



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. **I**nnovators. **S**cholars. **D**oers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:

Place:

Recording Location:

Date

Time:

Regular Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting

319 W. Fourth Street

May 11, 2020

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was posted online for at least 72 hours as permitted by the suspended portions of the Texas Open Meetings Act as permitted by Governor Abbott. The meeting was livestreamed at the following web link: <https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/421ddf33-2ca5-4502-b5c7-4ed0c574b30a?authuser=0>

MINUTES

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

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

Dr. Richard Rivera joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- III. Opening Prayer

Mr. Oscar Riojas, Executive Director of Athletics & District Facilities, delivered the invocation.

- IV. Pledge of Allegiance/Texas Pledge

Dr. Sergio Garcia, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, led the pledge of allegiance.

- V. Awards and Recognitions

Student Recognition

➤ Regional Science Fair

Several middle school and high school students competed in the Regional Science Fair and advanced to the State contest.

Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School:

- Matteo Houston won fourth place in the Behavior & Social Sciences category at Regionals.

Central Middle School:

- Mathias Deicla won third place in the Earth/Environmental Science category.
- Karina Martinez won third place in the Energy category.

Weslaco East High School:

- Roxana Morales won fourth place in the Embedded Systems and Robotics category.
- Team members Erika Casares and Odalys Castillo won fourth place in the Materials Science category.
- Octavio and Rene Tamez won third place at Regionals in the Physics and Astronomy category.
- Victoria Guerrero and Rosemary Rojo won second place in the Earth and Environmental Sciences category.
- Team members Erlinda Guzman and Mayrin Cuenca won first place in the Engineering Mechanics category.

Weslaco High School:

- Illianna Vallejo and Bryan Castellon won third place in the Biomedical & Health Science category.
- Emily Van Tilburg won second place also in the Biomedical & Health Science category.
- Team members Jordan Cancino and Diego Ornelas won first place at Regionals in the Embedded Systems and Robotics category. They were third runner-up Grand Champion qualifying for the International Science and Engineering Fair.

Science Fair Coordinators are Pedro Solis, Maria Castillo, Alexandra Cavazos, Roxanne Mendoza, and Cesar Milan.



➤ Career and Technical Education

The Career and Technical Education students competed at the State and National levels at the Business Professionals of America conference and placed in the top ten at the state level.

Weslaco High School:

- David Gutierrez won 8th place in Advanced Office Systems and Procedures.
- Arely Garcia won 8th place in Intermediate Word Processing Skills.
- Brian Peña won 8th place in Extemporaneous Speech.
- Kaylee Martinez won 5th place in Advanced Interview Skills.
- Cooper Ford won third place in Prepared Speech.
- Zuriel Martes won third place in Integrated Office Applications.
- Zuriel and Cooper also qualified for National competition.

WHS BPA Chapter 1 sponsor is Alicia Ginez with co-sponsor Jose Alvarado. WHS BPA Chapter 2 sponsor is Amanda Rodriguez and co-sponsor is Maria Rodriguez.

**WHS Business Professional of America
Chapters 1 & 2 State Winners**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zuriel Martes 3rd Place Integrated Office Applications <i>National Qualifier</i> | Cooper Ford 3rd Place Prepared Speech <i>National Qualifier</i> | Kaylee Martinez 5th Place Advanced Interview Skills | Brian Pena 8th Place Extemporaneous Speech | Arely Garcia 8th Place Intermediate Word Processing Skills | David Gutierrez 8th Place Advanced Office systems & Procedures |

Sponsors: Amanda Rodriguez & Alicia Ginez

- Two graduating seniors from Weslaco High School have received the prestigious scholarship, the Ford Trucks/Built Ford Tough Scholarships-Payne Weslaco Ford: Audrey Brunneman and Luz Caricia Cantu.

Future Farmers of America

| | |
|---|---|
|  |  |
| Luz Caricia Cantu also started out as a Jr. FFA member and continued for 4 years in Weslaco High Schools Agricultural program and a Weslaco FFA member. | Audrey Blaine Brunnemann started out as a Jr. FFA member and continued for 4 years in Weslaco High Schools Agricultural program and a Weslaco FFA member. She has served as an FFA officer for 3 years and is our current Vice President. |

Sponsors: Juan Cadena & Alonzo Garza

➤ ***National FFA Organization and FFA Foundation***

The National FFA Organization and National FFA Foundation awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships to more than 1,300 recipients in 2020. The students were selected based on FFA involvement, work experience, supervised Ag experience, community service, leadership skills, academics and financial need. Overall, there were more than 6,800 application, which means that about 25 percent of those who applied earned scholarships. Students can use these scholarships to pursue two-year degrees, four-year degrees and vocational schools.

➤ ***State Visual Arts Scholastic Event***

- Weslaco East High School student Angie Escalon competed at the State Visual Arts Scholastic Event contest and won a Gold medal rating. Art teacher is Horacio Ramirez.



➤ ***WISD Fine Arts Program***

Weslaco ISD Fine Arts Program was honored with the 2020 Best Communities for Music Education designation from the NAMM Foundation. This is the third consecutive award for WISD.

The talented mariachi, Wildcat Regiment and Panther Corps bands are the most recognizable members of our district's music program. These students have been developing their musical abilities since elementary through middle school and high school under the guidance of devoted music teachers.



➤ **Public Information and KWES Departments**

The Board congratulated the Public Information and KWES departments. Staff members recently traveled to Austin to attend the Texas Schools Public Relations Association conference. Both departments submitted entries for various photo, print and video contests and received several awards.

KWES & Public Information TSPRA Awards

| | |
|---|--|
| Best in Category: News and Information Video Show-Trending at WISD | Gold Star -- VIDEO PROMOTIONAL-- "Pigskin Jubilee" |
| Best in Category: Best Calendar | Don Ramirez |
| Gold Star -- MAGAZINE - Weslaco ISD Advantage Magazine | Gold Star -- VIDEO LIVE EVENT NON-SPORTS -- "2018 Convocation" |
| Carlos Robledo, Arminda Munoz, Samantha Holley, Darline Gracia, Mike Gonzalez | Carlos, Robledo, Don Ramirez, |
| Gold Star -- PHOTOS -- "Center Spotlight," Strike A Pose" | Mike Palacios, Darline Gracia |
| Samantha Holley | Best of Category Medal -- VIDEO NEWS/INFORMATION -- "Trending at Weslaco ISD" |
| Gold Star -- NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING AUDIENCE -- Harvest of Hope Program | Mike Palacios, Don Ramirez, Carlos Robledo, Darline Gracia, Juanita Maldonado |
| Samantha Holley | |
| Gold Star -- FLYER -- "Open Enrollment, Live There, Learn Here" | |
| Samantha Holley | |
| Best of Category Medal --CALENDAR -- Academic Calendar and Wall Calendar | |
| Samantha Holley | |
| Gold Star -- ORIGINAL ARTWORK - "WISD Advantage Magazine Cover" | |
| Darline Gracia | |
| Gold Star -- VIDEO NEWS PACKAGE -- "WISD Motor Activities Program" | |
| Mike Palacios | |
| Gold Star -- VIDEO GENERAL EVENT -- "Meals on Wheels" | |
| Carlos Robledo | |
| Gold Star -- VIDEO FEATURE STORY -- "Nightmare Turned Daydream" | |
| Carlos Robledo, Don Ramirez | |



VI. Proclamation for School Nurse Day, May 6, 2020

The Board proclaimed May 6, 2020 as School Nurse Day. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Weslaco ISD youth are a treasured national resource whose health, education, and well-being are interrelated, vital concerns of family school personnel and community members; and

WHEREAS, professional school nurses strengthen and facilitate the educational process by improving and protecting the health status of children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the major focus of school nursing services is the prevention of illness and disability and the early detection and correction of health problems within the school and community; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive school health programming consists of coordinated age-appropriate health education/instruction, health services, a healthy school environment; physical education, counseling and guidance, food services, employee wellness, and integration of school and community health promotion efforts; and

WHEREAS, professional school nurses assess, plan, implement and evaluate cost effective health care services to maintain the optimal emotional and physical well-being of all children and youth in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Isidoro Nieto, President of the Weslaco Independent School District Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim May 6, 2020, as **NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY** in Weslaco ISD as a time to celebrate the nursing profession and the specialty of school nursing.

