity club fund as presented. The funds were used to offset expenses for the Fall Festival held on Tuesday, October 29, 2019.

- G. Approval to Accept a \$50.00 Donation from Jeff Everitt & Associates, Inc. and \$200.00 from A Beautiful Day Health for Student Athletes at Central Middle School

The Board accepted the donation of \$50.00 from Jeff Everitt & Associates, Inc. and \$200.00 from A Beautiful Day Health as presented. The funds were used to help cover the cost of refreshments for the 1st Annual Fall Sports BBQ held at Central Middle School on Friday, October 25, 2019.

- H. Approval to Accept \$16,000 Donation from United Way for Weslaco ISD Ambassador Program

The Board accepted the \$16,000 donation from United Way as presented. This will be the third year WISD has partnered with United Way in offering the Ambassador Program, which is implemented from November through April. The purpose of this program is to empower students with leadership skills, volunteer opportunities, and financial literacy. A total of 100 students from Weslaco High and Weslaco East will be participating in this program. Fifty students who are current juniors will be identified as ambassadors and trained to mentor fifty ninth graders who are in good standing with attendance and grades. Ambassadors will receive training on mentoring and leadership skills from United Way and be required to work with one ninth-grade student identified by a teacher and/or counselor.

I. Approval of Purchase of APEX Online Interactive Software for All Core Content Areas for Students in Sixth Through Twelfth Grades

The Board approved the sole source purchase of the APEX Online Interactive Software for all core content areas for students in sixth through twelfth grades. The cost of this purchase is \$130,590.00 for software licenses and \$13,200.00 for professional development.

The APEX tutorials will help teachers differentiate instruction for students to support them in successfully meeting the requirements of the State of Texas Assessment and Academic Readiness (STAAR) exams and the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment.

APEX Consultants will provide staff development so that teachers are familiar with all aspects of the software and how it can best be used to support students and supplement the instruction taking place in the classroom. Teachers will be able to track student progress and student growth on specific TEKS using APEX management system.

J. Approval of Purchase of the New Herman Method Set A & B Instructional Materials from Voyager Sopris Learning to Assist Teachers and Students in Special Education, Dyslexia, 504, or Bilingual Programs

The Board approved the sole source purchase of the New Herman Method Set A&B instructional materials from Voyager Sopris Learning at a cost of \$39,986.98.

The materials will assist teachers and students in Special Education, Dyslexia, 504, or Bilingual Programs. This program is a reading intervention for students who are experiencing reading difficulties and or dyslexia. It will assist in reading as well as additional online accommodations.

K. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Weslaco Independent School District and Licensed Child Care Center (Children's Depot Daycare) to Provide Services to Pre-K Children for the 2019-2020 School Year

Dr. Canales pulled this item from the agenda for clarification purposes.

L. Approval to Renew the Retainer Agreement with the Law Firm of Walsh Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle P.C. for Legal Services Related to the Provision of Special Education Services

The Board approved to renew the retainer agreement with the law firm of Walsh Anderson Gallegos Trevino Russo & Kyle, P.C. for legal services related to the provision of special education services. The cost for these services is \$1,000.00.

Through this agreement, district personnel will be able to consult with attorneys who specialize in legal matters dealing with students with disabilities. The district will have unlimited phone consultation with attorneys in any of their offices, receive monthly newsletters on general education law, as well as information that educates personnel on pertinent developments within the field of special education. In addition, the district would have access to discounted legal fees should the district ever become involved in litigation involving special education matters.

M. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Board approved the budget amendments as presented.

1. Student Support Services/State Comp. Dept. – State Compensatory Fund to reclassify funds to Extra Duty Pay. Funds no longer needed to pay for Eduphoria Online Services: \$2,150.00

2. Business Office – Local Maintenance Fund and Food Service Fund to reclassify funds to correct fund code. Purchase of vehicle was approved to the wrong fund code in previous board meeting: \$45,000.00
3. Business Office – Local Maintenance Fund to record budget for College, Career, or Military Readiness Allotment: \$155,100.00
4. Science Department – Local Maintenance Fund to reclassify funds to correct function for Science Fair Extra Duty Pay: \$12,000.00
5. Business Office – Local Maintenance Fund to record budget for High School Allotment Roll-Forward: \$62,011.00
6. Student Support Services/State Comp. Dept. – State Compensatory Fund to record budget for the State Compensatory Fund roll-forward, the majority budgeted for summer school: \$1,951,934.00
7. Food Service Department – Food Service Fund to increase Food Service budget to purchase large kitchen equipment: \$928,700.00

N. Approval of the 2019 Certified Property Tax Roll

The Board approved the 2019 Certified Property Tax Roll as presented by the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor Collector. Section 26.09(e) of the Property Tax Code, requires the Tax Assessor/Collector to submit the Certified Tax Roll to the governing body of the taxing unit by August 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable. The amounts may change due to the Tax Values Protests filed with the Hidalgo County Appraisal District.

