



BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Isidoro Nieto, President  
Dr. Richard Rivera, Vice President  
Andrew Gonzalez, Secretary  
Erasmus Lopez  
Patrick Kennedy  
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez  
Armando Cuellar

*Dr. Priscilla Canales,  
Superintendent of Schools*



956-969-6503 319. W. Fourth Street / P.O. Box 266, Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:

Place:

Recording Location:

Date

Time:

Regular Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting

319 W. Fourth Street

July 6, 2020

7:08 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 approved by Governor Abbott. The meeting was livestreamed at the following web link: <https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/817817ea-fe7b-410c-ba11-81367b67db62>

## MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Isidoro Nieto, Board President.
- II. A quorum was established. The following board members participated in this meeting via video conference.

Isidoro Nieto, President  
Dr. Richard Rivera, Vice President  
Andrew Gonzalez, Secretary  
Armando Cuellar, Trustee  
Patrick Kennedy, Trustee  
Erasmus Lopez, Trustee  
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Trustee

- III. Opening Prayer

Mr. Elias Trevino, Director of Evaluation and Accountability, 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

#### ➤ FFA – Weslaco High School

Kylie Sellman and Cooper Ford received the State FFA Lone Star Degree distinction. This is the highest degree of membership the State FFA Association can award. The students will receive this prestigious degree during the 92<sup>nd</sup> Texas FFA State Convention tentatively scheduled via Zoom this week.

Lilly Ford will compete at the state level in her Soil Stewardship speaking event where she will proudly represent the Weslaco FFA Chapter during the 92<sup>nd</sup> Texas FFA State Convention.



➤Andrea Martinez will compete in the final round of the Spanish Creed public speaking competition at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Texas FFA Convention.

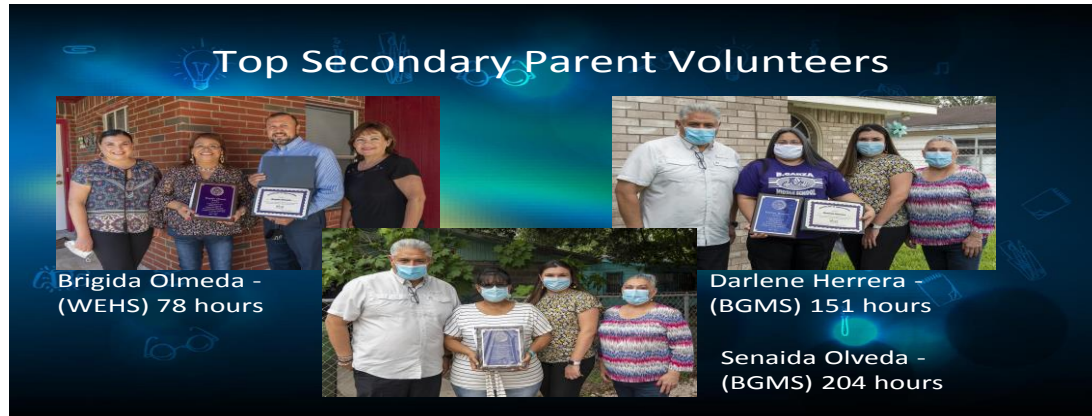
➤Jackson Parker Galvan will receive the State Lone Star FFA Degree and will join Kylie and Cooper at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Texas State Convention. Parker advanced to the finals for the Ford Leaders Scholars Program, making him one of the top 24 competitors in the state of Texas. He also won the State of Texas FFA Proficiency Award in Ag Sales based on his Entrepreneurship Supervised Agricultural Experiences; he is one of four students to receive the proficiency award in the state of Texas.