VII. Proclamation for Better Speech and Hearing Month, May 2020

The Board proclaimed the month of May 2020 as Better Speech and Hearing Month. The proclamation reads as follows:

Be it so resolved that the month of May be proclaimed as Better Hearing and Speech Month, and we encourage all citizens to recognize the achievements of our professionals in improving the quality of life for people with communication disorders.

We salute the speech language pathologists and speech therapists who work tirelessly to bring better hearing and speech to the 1 in 10 families who are affected by communication disorders. Speech and language disorders take many forms. Babies can be born with this disorder. Accidental injury or an illness can cause them at any age. Speech and language disorders can limit academic achievement, social adjustment and career goals.

During this annual observance, we should focus our attention on the needs of our students who have some form of hearing, speech and/or language impairment and ensure that everyone has access to the treatment that will help our students with communication disorders lead active, fulfilling and productive lives.

We are proud of this effort of our district's speech pathologists, speech therapists working together to promote better hearing and speech for all our students. Together these professionals are helping hundreds of students achieve their full potential.

THEREFORE, I, Isidoro Nieto, President of the Weslaco Independent School District Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim *May, 2020*, as “**BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH**” in Weslaco ISD and urge all citizens to recognize with appreciation these pathologists’ and therapists’ commitment to education and their dedication to helping our children achieve their highest potential.

VIII. Public Comments

The public was given the opportunity to sign up for public comments by registering no later than 5:45 p.m. on May 11, 2020 at the following web link: <https://www.wisd.us/superintendentboard/new-page>.

No one signed up to address before the Board.

IX. Superintendent's Report

• Student Enrollment

Superintendent Dr. Canales presented enrollment information as of March 13, 2020, the last day when students physically attended school and attendance was taken.

- Enrollment for the 26th week of school is 17,175 for a difference of 155 less students than last year at the same time.
- The ADA comparison for the 26th week is 15,780 in 2020 vs 15,891 in 2019, for a difference of 112 less. ADA percentage for 2020 is 96.20% vs. 96.81% for 2019.

Enrollment

| Campus | 26 th Week Enrollment | | | 26 th Week Average Daily Attendance (ADA) | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | Difference | 2019 | 2020 | ADA Diff | 2019 ADA (%) | 2020 ADA (%) |
| Sam Houston Elementary | 751 | 756 | 5 | 696 | 698 | 2 | 97.65% | 97.05% |
| Silva Elementary | 677 | 630 | (47) | 610 | 579 | (31) | 97.35% | 96.20% |
| Gonzalez Elementary | 710 | 695 | (15) | 650 | 623 | (28) | 97.99% | 97.03% |
| Margo Elementary | 985 | 972 | (13) | 877 | 894 | 16 | 97.32% | 96.88% |
| Airport Elementary | 887 | 890 | 3 | 800 | 802 | 2 | 97.97% | 96.71% |
| Memorial Elementary | 998 | 1027 | 29 | 911 | 941 | 30 | 97.97% | 97.17% |
| North Bridge Elementary | 748 | 761 | 13 | 672 | 679 | 7 | 97.19% | 96.37% |
| Rico Elementary | 849 | 785 | (64) | 769 | 730 | (39) | 97.44% | 96.73% |
| Cleckler-Heald Elementary | 947 | 905 | (42) | 873 | 844 | (29) | 99.32% | 98.42% |
| Ybarra Elementary | 623 | 603 | (20) | 567 | 548 | (19) | 97.70% | 96.16% |
| Mary Hoge Middle School | 1017 | 965 | (52) | 977 | 922 | (55) | 97.69% | 96.16% |
| Cuellar Middle School | 767 | 798 | 31 | 737 | 754 | 17 | 97.07% | 95.92% |
| Central Middle School | 918 | 928 | 10 | 886 | 897 | 12 | 98.20% | 96.85% |
| B. Garza Middle School | 1126 | 1156 | 30 | 1085 | 1098 | 12 | 97.37% | 96.54% |
| South Palm Gardens | 31 | 47 | 16 | 60 | 62 | 2 | 109.10% | 93.73% |
| East High School | 1965 | 1921 | (44) | 1909 | 1855 | (54) | 95.03% | 95.16% |
| Weslaco High School | 2417 | 2409 | (8) | 2257 | 2290 | 34 | 94.40% | 94.96% |
| Horton | 93 | 80 | (13) | 52 | 52 | 0 | 85.89% | 90.41% |
| JJAEP - Student Alternative | 12 | 22 | 10 | 5 | 16 | 12 | 74.06% | 86.33% |
| Hidalgo County Bootcamp | 28 | 23 | (5) | 30 | 21 | (9) | 99.89% | 99.76% |
| Early College High School | 233 | 242 | 9 | 223 | 234 | 11 | 96.82% | 95.58% |
| 21 st Century ELF Academy | 548 | 560 | 12 | 245 | 241 | (4) | 92.17% | 91.65% |
| GRAND TOTAL | 17330 | 17175 | (155) | 15891 | 15780 | (112) | 96.81% | 96.20% |

May 8, 2020

Enrollment Information is as of March 13, 2020, the last day when students physically attended school and attendance was taken.

- The chart below shows the Enrollment/ADA comparison by campus level:

Enrollment

| CAMPUS | 26 th Week Enrollment | | | 26 th Week ADA | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 | Difference | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 | ADA Diff | 2019 (ADA) % | 2020 (ADA) % |
| Elementary Schools | 8175 | 8024 | (151) | 7426 | 7337 | (89) | 97.04% | 96.75% |
| Middle Schools | 3828 | 3847 | 19 | 3685 | 3671 | (14) | 96.71% | 96.39% |
| High Schools | 4646 | 4619 | (27) | 4449 | 4441 | (7) | 98.84% | 94.86% |
| Alternative | 133 | 125 | (8) | 87 | 89 | 3 | 86.61% | 92.17% |
| ELF - Academy | 548 | 560 | 12 | 245 | 241 | (4) | 92.17% | 91.65% |
| GRAND Total | 17330 | 17175 | (155) | 15891 | 15780 | (112) | 96.81% | 96.20% |

Enrollment, Student Enrollment - includes ALL students regardless of eligibility requirements.

ADA %: This is the percent attendance by campus and district.

ADA includes 659 ADA days of Flex Attendance

May 8, 2020

Enrollment Information is as of March 13, 2020, the last day when students physically attended school and attendance was taken.

- Below are the counts from the automated Enrollment-Withdrawal Report generated on a weekly basis by Technology. Staff is obligated to enroll and withdraw students during the closure.
- Total number of students enrolled: 44
- Total number of students withdrawn: 65

Enrollment & Withdrawals March 23 - May 8

| | # of Students Enrolled | # of Students Withdrawn |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Week of March 23rd | 9 | 23 |
| Week of March 30th | 11 | 0 |
| Week of April 6th | 8 | 5 |
| Week of April 14th | 5 | 14 |
| Week of April 20th | 5 | 6 |
| Week of April 27th | 1 | 3 |
| Week of May 4th | 5 | 14 |
| Total | 44 | 65 |

Counts are from the automated Enrollment-Withdrawal Report that gets generated weekly by Technology.