The total tax levy information was used to prepare the budget for fiscal year 2019-2020.

Total Assessed Value	\$ 3,263,594,739.00
Less Total Exemptions	(854,458,642.00)
Taxable Value	\$ 2,409,136,097.00
Tax rate per \$100 of Taxable Valuation	\$ 1.0687
Levy Before Frozen Levy Loss	\$ 25,746,437.47
Levy Loss due to Freeze	(347,583.24)
Levy After Frozen Levy Loss	\$ 25,398,854.23
Late Rendition & Late AG	\$ 22,369.51
Total Levy per Hidalgo County Tax Office	\$ 25,421,225.80

O. Approval of Extension of Proposal Awards:

1. Glass Service & Repairs District-Wide (Proposal #19-11-06)

The Board awarded the extension for glass service and repair district-wide to D&R Glass Etc. from McAllen/Weslaco, Texas. D&R Glass Etc. was awarded the proposal with an extension option of one additional year and was based on an overall satisfactory performance by the approved vendor.

Glass service is used throughout the district in the repair of broken windows in our buildings, school buses and district vehicles.

No dollar amount is mentioned because the number of service calls that will be made throughout the year are unknown.

2. HVAC Supplies & Equipment (Proposal #19-11-09)

The Board approved the award extension for HVAC supplies and equipment to the following vendors:

- >Johnstone Supply – Primary Vendor
- >Johnson Supply – Primary Vendor
- >Insko Distributing – Secondary Vendor
- >Texas Air Systems – Secondary Vendor

HVAC supplies will be purchased on an as needed basis with quotes being obtained from either of the two primary vendors for items totaling \$3,000 or less. For totals exceeding \$3,000, quotes will be obtained from both of the two (2) primary vendors along with at least one from either of the secondary vendors. The total amount of purchases cannot be determined now since it is not known how much the HVAC Department will purchase or what the needs of the district will be.

3. Electrical & Plumbing Supplies & Equipment – District-Wide (Proposal #19-11-10)

The Board awarded the proposal for electrical and plumbing supplies and equipment to the following vendors:

Electrical		
Vendor	Location	Award Status
Central Plumbing & Electric Supply	Weslaco, Texas	Primary Vendor
Dealers Electrical Supply	McAllen, Texas	Primary Vendor
Bush Supply	Harlingen, Texas	Secondary Vendor
Valmac Electrical Supply	Pharr, Texas	Secondary Vendor
Lewis Electric Motors, Inc.	Harlingen, Texas	Secondary Vendor

Plumbing		
Vendor	Location	Award Status
Central Plumbing & Electric Supply	Weslaco, Texas	Primary Vendor
Morrison Supply Company	McAllen, Texas	Primary Vendor
Bush Supply	Harlingen, Texas	Secondary Vendor
Weslaco Borderland Hardware	Weslaco, Texas	Secondary Vendor
Alamo Iron Works	Brownsville, Texas	Secondary Vendor

The amount of purchases cannot be determined at this time since it is not known how much each department or campus will purchase.

4. Paint Supplies & Equipment (Proposal #19-11-11)

The Board approved the award extension for paint supplies and equipment to the following vendors based on vendor service and product satisfaction:

- >PPB Architectural Finishes, Inc. and the Sherwin-William Company as Primary Vendors;
- >Alamo Iron Works, Matt’s Building Materials, Pioneer Manufacturing Company and Weslaco Borderland Hardware as Secondary Vendors.

The vendors have agreed to continue the contract with the same “Award Status” and same terms and conditions as previously approved. Items will be purchased on an as needed basis. Quotes will be obtained from the two primary vendors if the total purchase is less than \$3,000. For purchases totaling \$3,000 or more, a quote will be obtained from the two (2) primary vendors and at least one from any of the secondary vendors. The vendor that offers

the lowest prices and has the items available in stock (or can get them faster) will be awarded the purchase.

P. Approval of Obsolete/Damaged Personal Property to Be Declared Surplus Property, and Be Sold or Disposed of Accordingly

The Board approved the list of obsolete and/or damaged personal property to be declared as surplus property and to allow administration to dispose the items via auction.