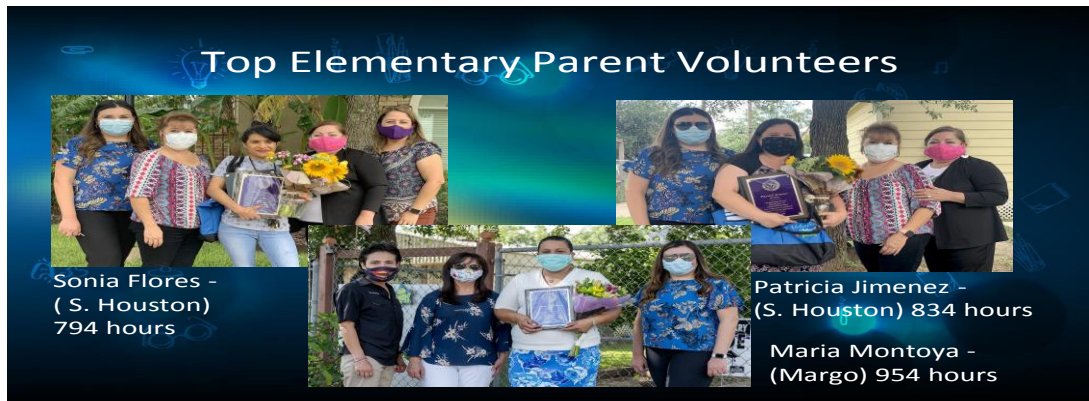
➤ PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Below are parent volunteers who gave over 3,000 hours of their time to assist our teachers, staff, and students.

Top Secondary Parent Volunteers



Top Elementary Parent Volunteers



➤ BEST OF THE BEST AWARDS

The Mid-Valley Town Crier newspaper holds a yearly contest to determine their readers' favorite people, places, and things. This year, Weslaco ISD won the following awards:





Superintendent Dr. Canales and Board President Isidoro Nieto commended the students, parents, and sponsors for their achievements.

VI. Public Comments

- Edward Mejia, 721 E. Torritos Street, Weslaco, Texas

Mr. Mejia addressed the Board via video teleconference and made the following comments.

He extended blessings of hope, happiness, and health to the superintendent and board members and hopes that everyone remains safe throughout the COVID 19 crisis.

Mr. Mejia referred to the board workshop held prior to the board meeting. He said that any decisions made in the best interest of the boys and girls at Weslaco ISD be expressed in a way that everyone in the community is able to view, whether it be on Facebook or other resources, because there are many individuals who are not privileged to social media. He stated, “Whatever the start date of school you all are choosing to start, I just hope that it’s all with the mindful decision of all the scientific data that has been presented to you on the Board by our Superintendent and those that you have been entrusted to gather information from”. He asked that the information be sent out diligently and to ensure that everyone has full accessibility of the latest information.

VII. Superintendent’s Report

- Insurance

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

>The chart below reflects a decrease of \$2,208,520.69 for claims.

- 2018-2019: \$9,332,960.15
- 2019-2020: \$7,124,439.48

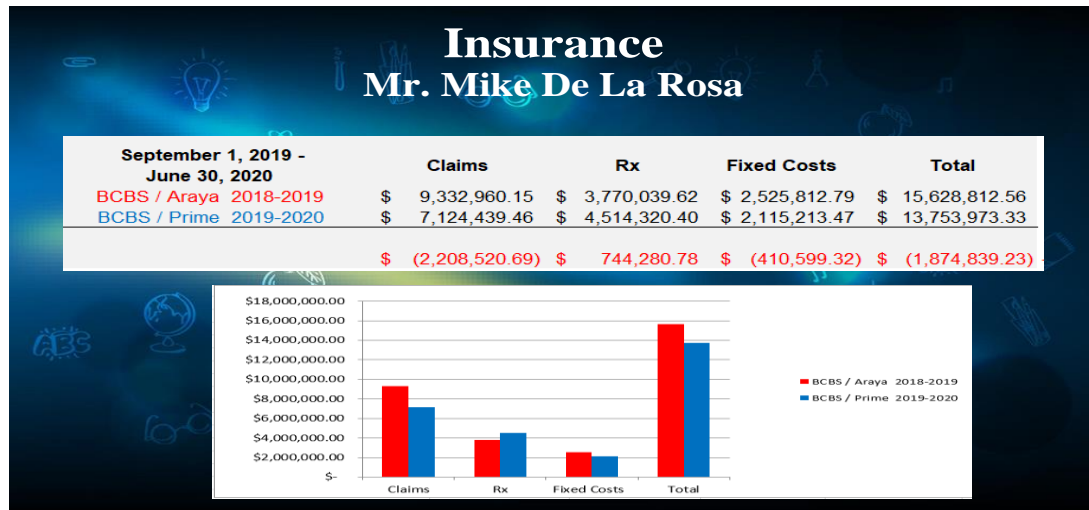
>Rx Cost: Increase of \$744,280.78

>Fixed Costs: Decrease of \$410,599.32

>The total amount spent as of September 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 is \$13,753,973.33 vs. \$15,628,812.56 in 2018-2019, for a decrease of \$1,874,839.23.