➤Andrew Gonzalez asked if staff knew why students were leaving the district.

According to Dr. Sergio Garcia, staff is keeping a log of the students who have withdrawn from school as well as those who have enrolled in the district. Some students have withdrawn and moved out of state or to other parts of the state. The majority of students have moved with other family members because their parents have probably lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 crisis, and are having financial difficulties.

- Educational Programs: Summer School and Blended Learning Grant

Mrs. Sue Peterson, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education and Leadership, presented the following report on educational programs.

➤All summer programs will run on a virtual environment.

- The Fine Arts Program has been canceled.

Educational Programs: Summer School

Virtual Environment

ACE: Program for qualifying students (required)
Migrant: Project Smart curriculum (required)
Bilingual: PreK-K (must meet 120 hour requirement)



Fine Arts: Canceled
Spec. Ed: Extended Year Service (required), campus summer program
Elementary: reading, writing and math for students not on level
Middle Schools: reading, writing, math for students not on level
High Schools: Credit recovery and EOC class instruction

Educational Programs: Summer School

Schedule

Elementary-Middle (3 hours)

- 8:00-9:00 am Teacher planning and preparation
- 9:00-11:00 am Instruction and support

High Schools (3 hours)

- Set multiple time slots that will best meet student needs



Educational Programs: Summer School

Curriculum:

Elementary/Middle

- Central office planned, use Google Classroom for those with internet access
- Packets available for anyone, phone support available during a set time

High School

- Credit recovery using Edmentum
- Strategists will work with teachers for the EOC courses
- Notify all students of test prep material that is available online for independent use (TSI, ACT, SAT)
- Dual enrollment continues
- Summer Bridge-possible in August

➤Summer School: Elementary/Middle

- Students enrolled in summer school will be able to continue to use their chrome books.
- Packets will be available as well as phone support during a set time.

➤Summer School: High School

- Test prep material for TSI, ACT, and SAT is available online for students.
- Waiting for TSI to move to an online environment
- Pending: ACT is trying to determine if they will offer a June test site with reduced numbers of students in each classroom.
- WHS is scheduled to be a test site.
- The Summer Bridge Program is offered to students enrolling in early college high schools.
 - The program will be offered in August in a virtual environment.

Mr. Abel Aguilar thanked all campus administrators and staff involved in the planning process for the summer school program. Staff will continue to move forward with virtual learning for the students.

Mr. Kennedy wanted to know how staff was administering the ACT. Mrs. Peterson replied that, as of now, the ACT is scheduled to be administered in person possibly with reduced numbers of classrooms. Staff is closely monitoring the in-person administration since the administration for the spring was canceled.

The infographic is titled "Educational Programs: Blended Learning" in large white text on a dark blue background. It features several bullet points on the left and a central graphic on the right. The central graphic is divided into two main sections: "BLENDED LEARNING COMBINES THE BEST OF" and "TEACHERS USE" / "STUDENTS HAVE". The bottom right section shows a group of people sitting at a table with a "RAISE YOUR HAND TEXAS" banner.

- WESLACO ISD AWARDED UP TO \$300,000.00 IN GRANT FUNDING THROUGH RAISING BLENDED LEARNERS INITIATIVE
- WESLACO ISD AMONG 20 SCHOOL DISTRICTS SELECTED AS A BLENDED LEARNING DEMONSTRATION SITE. MORE THAN 75 SCHOOL DISTRICTS APPLIED
- THE GRANT FOCUS IS TO UTILIZE PERSONALIZED BLENDED LEARNING TO IMPROVE KINDER-2ND LITERACY
- WESLACO ISD SELECTED FOUR PILOT SCHOOLS BASED ON BLENDED LEARNING READINESS- MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY, PFC MARIO YBARRA ELEMENTARY, AIRPORT ELEMENTARY AND CLECKLER-HEALD ELEMENTARY
- RAISING BLENDED LEARNER IMPLEMENTATION WILL LAUNCH DURING THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

BLENDED LEARNING COMBINES THE BEST OF

CLASSROOM TEACHING WITH **ONLINE LEARNING**

TEACHERS USE **DATA TO PERSONALIZE INSTRUCTION**

STUDENTS HAVE **OWNERSHIP OF THEIR LEARNING**

RAISE YOUR HAND TEXAS

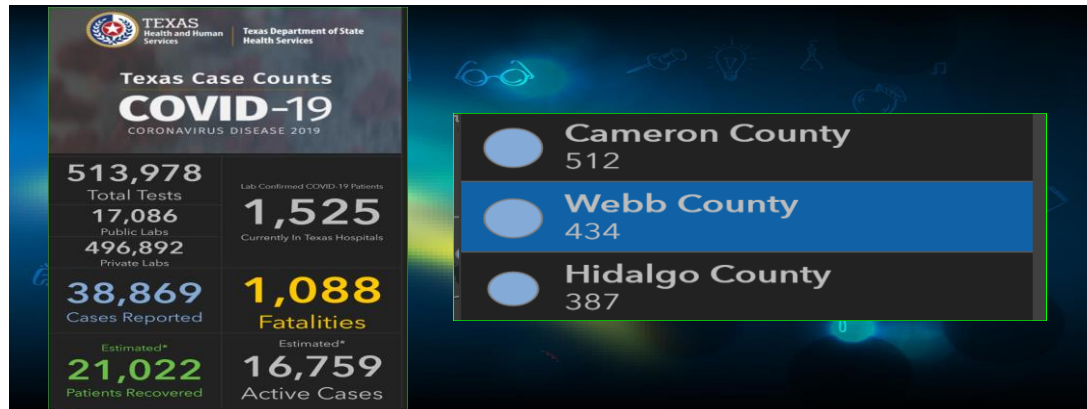
Mr. Aguilar thanked Mr. Scott Amdahl and Mrs. Julie Kelly for spearheading the Blended Learning Grant. WISD has been awarded up to \$300,000 in grant funding through raising Blended Learners Initiative. Over 75 school districts applied and WISD was among 20 school districts selected. Harlingen ISD was the only other school district in the Region One area that was selected.

Staff is very excited to kick off this initiative at the four schools selected: Memorial Elementary, PFC Mario Ybarra Elementary, Airport Elementary, and Cleckler-Heald Elementary.

The Board commended staff for their efforts on this initiative.

- COVID-19 and Meal Service Update

Superintendent Canales provided an update on the number of cases in the Rio Grande Valley.



The administration is focusing on following guidelines on minimum standard health protocols for school employees in school buildings during campus closures as per Executive Order issued by Governor Abbott.

COVID-19 Updates

TEA
Texas Education Agency

[Home](#) / [Texas Schools](#) / [Health, Safety, & Discipline](#)

Minimum Standard Health Protocols for School Employees in School Building During Campus Closures Per Executive Order No. GA-21

Per Governor Abbott's May 5, 2020, order, the following parameters apply when allowing school employees into school facilities as of May 5, 2020. These parameters will remain in effect for the duration of the governor's order.

Per Governor Abbott's May 5, 2020, parameters apply when allowing school employees into school facilities as of May 5, 2020. These parameters will remain in effect for the duration of the governor's order.