Description	Total
2001 Ford F 150 Pickup Truck	1
2008 Ford F-250 Pickup Truck	1
1998 Chevrolet One Ton	1
Audio Visual Equipment	42
Band Instruments	15
Cattle Chute	1
Chairs	63
Computer Carts	10
Computers (Hard drive removed)	125
File Cabinets	18
Golf Cart	1
Gooseneck Trailer	1
Ice Machine	2
Laptops	200
Locker Banks	2
Monitors	58
Nurse Bed	2
Pianos	2
Poles (football end zone camera)	2
Printers	62
Refrigerator	1
Sofa	2
Tables	49
Television Sets	65
Tires	185
Toner (empty/used)	125
Trailers – Tandem Utility	2
Uniforms Sports	60
Ladders	10
Tool Boxes (pickup truck)	2
Table Saw	1

Q. Approval of Purchase of Three (3) School Buses RFCQ #2020-02

The Board approved the purchase of three (3) school buses from Longhorn Bus Sales located in Houston, Texas. This vendor belongs to a purchasing cooperative that has been awarded a bus sales contract. The total cost of all buses is \$315,636.00.

The district replaced most of the school buses in July and August 2018 due to flood damage. However, twenty-four of the original fleet were still being used but required plenty of maintenance and upkeep. The new buses will replace some of the old models and used for daily routes. The district will keep the old buses and use them sparingly, if needed.

- R. Approval to Accept a Donation of 20 Turkeys for Weslaco ISD Families from the Law Office of Ezequiel Reyna, Jr.

The Board accepted the donation of 20 turkeys from the Law Office of Ezequiel Reyna, Jr. The turkeys will be distributed by the Parent & Family Engagement program to Weslaco ISD families in need.

- S. Approval of Monthly Tax Adjustments for October 2019

The Board approved the monthly tax adjustments for October 2019 as recommended by the Hidalgo County Tax Office. The tax adjustments are listed in the monthly tax collection report summarized by tax year (current & prior years) and is further broken down by the type of tax involved (M&O, I&S, etc.).

October 2019				
Type of Tax	Current Levy	Prior Years Levies	Roll Back Taxes	Total
M&O Taxes	\$ 9,806.97	(\$ 37,592.29)	\$ 47,911.52	\$ 20,125.20
I&S Taxes	\$ 187.01	(\$ 646.48)	\$ 427.44	(\$ 32.03)
Total Adjustments	\$ 9,992.98	(\$ 38,238.77)	\$ 48,338.96	\$ 20,093.17

These negative tax adjustments represent a decrease in the tax collections for the year.

Item Pulled Out for Discussion:

- XI – K. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Weslaco Independent School District and Licensed Child Care Center (Children’s Depot Daycare) to Provide Services to Pre-K Children for the 2019-2020 School Year

Dr. Canales pulled out this item for clarification purposes.

The partnership with Children’s Depot Daycare will collaborate to provide children a high quality, rigorous academic program that enables children to develop to their potential, nurtures their sense of individual worth, and builds a strong foundation to be kindergarten ready.

Dr. Canales clarified that ADA revenue will cover the cost of **current** personnel, not new personnel.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Weslaco Independent School District and Licensed Child Care Center (Children’s Depot Daycare) for the 2019-2020 school year. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XII. Discussion Items:

- A. Interim Financial Reports for the Two Months Ended October 31, 2019

The Board acknowledged the Interim Financial Report for the two months ended October 31, 2019, as prepared by the Business Office.

Mr. Andres Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, presented the following report.

Source	Budget	Received & Receivable	Variance	Percentage
5700 Local Source	26,620,278	1,002,676	(25,617,602)	3.77%
5800 State Source	141,854,219	28,683,954	(113,170,265)	20.22%
5900 Federal Sources	15,370,253	1,646,712	(13,723,541)	10.71%
Totals	183,844,750	31,333,342	(152,511,408)	17.04%

- For total revenues budgeted of \$183,844,750; the district has received \$31,333,342, which represents 17.04% of the budget.
- Of \$186,000,262 in budgeted expenditures, the district has expended and encumbered \$27,126,071, which represents 14.58% for the first month.

B. Acknowledgement of Hidalgo County Tax Office Collection Report for October 2019: Current Taxes and Delinquent Taxes

The Board acknowledged the Collection Report for October 2019 as presented. Section 31.10 Property Tax Code requires the Tax Assessor/Collector to submit to the governing body of the taxing unit a written report made under oath accounting for all taxes collected for the unit during the preceding month.

Listed below is the October 2019 report from the Hidalgo County Tax Office:

WISD SWL -53	Original Tax Levy	Collected to Date	Modifications (Adjustments) to Date	Taxes Outstanding To-Date	Percent 2019/2020	Collected 2018/2019
2019 Tax Roll	25,421,225.80	449,205.52	9,992.98	24,982,013.26	1.77%	0.62%
2018 & Prior Yrs.	4,069,728.16	185,725.87	(42,113.38)	3,841,888.91	4.61%	4.65%
Rollback	58,547.20	3,921.99	69,107	58,547	3.54%	0.00%
Totals	29,549,501.16	638,853.38	(20,140.55)	28,930,788.33		

XIII. Discussion and Possible Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Resolution Casting Votes for Nominee(s) to Serve on the Hidalgo County Appraisal District Board of Directors for 2020-2021

Each voting entity had the opportunity to nominate candidates by written resolution prior to October 16, 2019. During the regular board meeting held on September 9, 2019, the Board nominated two candidates (David Hernandez and Joe Olivares) to serve on the Hidalgo Appraisal District Board of Directors.