According to Mr. De La Rosa, the district should have a surplus in the health insurance fund for the coming year.

- There will be no increases to district or employee contributions for next year.



Mr. De La Rosa will include information on the Workers Compensation Program on the weekly update.

### VIII. Consent Agenda

The administration pulled out Item J from the agenda. Trustee Erasmo Lopez pulled out Item Q for discussion.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the consent agenda with the exception of Item Q. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2020

The Board approved the minutes as presented.

#### B. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Weslaco Independent School District and South Texas College for Training Services on Continuing Education Courses(s) for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the memorandum of understanding with South Texas College for training services on continuing education courses for the 2020-2021 school year. This will be the third year collaborating with STC to issue Continuing Education Certificates of Completion to students of Weslaco ISD who successfully complete CE's Workforces Continuing Education courses. These courses are included in the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's Workforce Education Course Manual. There is no cost to the district through this partnership.

C. Approval of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Innovative Courses to Offer State Elective Credit to High School Students: Occupational Safety and Environmental Technology

The Board approved the CTE innovative course, Occupational Safety and Environmental Technology, to offer dual credit to CTE Early College High School students. This course has been approved by the SBOE and the commissioner of education. According to TEA, a school district may offer any state approved CTE innovative course with the approval of the local board trustees. No application is required for a district to offer this course.

These CTE innovative courses, Occupational Safety and Environmental Technology (MCHN 1320, MCHN 2341, DEMR 1416), will facilitate additional options to students for dual credit courses leading to either Associate's Degrees at CTE Early College High School: Associate of Applied Science in Advanced Manufacturing Technology or Associate of Applied Science in Diesel Technology.

D. Approval of Purchase of Subscription Renewal of Kurzweil 3000, An Educational Technology Tool to Assist Students in Special Education, Dyslexia, 504, or ELL Programs from Kinder - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

The Board approved the sole source purchase of the subscription renewal of Kurzweil 3000 software, an educational technology tool to assist students in Special Education, Dyslexia, 504, or ELL Programs from Kinder – 12<sup>th</sup> grade that need assistance in Reading as well as additional online accommodations. The program allows text to be read aloud to students experiencing reading difficulties and it provides students with additional on-line accommodations.

The cost of this purchase is \$29,480.00 and funded through State Instruction Material Allotment Funds.

E. Approval of the Leader In Me Agreement with Franklin Covey Client Sales, Inc. and Weslaco Independent School District for the Leader In Me for Each Elementary and Middle School Inclusive of the Additional Coaching Days for the Middle Schools for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the Leader in Me Agreement with Franklin Covey Client Sales, Inc. to provide the Leader in Me program for all elementary and middle schools, inclusive of the additional coaching days for the middle schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

Seven elementary campuses are beginning their sixth year as Leader in Me schools. Cleckler-Heald and P.F.C Mario Ybarra are beginning their fifth year and Justice Raul A. Gonzales is in their fourth year. The middle schools are beginning their fourth year as Leader in Me Schools. Included with this agreement are two coaching days for the elementary schools and four coaching days for each of the middle schools.

The cost of school memberships and coaching fees is \$145,400.00. Funds are allocated in the fiscal year 2020-2021 Title I budget.

F. Approval of T-TESS Professional Appraisal Calendar, Timeline, and Certified Appraisers for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the T-TESS Professional Appraisal Calendar, Timeline, and Certified Appraisers for the 2020-2021 school year.

Teachers are required to be appraised each year using the Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS). The appraisal calendar and the certified appraisers must be approved for teacher observations and evaluations. Prohibited days include the days before and after holidays and days scheduled for testing.

Appraisal Period: September 8, 2020 through March 26, 2021

Prohibited formal observation days:

- August 24 through September 4, 2020
- November 23 and November 30, 2020
- December 17, 2020
- January 5, 2021
- March 12 and 22, 2021
- April 1, 2021

End-of-Year Conference: On or before April 30, 2021

A list of appraisers is on file.

G. Approval of Independent Contract with Consultant Group, Research Triangle Institute International for a “Coaches Academy” to Provide Training for the District Instructional Coaches

The Board approved the independent consultant group, Research Triangle Institute International to provide a “Coaches Academy” training for the District’s Instructional Coaches.