- Classrooms **closed for in-classroom attendance by students** for instructional purposes for the remainder of the 2019-2020.
- School employees **may go into the classroom** for video instruction, to perform administrative duties, and/or to clean out their classrooms.
- **Where possible**, school employees should continue to **work remotely**, and **if they can't do so**, they should **follow the parameters outlined in this guidance**.
- School employees **time at schools should be staggered** at each individual campus **to enable social distancing** to be implemented effectively.
- **Maintain at least 6 feet separation** from other individuals not within the same household. If such distancing is **not feasible**, other measures such as **face covering**, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.
- Consistent with the actions taken by many employers across the state, **consider having all employees wear cloth face coverings** (over the nose and mouth). If available, employees should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.
- **Screen all school employees before they access a school facility** for any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19

WISD continues to provide meal service to students in compliance with all federal and state mandated regulations.

Meal Service Updates

Complying with all Federal & State Mandated Regulations.

- Ensuring the highest levels of sanitation in the kitchen and during meal service.
- Free meals are available for pick up on Mondays and Wednesdays to all students age 18 or under regardless if they are enrolled in the district with proper identification and/or children present.
- On Mondays Meal Service offering 2 Breakfast & 2 Lunch Meals
- On Monday (May 4, 2020) Prepared & Served 12,604 meals throughout the 8 feeding sites within the district.
- On Wednesday Meal Service offering 3 Breakfast & 3 Lunch Meals
- On Wednesday (May 6, 2020) Prepared & Served 20,190 meals throughout the 8 feeding sites within the district.
- Meals are distributed within 1 ½ hours from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

- > Students receive a hot lunch on Wednesday and a cold lunch on Thursday and Friday.
- > Examples of the lunches are provided below.

Wednesdays Meal Service Offering 3 Breakfasts & 3 Lunches



The board members commended the administration and Food Service Director Dora Pena and her staff for working together to provide meals to WISD students during this crisis.

- Insurance

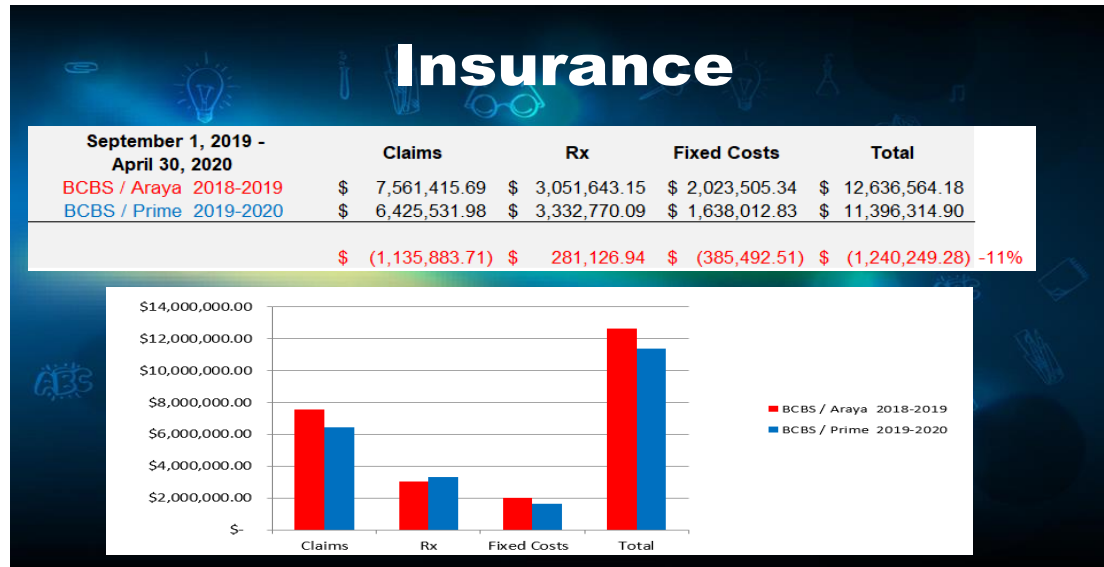
Mr. Mike De La Rosa, Risk Management/Employee Benefits Director, presented the following report.

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

>A decrease of \$1,135,883.71 in claims is attributed to the closing of hospitals during the pandemic, which resulted in the cancelation of all elective surgeries.

>The total amount spent as of September 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 is \$11,396,314.90 vs. \$12,636,564.18 in 2018-2019.

- The decrease is \$1,240,249.28.



Insurance

| WISD 2 Year Claims Comparison | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---|
| FY Loss | Number of Claims | Paid | Outstanding Reserves | Incurred | |
| 2018/2019 | 84 | \$ 136,062.72 | \$ 85,722.53 | \$ 221,785.25 | claims for FY 2018/2019 valued at 4/30/2019 |
| 2019/2020 | 53 | \$ 137,881.26 | \$ 34,768.01 | \$ 172,649.27 | claims for FY 2019/2020 valued at 4/30/2020 |

>The chart above shows a comparison of the number of claims paid for year 2019-2020 (53) vs 2018-2019 (84).

>The district has incurred \$172,649.27 for year 2019-2020 vs. \$221,785.25 for year 2018-2019.

>The district is doing well in the workers' compensation program.

X. Consent Agenda

Erasmus Lopez asked the superintendent if any items were placed on hold due to the pandemic that would perhaps be released at a later date.

Dr. Canales replied that she was not aware of any items placed on hold. Purchases are being made based on what is needed vs. what is wanted. Any needed instructional materials for summer school is presented for board action if necessary. According to Dr. Canales, the district is proceeding as normal and as flexible as possible.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 20, 2020

The Board approved the minutes as presented.

B. Approval of Purchase of the Texas Curriculum Management Program Cooperative (TCMPC) TEKS Resource System

The Board approved the sole source purchase of the Texas Curriculum Management Program Cooperative (TCMPC) TEKS Resource System. The TCMPC is a shared service agreement between the twenty Texas Educational Resource Centers (ESCs), that share the responsibility for the content, management, and operations of the TEKS Resource System (TRS). The TRS contains curriculum components and sample assessment items that are aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. The TRS defines understandings and expectations for student learning that will provide WISD teachers a common foundation and starting point for the instructional planning process. Teachers, campus administration, and district curriculum and instruction staff use this system to plan and guide the instruction in all English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies courses. This will be the fourth year that the district has purchased this system.

C. Approval of Purchase of Books for All Students Enrolled in Grades PreKindergarten through Eighth to Support Summer Reading

The Board approved the purchase of books for all students enrolled in grades Prekindergarten through eighth to support summer reading. The cost of this purchase is \$215,718.97.

Weslaco ISD encourages all students to read for a minimum of twenty minutes a day. Research shows that when students spend time reading there is a positive impact on their achievement. The vendor, Scholastic, will ship the books directly to the home of each student. This initiative places books into the hands of all students in our elementary and middle schools. The books selected are culturally relevant. Students who are reading in Spanish will receive books in Spanish. Students in grades prekindergarten through second will receive five books. Students in grades third through eighth will receive three books. Along with the books, the package will include a letter from Dr. Canales encouraging students to read. Scholastic provides a Family Guide with tips for families that are specific to the grade level. Dr. Lopez and Mrs. Chamberlain will also provide a letter for the families. Students will be encouraged to bring these books to their class in the fall to add to the classroom libraries.

D. Approval of Purchase of SpringBoard Curriculum Materials for Pre-AP English 1 and Pre-AP English II

The Board approved the sole source purchase of SpringBoard Curriculum materials for Pre-AP English I and Pre-AP English II. The cost of this purchase is \$168,960.00.

SpringBoard is an instructional program to help students in grades 6-12 succeed at college-level work in the following subjects: Pre-Algebra I, Pre-AP Geometry, Pre-AP Biology, and Pre-AP Chemistry. The program includes student and teacher editions, a website license to SpringBoard Digital, and professional learning workshops, coaching services and institutes, that feature rigorous standards, instructional resources, and formative assessments in English language arts through a web-supported, integrated program. This will be the third year the district has purchased curriculum and materials from SpringBoard.