Listed below are the names of the fifteen candidates nominated by the taxing entities and included on the official ballot:

1. Albert Cardenas	6. Eddie Betancourt	11. Orlando Lozano
2. Alejandro Cantu	7. Henry Howell	12. Pete Garcia
3. Amador Requenez	8. Joe Olivarez	13. Reynaldo Perez
4. Col Roberto Perez	9. Mario Flores	14. Richard A. Garza
5. David Hernandez	10. Monte Churchill	15. Shavi Mahtani

Each entity unit may cast its vote for one candidate or distribute them among any number of candidates. Weslaco ISD has a total of 155 votes.

Erasmus Lopez made the motion to cast 78 votes for David Hernandez and 77 votes for Joe Olivarez. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Ratification of the Administration's Approval of Allowance Expenditure Request #2 for the Fire & Security Alarm System at Weslaco High School and the Fire Alarm System at the Weslaco ISD Administration Complex Project (CSP #18-02-17) to Replace the Smoke Detector Sensors in the Restrooms at Weslaco High School

On February 12, 2018, the Board approved Superior Alarms for the construction of this project. The new fire alarm system at WHS consists of smoke detector devices in the restrooms which were installed to comply with the fire code in the areas without a fire sprinkler system. However, due to frequent fire alarms disrupting class instruction and school activities, WHS staff requested that the sensors be replaced because they were triggering the fire alarm upon detection of chemicals from cleaners and hair spray.

The new sensors will be replaced with a detector to detect multiple fire related events such as heat, smoke, and particle from smoldering type fires with little smoke and no flames. The cost of allowance expenditure request #2 is \$8,458.44, which will be paid from the Owner's Contingency/Allowance account.

Armando Cuellar made the motion to ratify the Administration's approval of allowance expenditure request #2 to the project Fire and Security Alarm system at Weslaco High School and the Fire Alarm System at the WISD Administration Complex for the replacement of the smoke detector sensors in the restrooms at Weslaco High School. Erasmus Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval for the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center (CSP #18-04-20) as Follows:

1. An Allowance Expenditure for Additional Work Needed
2. Final Completion of the Project – Including Rain Days and Delay Days, and
3. A Deductive Change Order for the Unspent Balance of the Owner's Contingency –

On April 10, 2018, the Board approved Mata G. Construction for the construction of the Chemical Storage Building in the amount of \$175,046.00. This project was completed fifteen days after the extended substantial completion date and therefore the amount of liquidated damages to be assessed is \$4,500.00 (\$300.00 per day).

Erasmus Lopez pointed out that this project was small and came in under budget and at a good price. However, the information provided indicated that the district was going to assess \$4,500.00 in liquidated damages to the contractor. He did not want to hurt the contractor but if staff had already discussed the amount with him, and he had agreed, he was okay with moving forward and taking action. Mr. Sanchez replied that the contractor had signed the change order.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve an allowance expenditure for additional work needed, the final completion of the project – including rain days and delay days, and a deductive change order for the unspent balance of the owner's contingency and liquidated damages. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

D. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the LED Lighting District-Wide Project:

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project:
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

Athletic Director Oscar Riojas informed the Board that the use of LED lighting will provide many benefits as compared to older lighting technologies such as fluorescent lighting and HID (High Intensity Discharge) type of lighting that are still in use today. LED lighting provides better quality of lighting and consumes considerably less energy which will result in savings for the district. The warranty period for LED lighting products is in the range of five (5) to twenty (20) years.

Mr. Riojas explained that the company selected would change the hardware and the bulbs; thus, staff would have less work and more time for other things because they would not need to be changing the ballasts on a consistent basis. This project ranked as priority #3 on the Long Range Facilities Master Plan.

Isidoro Nieto wanted to know if funds were available for this project. Mr. Andres Sanchez replied that staff would prepare a request for proposals for the five companies selected indicating how the district wanted the project presented, and also request the vendor to provide financing for the project.

Erasmus Lopez commented that the district wants to get competitive pricing but because there was a quote already out there from a vendor through Buyboard, he felt that it would not be fair to other vendors who would be submitting proposals. He preferred to table this item until they decided how to proceed.

Mr. Sanchez replied that staff had only one quote and it would not be fair not to accept any other bids. He explained that the process would start with a request for qualifications and then the company selected would have to go to the schools and do an evaluation of the buildings and identify the needs at that time. After the evaluation is complete, the company would provide the district information on the cost, warranties, and fees associated with the project.