- E. Approval of Purchase of SpringBoard Curriculum and Supplemental Materials for Pre-AP Algebra 1, Pre-AP Geometry, Pre-AP Biology and Pre-AP Chemistry

The Board approved the sole source purchase of SpringBoard curriculum and supplemental materials for Pre-AP Algebra I, Pre-AP Geometry, Pre-AP Biology and Pre-AP Chemistry. The cost of this purchase is \$178,608.75.

SpringBoard is an instructional program for grades 6-12 for Pre-Algebra I, Pre-AP Geometry, Pre-AP Biology, and Pre-AP Chemistry to help students succeed at college-level work. The program includes student and teacher editions, a website license to SpringBoard Digital, and professional learning workshops, coaching services and institutes, that feature rigorous standards, instructional resources, and formative assessments in math, biology, and chemistry through a web-supported, integrated program. This will be the third year the district has purchased curriculum and materials from SpringBoard.

- F. Approval of One Time Purchase of 4 Mars Rovers from Reybotics to Be Utilized to Enhance the Migrant Department's Early Learning Program

The Board approved the purchase of 4 Mars Rovers from Reybotics. The cost of this purchase is \$30,000.00, which will be made utilizing the AIIMS grant funding received by the WISD Migrant Department.

The migrant department will implement the "Mission to Mars" curriculum to assist migrant elementary students in Prekindergarten through 2nd grade hone and develop critical thinking skills that will enable them to have stronger performances on state assessments once they begin testing.

District staff has worked with Reybotics for the past four years and are pleased with the quality of work provided.

- G. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Weslaco Independent School District and Texas State Technical College (TSTC) to Offer Dual Enrollment Courses for 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the MOU with Texas State Technical College for the 2020-2021 school year.

Due to the diversity in programs that are offered by the local institutions, TSTC and STC, WISD Career and Technical students will benefit from the dual credit opportunities in programs that STC does not provide. CTE students will be served within the 2020-2021 school year by district CTE teachers who serve as TSTC adjuncts. CTE students who take advantage of this opportunity can further their education by completing credit hours towards a TSTC Association's degree in the program tied to their district CTE courses. This agreement is ultimately a cost effective measure saving students both time and money. Approximately \$5,000.00 in student tuition fees will be allocated through CTE funds.

- H. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between the Hidalgo County Juvenile Board (HCJB) and the Weslaco Independent School District to Serve the Educational Needs of Students Who are Expelled from School

The Board approved the MOU with the Hidalgo County Juvenile Board to continue to serve the educational needs of students who are expelled from school. Students who are expelled for mandatory and discretionary reasons will attend JJAEP at the McAllen site.

Chapter 37 of the Texas Educational Code requires that the HCJB establish and operate a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) for youth who are expelled from school for the offenses described.

- I. Approval to Renew the District's Agreement with Miracle Medical Supply to Provide Diabetic Testing Supplies and Chronic Disease Management Services for the District's Self-Funded Employee Benefit Plan RFP # 19-04-30

The Board renewed the agreement with Miracle Medical Supplies to provide chronic disease management for diabetes and related medical supplies for the District's Self-Funded Medical Benefit Program. The intent was to encourage employees to adequately monitor their diabetes condition by removing potentially burdensome cost barriers.

In 2019, the District conducted an RFP for diabetic testing supplies and chronic disease management. Miracle Medical was awarded the contract with the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms. The district will enter into the second renewal option. Prices for goods and services will not increase with the exception of pen-tipped needles, which will increase \$1 per box of 100.

- J. Approval of Extension of Proposal Award for Awards, Trophies & Personal Recognition Products (Proposal #19-05-31)

The Purchase of recognition items such as trophies, medals, plaques, etc. that are used to reward students and staff for various achievements throughout the school year. On May 13, 2019, the school board approved the award to six vendors as the primary suppliers for these products. The award was a one-year award with an option to extend it one additional year. All six vendors have agreed to extend their pricing for one additional year. All vendors have proven to be reliable throughout the past year. During the purchasing process, only one quotation will be obtained from any of the approved vendors. If the purchase amount is estimated to be over \$3,000.00, a quote must be obtained from at least three of the primary vendors.

The Board approved the one-year award extension for "Awards, Trophies & Recognition Products" to the following six (6) vendors.

| Vendor | Location | Award Status |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| ABC Custom Advertising | McAllen, Texas | Primary Vendor |
| Champion Awards | Weslaco, Texas | Primary Vendor |
| Embroidery Express | Weslaco, Texas | Primary Vendor |
| HDL Enterprises | Weslaco, Texas | Primary Vendor |
| Proforma RGB | San Benito, Texas | Primary Vendor |
| Valley Trophies | Weslaco, Texas | Primary Vendor |

- K. Approval of Budget Amendments

1. Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education & Leadership – Local Fund to Pay for Renewal of Lexiles Online License for District Library Services Department: \$3,111.00
2. Rudy Silva Elementary – Local Fund to Pay for Shirts and Lunch for Staff for the 2020-2021 Convocation: \$4,134.00

3. Rudy Silva Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Supplies Needed in the Front Office and the Teacher’s Workroom: \$1,200.00
4. Rudy Silva Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Equipment for the STAAR Room and the Teacher’s Lounge: \$1,800.00
5. State Compensatory Department – State Compensatory Fund to Cover Salaries for Virtual Learning Summer School: \$26,017.00
6. Rudy Silva Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Gift Cards for Students who Met Their AR Goals for the Year: \$780.00
7. Bilingual Department – State Bilingual Fund to Purchase Books to Supplement Classroom Libraries for Use by Bilingual Students: \$60,000.00
8. Business Office - Local Fund to Set Up Budget for COVID-19 Related Expenditures: \$164,602.00

L. Approval of Monthly Tax Adjustments for March 2020

The Board approved the monthly tax adjustments for March 2020 as recommended by the Hidalgo County Tax Office.

The total tax adjustments for March 2020 are as follows:

| Type of Tax | Current Levy | Prior Year Levies | Roll Back Taxes | Total |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| M&O Taxes | (\$ 52,639.98) | (\$ 32,348.45) | \$ 4,456.31 | (\$ 80,532.12) |
| I&S Taxes | (\$ 1,003.91) | (\$ 587.73) | \$ 78.20 | (\$ 1,513.44) |
| Total Adjustments | (\$ 53,643.89) | (\$ 32,936.18) | \$ 4,534.51 | (\$ 82,045.56) |

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

XI. Discussion Items:

A. Interim Financial Report for the Eight Months Ended April 30, 2020

The Board acknowledged the Interim Financial Report for the eight months ended April 30, 2020, 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 | 25,122,554 | (1,497,724) | 94.37% |
| 5800 State Source | 141,854,219 | 95,908,074 | (45,946,145) | 67.61% |
| 5900 Federal Sources | 15,370,253 | 9,773,373 | (5,596,880) | 63.59% |
| Totals | 183,844,750 | 130,804,000 | (53,040,750) | 71.15% |

- For total revenues budgeted of \$183,844,750, the district has received \$130,804,000 which represents 71.15% of the budget.
- Of \$190,564,433 in budgeted expenditures, the district has expended or encumbered \$113,926,248 which represents 59.78%.