Mr. Ivan Perez, legal counsel, explained that with a public works project one could not go to the Buyboard for construction purposes unless written certification is obtained from an engineer or an architect that indicates that 1) the project does not need plans and specifications, or 2) the plans and specifications have already been produced. If this is not done, the design build method would be an inappropriate methodology.

Mr. Sanchez confirmed that staff did not have any drawings at this time.

Mr. Lopez made the motion to table this item to ensure that they were on the right track. He did not want the Board to get into any kind of trouble due to the price that is available from a vendor through Buyboard. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion.

Mr. Kennedy requested the following information be provided in their weekly update.

- >Type of Financing – Interest Rates
- >Price Comparison of type of savings the district could incur by switching to LED vs. the amount of interest the district will pay on the note that is being proposed by administration.
- >Would the district save money?

The Board voted unanimously on the motion made by Erasmo Lopez and seconded by Armando Cuellar to table this item.

E. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Roofing Replacement Project at Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center:

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project;
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

The roofing needs throughout the district are being addressed with the recent completion of the roof replacements for Airport Elementary, the Cuellar MS Gym and Band Hall, the B. Garza Gym and Band Hall area, and the Weslaco HS Old Band Hall. The estimated completion date for these projects is February 1, 2021.

Mr. Kennedy wanted to know if funds were available for this project. According to Mr. Sanchez, funds for this project are available in the Local Maintenance Fund's Fund Balance Assigned for Facilities or Other Needs.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction for this project, delegated the authority to the administration to rank the proposals to be received, and approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Bus Drive and Teacher Parking Lot Repaving Project at Weslaco High School:

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project;
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

The concrete bus drive for the Weslaco High School located on the teacher parking lot is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. Concrete damage is present throughout the bus drive with the wire mesh already exposed in some spots. The Superintendent's Facilities Committee approved this project as priority and recommended staff proceed with the project. The administration recommended the competitive sealed proposals method of construction for this project.

As requested by staff, Mariano Garcia, P.E., assessed the condition of the drive and parking lot and provided an estimated project cost of \$668,262.00 to create the construction documents and oversee the project. According to Mr. Andres Sanchez, the funds are not in the budget, but are available through the Local Maintenance Fund's Fund Balance Assigned for Facilities or Other Needs. The estimated completion date is August 15, 2020.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposal method of construction, delegated the authority to rank the proposals to be received to the Administration, and approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

G. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Hire a Civil Engineering Firm to Draw the Plans and Specifications as Well as Oversee the Construction of the Bus Drive and Teacher Parking Lot Repaving Project at Weslaco High School

Civil engineer Mariano Garcia, P.E. was contacted by the administration to assess the condition of the drive and the parking lot and to provide an estimated project cost. Mr. Garcia walked the site with Mr. Americo Garza, Director of Energy Systems/Maintenance and Operations, and Mr. Joe Castillo, Maintenance Department Supervisor.

The administration recommended that the Board approve to hire M Garcia Engineering, LLC to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the replacement of the Bus Drive and Teacher Parking Lot Repaving Project. The proposed cost of the engineering services for this project is 8% of the actual project cost plus a fixed survey fee. The estimated project cost is \$636,440. MGE Engineering's estimated fee is \$50,915.20 plus the fixed survey fee of \$12,728.80 for a total estimated cost of \$63,644.00. Mr. Sanchez pointed out that this amount would be used as a guide.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to hire M Garcia Engineering, LLC to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the replacement of the Bus Drive and Teacher Parking Lot Repaving Project. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion.

Mr. Lopez wanted to know if staff had encountered any issues with this engineer. According to Mr. Americo Garza, Energy Systems Director, there were some changes made to the parking lot at Silva Elementary because the dimensions of the parking lot were not done as called for on the specifications. Therefore, the engineer had to make adjustments as a result of the dimensions of the parking lot.

A vote was called for on the motion made by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez and seconded by Patrick Kennedy to hire M Garcia Engineering, LLC to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the replacement of the Bus Drive and Teacher Parking Lot Repaving Project. Voting in favor of the motion were Armando Cuellar, Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, and Patrick Kennedy. Erasmo Lopez voted against the motion. The motion passed with a 3 to 1 vote.

H. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Bobby Lackey Stadium Visitor Parking Lot Paving Project:

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project;
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

Dr. Canales shared that there was a need for a parking lot on the east or visitor side of the Bobby Lackey Stadium. The large fan base and the increase in the use of the facility for WISD events as well as external events through the rental of the facility have contributed to this demand. The parking lot is not only needed for additional parking, but also to adequately comply with ADA requirements. In addition, the construction of the new football field house at WHS eliminated approximately twenty-one (21) parking stalls, which the City of Weslaco is requiring to be replaced. The City of Weslaco will allow the missing parking stalls to be covered with the new parking lot at the stadium.

The Superintendent's Facilities Committee approved this project as priority and recommended that staff proceed with the project. The administration contacted civil engineer Mariano Garcia, P.E. to assist staff with a preliminary layout of the proposed parking lot and to provide an estimated project cost. The administration recommended that the Board approve the Competitive Sealed Proposals Method of Construction for this project.

Questions from the Board:

- Where is the site located and how much area will be used for parking?
 - Approximately 128 parking spaces will be added to the visitor parking area.
 - The parking spaces will be closer to the east side without infringing to the practice fields and butting up to the parameter fence by the ticket booths.
- Is staff addressing the areas that are prone to flooding which restricts parking for visitors.
 - Underground drainage is included in this proposal that will allow the water to flow towards the softball field by Panther Drive.
 - In addition, flooding that has occurred underneath the bleachers on the visitor's side will also be addressed through this proposal.

Erasmus Lopez mentioned that the Board needs to discuss what to do with a piece of property that is located in the corner because if they proceed with the parking lot they will need to come back later and have to fill in the parking spaces which could create a problem. He made the motion to table this item pending a resolution.

Mr. Americo Garza informed the Board that he had spoken to the engineer about this area and asked him to include it as an Alternate in case the district were to acquire that property. Therefore, the estimated budget cost reflects the alternate as well as an option to expand the parking lot further south in order to gain more parking spaces.

Armando Cuellar asked if the obstacle course on the north end would be affected. Oscar Riojas replied that it would not be affected because the obstacle course is located on the northeast side.

Mr. Lopez withdrew his motion to table.

Armando Cuellar made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction for this project, authorized the administration to rank the proposals received, and approved the criteria and points to rank the proposals. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Armando Cuellar, Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, and Patrick Kennedy. Voting against the motion were Erasmo Lopez. The motion passed with a 3 to 1 vote.

I. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Hire a Civil Engineering Firm to Draw the Plans and Specifications as Well as Oversee the Construction of the Bobby Lackey Stadium Visitor Parking Lot Paving Project

The administration recommended that the Board approve to hire M Garcia Engineering, LLC to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the Bobby Lackey Stadium Visitor Parking Lot Paving Project.

District staff has worked with M Garcia Engineering directly on several civil engineering projects, including the Silva and Gonzalez Elementary parking lot additions and the sidewalk/drainage improvements at Weslaco High School. Staff has had a positive experience in working with M Garcia Engineering and has not had any concerns with the services provided.

Erasmus Lopez questioned previous issues with the engineer on the parking lot project at Silva Elementary School. Mr. Garza clarified that the campus that lost a few parking spaces was Gonzalez Elementary School. He will follow up on the number of parking spaces that were reduced and forward the information to the Board.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to hire M. Garcia Engineering as recommended by the administration. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Mr. Kennedy was not sure if they should proceed with approving the contract due to the concerns addressed.

Mr. Lopez mentioned that the Board was approving the construction prior to hiring the architects or engineers, which he thought should be the other way around.

Mr. Sanchez explained that the process should be as follows:

>Board needs to select the method of construction first prior to selecting an engineer or contractor because if the Board decides to go with the design-build method, an engineer or architect would not be needed. The design-build method calls for a design-build team comprised of an architect, engineer, and general contractors.

Legal counsel Ivan Perez informed the Board that in the event the Board did not want to approve this engineer, the Board could make a selection, ask for resumes or go out for RFQ's. He explained that with professional services, the selection could not be based on pricing, but rather on demonstrated competence.

Armando Cuellar also expressed concern over the issues addressed since the Board relies on the information provided by the administration and their recommendations.

Mr. Lopez commented that he could not support the administration's recommendation because of the issues encountered with the loss of parking spaces at one of the campuses. Therefore, he made the motion to table this item. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion.

Mr. Lopez requested that information on the issues encountered with the parking lot project at Gonzalez be included in their weekly update.

Legal counsel clarified the board's request for information as follows:

•Administration is to provide clarification on the issues encountered at the school district on the parking lot project and not necessarily to provide the Board with resumes or qualifications of other firms.

A vote was called for on the motion made by Erasmo Lopez and seconded by Armando Cuellar to table this item. Voting in favor of the motion were Armando Cuellar, Erasmo Lopez, and Patrick Kennedy. Voting against the motion was Dr. Jaime Rodriguez. The motion carried with a 3 to 1 vote.

J. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Hire a Consulting Engineering Firm to Conduct a Forensic Evaluation of the Foundation at the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve to hire Raba Kistner, Inc., Consulting Engineering Firm to conduct a Forensic Evaluation of the Foundation at the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School.