B. Acknowledgement of Hidalgo County Tax Office Collection Report for March 2020: Current Taxes and Delinquent Taxes

The Board acknowledged the Collection Report for March 2020 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 March 2020 report from the Hidalgo County Tax Office:

| | Original Tax Levy | Collected To Date | Modifications (Adjustments) to Date | Taxes Outstanding To-Date | % Tax Collections 2019-2020 | % Tax Collections 2018-2019 | 2019-20 Versus 2018/2019 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Current Taxes | \$ 25,421,226 | \$22,865,466 | (\$ 142,366) | \$ 2,413,394 | 90.45% | 90.54% | 0.09% Lower |
| Delinquent Taxes Prior Years Levy | 4,069,728 | 504,096 | (224,745) | 3,340,887 | 13.11% | 16.60% | 3.49% Lower |
| Rollback | 58,547 | 106,635 | 87,581 | 39,494 | 72.97% | 6.42% | |
| Totals | \$ 29,549,501 | \$ 23,476,197 | (\$ 279,529) | \$ 5,793,775 | | | |

- The collection of **current taxes** for fiscal year 2019-2020 through March 31 is 0.09% lower than the current taxes for fiscal year 2018-2019.
- The collection of **delinquent taxes** for fiscal year 2019-2020 through March 31 is 3.49% lower than the delinquent taxes for fiscal year 2018-2019.
- The column for tax modifications represents the cumulative tax adjustments reported by the Hidalgo County Tax Office for the 2019-2020 fiscal year in their March 2020 report.

XII. Discussion and Possible Action Items:

- A. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District's Student Accident Insurance (Athletic, Catastrophic and Voluntary) with Student Assurance Services Underwritten by Ameritas Life Insurance Company through the Brokerage Store for School Year 2020-2021 **OR;** Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same

Weslaco ISD purchases insurance to cover students in the event of an injury while participating in UIL sanctioned activities. The District's plan provides for 100% of benefits at no cost to the athlete or their parents if provided through the Lonestar Athletic Network. If an injury exceeds \$25,000.00 within a 2-year benefit period, the catastrophic coverage initiates and provides coverage up to \$10,000,000.00 for 10 years. Additionally, the plan provides a \$500,000.00 disability benefit.

Last year, the District conducted an RFP process for student athletic insurance and awarded the proposal to Student Assurance Services through the Texas Insurance Service Center with an option to renew for two additional one-year terms. Student Assurance Services submitted a flat renewal for the 2020-2021 plan year, which includes a \$42,650.00 credit due to the early school closure. Therefore, the Administration recommended renewal of the student accident insurance policy with Student Assurance Services.

Andrew Gonzalez mentioned that he was satisfied with this service because when his son was involved in a field accident he received a bill and forwarded to the company, and they took care of it right away.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to renew the District's student accident insurance policy with Student Assurance Services underwritten by Ameritas Life Insurance and Zurich through Texas Insurance Service Center/The Brokerage Store for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District's Employer Paid Term Life/AD&D Insurance with Dearborn National Life Insurance through the Inter-local participation agreement with the Texas Educational Employers Benefit Cooperative (TEEBC) **OR;** Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same

As an enhanced benefit, the District provides all employees with \$25,000.00 of term life insurance at no cost to the employees. Employees may also purchase up to \$100,000.00 in additional life insurance at group rates.

In 2017, the Board approved a resolution to enter into an Inter-local participation agreement with the Texas Educational Employers Benefit Cooperative (TEEBC). Public entities may purchase products through purchasing cooperatives such as TEEBC without conducting a formal RFP. Through TEEBC, current rates with BCBS (Dearborn Life) are guaranteed through August 2022. Dearborn Life is a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Andrew Gonzalez asked that staff ensure that employees are given the option to purchase up to \$100,000.00 of insurance. According to Mr. De La Rosa, his department staff encourages all new employees to purchase additional insurance when they enroll.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to renew the District's employer paid term life/AD&D through Blue Cross Blue Shield (formally Dearborn National Life Insurance) through the Inter-local participation agreement with the Texas Educational Employers Benefit Cooperative (TEEBC). Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Administration's Ranking Recommendation for the Roof Replacement Projects at Three Schools: Memorial Elementary, North Bridge Elementary & Weslaco High School Transition Center (CSP# 20-04-20)

As part of the Facilities Committee recommendation, WISD Administration identified three schools that need priority attention to their roofs: Memorial Elementary, North Bridge Elementary, and the Transition Center at Weslaco High School.

On November 11, 2019, the Board approved the competitive sealed proposals procurement method of construction for the roofing improvements project, delegated their ranking authority to the Administration, and approved the ranking criteria and points as presented. Seven contractors submitted proposal packages, but only six proposals were ranked because one contractor did not meet the requested work specifications. The company who did not meet specifications was the lowest bidder.

Two alternatives were included in the proposal specifications: #1) build a new mechanical screen wall at North Bridge Elementary, and #2) remove courtyard trees at North Bridge Elementary. The administration recommended approval of Alternative #1 and that the Board award the construction contract to American Contracting USA Inc. from Rio Hondo, Texas, at a total project cost of \$3,207,000.00.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve Alternative #1 and to award the construction contract to American Contracting USA Inc. from Rio Hondo, Texas, at a total project cost of \$3,207,000.00. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

Mr. Andres Sanchez provided the following responses to board member inquiries.

- The project should be completed in 180 days, closer to December.
- The crew will be working during the evenings to avoid interruption to students in case school is in session in September.
- A total of \$3.2 million was budgeted for this project. A balance of \$400,000.00 would be transferred to the construction fund.
- WISD has worked with this company on projects at Airport Elementary and B. Garza Middle School. There were issues encountered with delay days, but the issues were resolved.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Patrick Kennedy and seconded by Andrew Gonzalez to approve Alternative #1 and to award the construction contract to the first ranked firm, American Contracting USA, Inc. from Rio Hondo, Texas, at a total project cost of \$3,207,000.00.

D. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Extend the Contract Award for the Independent Fiscal and Compliance Audit of the District for the Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2020 (RFQ # 19-06-26)

The Burton McCumber Longoria LLC CPA firm conducted the independent fiscal and compliance audit of the district for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2019. The administration worked well with the audit team and felt they were knowledgeable and competent. Therefore, the administration recommended that the Board approve the extension of the contract award for one additional year. The contract (audit engagement letter) will include a clause that will allow the District to terminate the contract at any point with a 30-day written notification to the audit firm. The contract amount will remain the same for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the extension of the contract award to Burton McCumber Longoria LLC CPAs to conduct the independent fiscal and compliance audit of the district for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2020. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Restroom Partitions Replacement Project at Three Schools: Mary Hoge Middle School, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School, and Airport Elementary:

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

During a meeting held on May 6, 2020, the WISD Facilities Committee discussed and voted on various projects that needed immediate attention. The Committee approved the restroom partitions replacement project at three campuses: Mary Hoge Middle School, B. Garza Middle School, and Airport Elementary. These campuses were identified by the Maintenance Department as being in dire need. Mr. Oscar Riojas, Director of Athletics and District Facilities, recommended the replacement of all restroom stalls due to their deteriorating and unsanitary condition. The stalls will be replaced with a modern material that is very durable and not susceptible to any mold and/or graffiti.

Dr. Richard Rivera inquired on the cost of the project and if the amount had been budgeted. Mr. Sanchez replied that a total of \$175,000.00 was budgeted in the local construction fund. The estimated project cost range was \$150,000.00 - \$175,000.00.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegated the Board's authority to rank the proposals to the Administration, and approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals for the replacement project of the restroom partitions at Mary Hoge Middle School, B. Garza Middle School, and Airport Elementary. Armando Cuellar 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 Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements 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

During a meeting held on May 6, 2020, the WISD Facilities Committee discussed and voted on various projects that required immediate attention. The committee approved the WISD Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project. The Ag Complex consists of several buildings that are used to house all of the animals being raised by the students as part of their Ag projects. The major building structure that houses the goats, lamb, and other animals has been determined to be unsafe and unusable due to corroded beams that act as the canopy's legs supporting the structure.