Signs of foundation problems on the southwest side of the campus at Rico Elementary have been present for some time. Cracks on the walls and the continued separation of expansion joints are

a clear indication of the problems. Several assessments have been performed to determine the cause of the problem. However, none have provided the depth of study or have been performed in a forensic manner. A proposal has been obtained from Raba Kistner, Inc., a consulting engineering firm providing forensic engineering services, to assess the condition of the foundation and identify the cause of the problem. The cost for the assessment of the foundation for Rico Elementary provided by Raba Kistner is \$26,500. The funds for this project are available through the Local Construction Fund's Budget.

This company has done work for the district on past projects such as the structural assessment of the sports fields light poles at both high schools and the geotechnical or soils and materials testing on several construction projects such as the new scoreboard at Bobby Lackey Stadium, the new band hall at Weslaco East High School, and the Athletics Renovations Project at both high schools.

Erasmio Lopez made the motion to hire Raba Kistner, Inc., Consulting Engineering Firm to conduct a Forensic evaluation of the Foundation at the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

K. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Replacement of HVAC Controls at Weslaco East High School Project:

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project;
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

The HVAC controls for the Weslaco East High School campus are obsolete and more difficult to maintain with time since parts have been discontinued. This has resulted in constant HVAC problems that affect space comfort. Conditions have been experienced where the space temperature in one classroom is comfortable while the adjacent classroom is under uncomfortable space temperature considering that both classrooms are under the same HVAC unit. At times, an entire classroom wing may experience air conditioning problems at the beginning of the school day as a result of the HVAC unit for the wing not starting properly.

Thus, the controls system is in need of replacement and the Administration is recommending that the Board approve the Design-Build method of construction for this project. The funds have been allocated as part of the 2017 Maintenance Tax Note as the HVAC projects approved by the Facilities Committee and the Board. The estimated cost of the project is in the range of \$375,000 to \$400,000.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the Design-Build method of construction, authorized Administration to rank the proposals to be received, and approved the criteria and points to rank the proposals as presented. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion.

Dr. Rodriguez asked if these were the same on-going issues the campus had experienced in the past. Mr. Oscar Riojas replied that they have had issues with the system shutting off after power outages which has become more problematic.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Patrick Kennedy and seconded by Armando Cuellar to approve the Design-Build method of construction, authorized Administration to rank the proposals to be received, and approved the criteria and points to rank the proposals as presented.

- L. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Contract with PBK Architects to Draw the Plans and Specifications as Well as Oversee the Construction of the Replacement of the Weslaco East High School Main Gym's HVAC Units and the Upgrades to the Practice Gym HVAC Units and the Related Roofing Work Needed for Both Projects

On February 13, 2017, the Board approved the HVAC System Upgrades Districtwide project as part of the priority facilities projects for the District. This project includes the replacement of the Weslaco East High School main gym's HVAC units and the upgrades to the practice gyms HVAC units and the related roofing work as needed for both projects. On February 11, 2019, the Board approved to hire PBK Architects for this project.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve to enter into a contract with PBK for this project. Legal counsel reviewed the contract and made final modifications that had not been incorporated into the contract. The proposed cost of the architectural services for this project is 10% of the actual project cost. The estimated project cost is \$637,000. PBK's estimated fee is \$63,700. The funds for this project are available from the proceeds on the 2017 Maintenance Tax Note loan.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the contract with PBK Architects to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the replacement of the Weslaco East High School Main Gym's HVAC units and the upgrades to the Practice Gyms HVAC units and related roofing work needed for both projects as recommended by the Superintendent. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion.

Armando Cuellar wanted to know how old the existing HVAC units were. According to Mr. Americo Garza, the campus was constructed in 1999, so the units are about 20 years old.

The Board voted in favor of the motion made by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez and seconded by Patrick Kennedy to approve the contract with PBK Architects to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the replacement of the Weslaco East High School Main Gym's HVAC units and the upgrades to the Practice Gyms HVAC units and related roofing work needed for both projects as recommended by the Superintendent.

- M. Discussion and Possible Action to Terminate Contract with GOERO International, LLC, with Respect to Roofing Services Pursuant to the Contract Terms, and to Authorize Administration to Enter into a New Contract with GOERO International, LLC for Only the Following Three (3) Projects: Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center

On February 20, 2017, the Board awarded GOERO International, LLC (ERO Architects) to design the Roofing Improvements district-wide for 15 locations/roofs, which at the time were estimated to cost \$1,600,000. The Board hired ERO Architects to conduct a thorough separate evaluation of the condition of the roofs. After ERO Architects conducted the evaluation, they concluded that the estimated cost for all these roofs was actually \$13,000,000.