After considering the cost for repairs or replacement of this structure, Mr. Oscar Riojas recommended for the equine building to be remodeled and repurposed to accommodate all of the needs for the Ag students and staff. The equine building would be converted into an "all in one" state of the art facility which would include classrooms and stalls and pens for all of the students' animal projects. The estimated project's construction cost range is \$1,000,000.00 - \$1,500,000.00.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the Board's authority to the Administration to rank the proposals, and approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals for the Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

Dr. Rivera requested that the following information be provided to the Board via the weekly update:

- 1) Provide a list of all construction projects for the school year since September 1, 2019
- 2) Amount spent on construction projects this year
- 3) How much money is leftover?
- 4) What projects are still pending?

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Richard Rivera and seconded by Andrew Gonzalez to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the Board's authority to the Administration to rank the proposals, and approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals to be received for the remodeling and improvements project for the Pete Abrigo Agriculture Complex.

G. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of an Architect Firm to Design the Plans and Specifications and Oversee the Construction of the Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve PBK Architects to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project.

PBK Architects has done work for the district on past projects such as the Cuellar Middle School and the Sam Houston Elementary School construction. This firm is also the architect firm on the Athletics renovations project at Weslaco High School and Weslaco East High School. The district's experience with PBK Architects has been positive.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve PBK Architects to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project as recommended. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Erasmio Lopez wanted to know if the district could cease construction in the event the district encountered problems in the next six months, or did the district have to move forward with construction within this timeframe. Mr. Sanchez responded that the Board did not have to take board action at the time of bidding.

Dr. Rivera pointed out that they need to be careful how they spend the money because the district would probably have less funds as well as less students due to COVID-19. Board President Isidoro Nieto agreed.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to hire PBK Architects to design the plans and specifications and oversee the construction of the Pete Abrigo Ag Complex Remodeling and Improvements Project. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

H. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Replacement of the HVAC System for the Aquatic Center Pool Area 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 Aquatic Center main HVAC system for the pool area is twelve (12) years old and in need of replacement. The estimated life of this type of units is between 11 and 15 years. The system is required to operate non-stop on a 24-hour schedule to maintain an adequate pool area environment. This unit is currently operating very inefficiently primarily due to wear caused by age and the surrounding corrosive environment. The main controller board is expensive and has been replaced at least three times. The refrigerant used by the unit is not commonly used today and is costly to obtain. Therefore, the administration recommended the replacement of the HVAC System for the Aquatic Center Pool Area Project. The estimated cost range is \$350,000.00 to \$400,000.00. Funding will be obtained from the local construction fund.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the Board's authority to the Administration to rank the proposals to be received, and approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- I. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Mechanical Engineering Firm to Design the Plans and Specifications as Well as Provide Construction Administration Services for the Replacement of the HVAC System for the Aquatic Center Pool Area Project

The Superintendent recommended that the Board hire Trinity MEP Engineering to design the plans and specifications as well as provide construction administration services for the replacement of the HVAC system for the Aquatic Center pool area. The proposed cost of engineering services for this project is a flat fee of \$22,500.00, which is approximately 6% of the estimated project cost range of \$350,000.00 - \$400,000.00.

Trinity MEP Engineering has done numerous projects for WISD and the experience has been very positive. Past projects include:

- >Weslaco High School & Weslaco East High tennis courts lighting project
- >Replacement of Chiller Systems at B. Garza Middle School
- >Conversion of HVAC unit for Weslaco East High School Athletics Building from chilled water to direct expansion (DX)
- >Weslaco High School baseball field new lighting system
- >Chiller plant upgrades for Central Middle School gymnasium and Annex A and B buildings
- >Performed engineering services for Sam Houston Elementary campus construction, the new sports field house at Weslaco East High School, the athletic building remodeling at WEHS and WHS, and the new band hall at WEHS.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve Trinity MEP Engineering to design the plans and specifications as well as provide construction administration services for the replacement of the HVAC system for the Aquatic Center pool area as recommended by the Superintendent. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- J. Discussion and Possible Action for the Approval to Allocate the 179D Deduction for Energy Efficient Projects for the Weslaco East High School Athletic Facility Renovation Project as Permitted in Section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the allocation of the 179D tax deduction available for energy efficient projects as it pertains to the Weslaco East High School Athletic Facility Renovation Project as permitted in section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). This request was submitted by PBK Architects. The project was completed in 2019.

Trinity MEP Engineering, the mechanical engineer that designed the MEP (HVAC & Electrical) portion of the project, has indicated via email correspondence submitted to the Administration that Trinity MEP Engineering takes no exception on allowing PBK Architects to be granted the exemption for this project. Since school districts cannot claim the EPAct 179D deduction, the District has the discretion to pass the deduction to architects, engineers, contractors, and other professionals responsible for the design and construction of energy efficient projects in government owned buildings.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the allocation of the 179D tax deduction available for energy efficient projects as it pertains to the Weslaco East High School Athletic Facility Renovation Project as permitted in section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Mr. Kennedy asked if Trinity did not have a problem allowing PBK Architects to take the deduction. Mr. Andres Sanchez confirmed that Trinity Engineering had no problem in allowing PBK Architects to be granted the exemption for this project.

Legal Counsel Ivan Perez informed the Board that the district has acknowledged a request in the past and has extended courtesy by allocating the deduction to an engineering firm.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Patrick Kennedy and seconded by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez to approve the allocation of the 179D tax deduction available for energy efficient projects as it pertains to the Weslaco East High School Athletic Facility Renovation Project as permitted in section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)

K. Discussion and Possible Action on First Amended Resolution of The Board of Trustees of the Weslaco Independent School District Regarding Measures for the Protection of Students, Staff and Community Arising Out of COVID-19

Superintendent Dr. Canales recommended that the Board approve the first amended resolution regarding measures for the protection of students, staff and community arising out of COVID-19. The resolution is in alignment with Executive Order No. GA-21 and the Texas Education Agency's Minimum Standard Health Protocols for School Employees in School Building During Campus Closures Per Executive Order No. GA-21.

The City of Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas and the nation continue to face the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor of Texas issued two recent orders.

- April 30, 2020, 12:00 AM (Midnight): Governor Abbott's Stay at Home Order expired
- May 5, 2020: Executive Order issued, providing that school personnel are encouraged to work remotely if possible, but may return to school facilities under the minimum standard health protocols found in guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency;
 - School classrooms are closed for in-classroom attendance by students for instructional purposes for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.
 - School employees may go into the classroom for video instruction, to perform administrative duties, and/or to clean out their classrooms.
 - Where possible, school employees should continue to work remotely, and if they can't do so, they should follow the parameters outlined in this guidance.
 - School employees' time at schools should be staggered at each individual campus to enable social distancing be implemented effectively.
 - Maintain at least 6 feet separation from other individuals not within the same household. If such distancing is not feasible, other measures such as face covering, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.
 - Consistent with the actions taken by many employers across the state, consider having all employees wear cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). If available, employees should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.
 - Screen all school employees before they access a school facility for any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19:
 - ☐ Cough
 - ☐ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - ☐ Chills
 - ☐ Repeated shaking with chills
 - ☐ Muscle pain
 - ☐ Headache
 - ☐ Sore throat
 - ☐ Loss of taste or smell
 - ☐ Diarrhea
 - ☐ Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - ☐ Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
 - ☐ Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - ☐ Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19

Dr. Canales shared excerpts included in the resolution, which required board approval:

1. The Superintendent of Schools of the Weslaco Independent School District is hereby vested with the following authority:
 - a) Determine how and when to reopen the school district to staff members, and if necessary, close the school district once again due to then existing COVID-19 guidance.
 - b) Identify essential personnel as necessary.
 - c) Determine when the premium pay provisions shall cease under Weslaco ISD policy DEA (Local), and if necessary, reimplement the premium pay provisions provided for in policy.
 - d) In the event the school district is reopened to staff and the Superintendent determines that a closure is once again needed, the Board authorizes continued wage payments to all regular employees – contractual and noncontractual, salaried and non-salaried – who are instructed not to work during the emergency closing who would have otherwise been required to work under their respective contract, work assignments and/or assigned summer schedules.
 - e) Procure, negotiate, and execute contracts for goods and services that are necessary to mitigate, prevent, restore, and repair damage caused to Weslaco Independent School District equipment, personal property, and facilities or to protect the safety of Weslaco Independent School District students and staff, given that the emergency of COVID-19 and its potential spread constitutes an unforeseen emergency/matter of urgent public necessity, and the delays posed by competitive procurement of contracts necessary to restore, replace, and/or repair equipment, personal property, and/or school facilities will prevent or substantially impair the conduct of classes or other essential school activities; and
 - f) Seek any necessary waivers from the Texas Education Agency without further action of the Board of Trustees regarding missed instructional days, low attendance, staff development days or any matters related to the emergency closures as part of this Resolution or other measures taken for the health and safety of students, staff and the community.
2. This First Amended Resolution shall remain in effect until August 10, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded or superseded by the Board of Trustees.

Questions from the Board:

>Dr. Rivera wanted to know if the premium pay was still in effect, and when it would end.

Dr. Canales informed the Board that premium pay would end this week, once the Board approved the resolution. She pointed out that the stay at home order was no longer in place as per Governor Abbott and that employees would report to work on Wednesday, May 13.

>Dr. Rivera wanted to know which employees would return to work on Wednesday.

- Employees would be reporting to work at staggered times beginning on Wednesday of this week.
- Employees reporting to work on Wednesday, May 13 include: Field Operations, District Administrators, and Non-Exempt hourly para-professionals.
- Campus principals and department heads will provide staggered times for employees to report to work.

Dr. Rivera pointed out that administration needs be consistent with the staggered work schedule for hourly employees because there would be some employees working more than others throughout the day. He asked administration to monitor and be consistent with the staggered work schedule.

Dr. Canales reiterated that some employees would be on a staggered schedule at their work site for four (4) hours per day to complete assignments that cannot be completed at home and then work four (4) hours remotely at home. She also stated that the work of some employees does not lend itself to remote work in a virtual environment. She will be meeting with her cabinet in the morning to finalize all the details.

Dr. Rivera asked staff to include information in their weekly update on the amount spent on premium pay since March 13, 2020 to date.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to approve the first amended resolution regarding measures for the protection of students, staff and community arising out of COVID-19. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion.

Erasmus Lopez asked for clarification on whether employees were going to be compensated for only the hours that they report to work, or the same as they were being compensated during the pandemic when they were not reporting to work.

Dr. Canales confirmed that employees would be paid for the full week even though they are only reporting to work for 4 hours. However, there will be ramifications for employees who do not show up to work as scheduled. Employees who are out because they are sick will need to take leave and report it as they normally do. The district will follow back-to-work guidelines as ordered by the governor. Staff will be asking employees to report any symptoms they might have to their supervisors. Sanitation stations will be set up at the front entrances at all campuses and departments. Employees will also be required to view a 15 minute narrated presentation online regarding safe habits upon reporting to work.

Andrew Gonzalez asked if the district was going to provide masks to the employees. As per Dr. Canales, masks were provided to food service employees who were delivering meals to students; however, the administration is asking all employees to bring their own masks. If they do not have one, the district will provide a mask.

Armando Cuellar wanted to know if the district was equipped with disinfectant wipes and antibacterial solution, since it has been very hard for the public to purchase these items at the grocery stores. Mr. Oscar Riojas, Director of Athletics and District Facilities, informed the Board that there is a good inventory at the warehouse with more supplies expected to arrive. As mentioned by Dr. Canales, there are enough supplies to set up sanitation stations at all campuses and departments.

In response to Dr. Rivera's inquiry, Dr. Canales confirmed that administration would have a new plan in place in June for employees working throughout the summer and for those working with the summer school program.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Richard Rivera and seconded by Andrew Gonzalez to approve the first amended resolution regarding measures for the protection of students, staff and community arising out of COVID-19.

Mr. Gonzalez commented that parents usually buy hand sanitizer for their kids when they enroll at the elementary campuses. He asked the teachers to go through their inventory and to contribute any supplies on hand to the front office for hourly employees to utilize.

XIII. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 7:41 p.m. to discuss the following items:

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)

XIV. Reconvene in Open Meeting:

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

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

1. Employment of Personnel

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

| Name | Position | Location |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Marcus Bowen | AVID Teacher | Weslaco East High School |
| 2. Sandra Garcia | English/Language Arts Teacher | Cuellar Middle School |
| 3. Zonya L. Gorena | AVID Teacher | Weslaco East High School |

| REASSIGNMENT | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| 1. Elida Ramirez | FROM: ELA Teacher B. Garza Middle School | TO: Secondary ELA Strategist Curriculum & Instruction Department |

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as presented. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Resignations

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the resignations/retirements of certified professional personnel as presented.

| Name | Position/Location | Reason/Effective Date |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Alvarez, Jessie | Technology Instructional Coach, Weslaco East High School | Jessie Alvarez is retiring after (33) years in education, with (24) years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is June 12, 2020. |
| 2. Arenas, Pedro | Social Studies Teacher Weslaco High School | Pedro Arenas is retiring after (41) years in education, with (40) years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |
| 3. Balleza, Leticia | 2 nd Grade Teacher Margo Elementary School | Leticia Balleza is retiring after 38 years in education with all 38 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 31, 2020. |
| 4. Benitez, Linda | Health & PE Teacher Mary Hoge Middle School | Linda Benitez is retiring after 26 years in education, with all 26 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |
| 5. Casas Martinez, Maria | Pre-K Teacher Margo Elementary Teacher | Maria Casas Martinez is retiring after 35 years in education, with all 35 years of service at Weslaco ISD. |
| 6. Cavazos, Norma | Language Arts Teacher Central Middle School | Norma Cavazos is retiring after 37 years in education, with all 37 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |
| 7. Closner, Sandra | Language Arts Teacher Central Middle School | Ms. Closner is retiring after 40 years in education, with all 40 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |
| 8. Gonzalez, Katy | 4 th Grade Teacher Airport Elementary School | Ms. Gonzalez is retiring after 35 years in education with 31 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |

| | | |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 9. Gracia, Iris | Band Teacher Weslaco High School | Ms. Gracia is resigning to pursue a Master's degree in Arts Administration and is relocating to Oklahoma City. Effective date of resignation is May 29, 2020. |
| 10. Ocanas, Martha | Math Teacher Weslaco East High School | Ms. Ocanas is retiring after 23 years in education, with all 23 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 29, 2020. |
| 11. Romeros, Rex | Math Teacher Central Middle School | Mr. Romeros is retiring after 38 years in education, with 37 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 31, 2020. |
| 12. Salinas, Daniel | Foreign Language Teacher Weslaco East High School | Mr. Salinas is resigning to accept a position with another school district. Effective date of resignation is May 29, 2020. |
| 13. Saucedo, Ermelinda | 2 nd Grade Teacher Margo Elementary School | Ms. Saucedo is retiring after 35 years in education, with all 35 years of service at Weslaco ISD. Effective date of retirement is May 31, 2020. |

No action required.

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)

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

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to authorize the administration and legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed session. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- D. 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)

No action.

XV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.