At that time the Administration had only allocated \$2.2 million from the \$17 million proceeds of the Maintenance Tax Note loan for repairs of roofs. The roofs were ranked in repair priority order. ERO Architects estimated that the amount of \$2.2 million would cover the cost of the following roofs: Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's old Band Hall.

The District currently has funding for only three more roofing projects: Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center. The estimated cost for these three roofing projects is approximately \$3,100,000 plus 6% for architect fees. Therefore, the Administration recommended for the Board to terminate the current contract

with GOERO International, LLC, with respect to roofing services pursuant to the contract terms, and to authorize Administration to enter into a new contract with GOERO International, LLC for only the three projects mentioned.

Erasmus Lopez voiced his concerns on the amount budgeted to repair the roofs. According to Mr. Lopez, this amount would not have covered roof repairs for 15 roofs. He pointed out that the company does not repair roofs; they design specifications and drawings on how to repair the roofs. Therefore, the amount presented would have been for the cost of the design only. At the time the projects were awarded to the companies, he was understood that the firms were going to start repairing roofs and working on the drawings as funds became available. He questioned the reason for wanting to terminate the contract.

Mr. Andres Sanchez informed the Board that the amount set aside (\$1.6 million) was for repairs only, not to replace the entire roofs. This amount was just an estimate for repairs which was used in 2016 during the process for the bond issue. In 2018, the Facilities Committee prepared a Facilities Needs list of projects which they ranked in order of priority. The list was presented to the Board. The Board then selected the top five architects and awarded the roof projects to the different firms. However, once ERO assessed the roofs, they estimated the cost to replace the roofs would be \$3.1 million because most of the roofs were very old and in need of replacement. Since there is not enough money to do all the roofs, administrative staff recommended to terminate the current contract and enter into a new contract with this firm to do only the three projects mentioned with the \$2.2 million allocated from the Maintenance Tax Note loan. The district has compensated ERO to assess the roofs.

Due to legal questions, Mr. Ivan Perez (legal counsel) suggested that the Board discuss this item in closed meeting and revisit the item after the closed meeting.

The Board President announced that the Board would revisit this item after closed meeting.

XIV. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 8:00 p.m. to discuss the following items:

M. Discussion and Possible Action to Terminate Contract with GOERO International, LLC, with Respect to Roofing Services Pursuant to the Contract Terms, and to Authorize Administration to Enter into a New Contract with GOERO International, LLC for Only the Following Three (3) Projects: Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center

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)

B. Deliberation Regarding Acquisition of Real Property (Tx. Gov't Code 551.072)

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)

XV. Reconvene in Open Meeting:

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:40 p.m. to take action on the following items:

- M. Discussion and Possible Action to Terminate Contract with GOERO International, LLC, with Respect to Roofing Services Pursuant to the Contract Terms, and to Authorize Administration to Enter into a New Contract with GOERO International, LLC for Only the Following Three (3) Projects: Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary School, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to authorize the Administration to direct GOERO International, LLC to proceed with roofing work under the existing contract for Memorial Elementary School, North Bridge Elementary, and the Weslaco High School Transition Center. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

- 1. Discussion and Possible Action on New Employment

The Superintendent recommended approval of contracts for certified professional personnel as discussed in closed session.

Name	Position	Location
1. Sophia L. Vela	Special Education Teacher	Rico Elementary School

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. 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/retirements of certified professional personnel as discussed in closed session.

Name	Position/Location	Reason/Effective Date
1. Cynthia Caballero	Special Education Teacher Ybarra Elementary School	Ms. Caballero is taking an early retirement to further her career and seek other ventures. In addition, she will be taking care of her elderly mother. Her retirement is effective December 20, 2019.
2. Nancy L. Farrell	Math Teacher Weslaco High School	Ms. Farrell is retiring after 31 years in education, with 25 years of service at WISD. Her retirement is effective November 30, 2019.
3. Ricardo Flores	Evaluation & Accountability Specialist Weslaco High School	Mr. Flores retired after 31 years in education, with 25 years of service at Weslaco ISD. His retirement is effective November 30, 2019.

4. Klarissa Martinez	Science Teacher Cuellar Middle School	Ms. Martinez is resigning due to certification requirements. Her resignation is effective October 24, 2019.
5. Juan Ruelas	Director of Information Systems/PEIMS	Mr. Ruelas is retiring after 27 years in education, with 26 years of service at Weslaco ISD. His retirement is effective December 20, 2019.
6. Jesus Trevino	Science Teacher Horton AEP	Mr. Trevino is resigning to focus on his business. His resignation is effective January 17, 2020.

Erasmus Lopez made the motion to approve the resignations/retirements of certified professional personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Acquisition of Real Property

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to authorize administration to proceed as discussed in closed session. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. 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)

Patrick Kennedy moved to authorize the Superintendent and Board President to resolve the potential litigation matter as discussed in closed meeting. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.