The Instructional Coaching initiative is beginning its second year and staff will need to receive training. RTI will specifically target sustainability by training five coaches to become leaders and trainers. The following services will be provided:

- 5 Virtual Needs Assessment and Planning meetings with key central office staff, five Instructional Technology Coaches, and three groups of principals (organized around schools that have similar needs)
- 3 Half Day Virtual “Reboot” Workshops at the beginning of the school year to review, recalibrate, and extend coaching practices
- 3 Days of Direct Onsite Coaching for district identified lead Instructional Technology Coaches
- 4 Virtual 1:1 Coaching Sessions for individual Instructional Technology Coaches via a video-based digital platform
- Travel Expenses for a 3-day visit to WISD (direct coaching will be converted to virtual if the district is shut down due to local/state stay at home orders)

The cost of these services range from \$46,600 to \$47,000 and will be paid using Title II funds.

H. Approval of Application to the Texas Education Agency for the Alternate District – Selected Kindergarten Reading Instrument Waiver for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the application submitted to the Texas Education Agency for the alternate district-selected Kindergarten Reading Instrument Waiver for the 2020-2021 school year.

The district experienced disruptions to the 2019-2020 school year as a result of COVID-19. Due to possible disruptions to the 2020-2021 school year, staff requested a waiver in order to continue to use the reading instrument (Istation) utilized in the 2019-2020 school year. Based on scientific evidence and comprehensive research, Istation’s computer-adaptive diagnostic and screening assessments measure reading skills, such as phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. The assessments place students on individual learning paths based on their abilities.

I. Approval of Weslaco ISD Employee Handbook for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Board approved the Weslaco ISD Employee Handbook for the 2020-2021 as presented. A model employee handbook is produced by TASB Human Resources Services and is updated on an annual basis. The information in the employee handbook is subject to change as the district provides updated policy information and/or changes have been made to district practices throughout the year. The handbook will be distributed to all district employees.

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

This item was pulled from the agenda by administration.

K. Approval of Proposal Award for Consultants for Special Education Services – Physical Therapy (RFP #20-06-24)

The Board awarded the proposal for Physical Therapy services to Kid Care Therapies from Edinburg, Texas. The services are to be provided to WISD students with disabilities.

The district received seven (7) proposal responses which were reviewed and ranked by a committee consisting of the special education director, supervisor, and two elementary principals. Kid Care Therapies did not provide the lowest cost, but this company has worked with the district in the past and they are located in the valley. The committee valued this as a benefit to the district. The ranking was based on the criteria and points listed on the request for proposals.

L. Approval of Quarterly Investment Activity Report for the Quarter Ended May 31, 2020

The Board approved the Quarterly Investment Activity Report for the quarter ended May 31, 2020 as presented.

The Board approved the Quarterly Investment Activity for the quarter ended May 31, 2020 as presented. House Bill No. 2459 passed in 1995 requires that the Investment Officer(s) of a governing body prepare a written quarterly report of investment transactions for all funds for the preceding reporting period.

The market value of the amounts invested at the various investment pools during the quarter ended May 31, 2020 exceeds the book value by \$55,743.25.

Fund Name	Book Value 5/31/2020	Ending Market Value 5/31/2020	Market Value is Higher (Lower) than Book Value By	Accrued Interest @ 5/31/2020
Total First Public Investment Pool	\$ 71,658,325.68	\$ 71,714,068.93	\$ 55,743.93	N/A
Total Texas Term Investment Pool	\$ 11,388,243.65	\$ 11,388,243.65	-	-
Total Tex-Pool	\$ 6,114,374.69	\$ 6,114,374.69	-	-
Totals – All Investments	\$ 89,160,944.02	\$ 89,216,687.27	\$ 55,743.25	-

The investment earnings amount of all funds for the quarter ended May 31, 2020 is \$261,576.07. The total investment earnings amount of all funds year-to-date (September 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020) is \$1,001,376.52.

M. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Board approved the budget amendments as presented.

- Mario Ybarra Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Staff Incentives for the Beginning of the 2020-2021 School Year: \$865.00
- Mario Ybarra Elementary – Local Fund to Pay for A Consultant and Purchase Refreshments for Staff Development in August: \$1,400.00
- A.N. Rico Elementary – Local Fund to Pay for Virtual Staff Development Registration Fees for Pre-K Teachers: \$200.00
- A.N. Rico Elementary – Local Fund to Pay Purchase a Laminator: \$1,594.00
- Cleckler-Heald Elementary – Local Fund to Pay for a Consultant for Staff Development in August: \$404.00



6. Cleckler-Heald Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Classroom Supplies: \$269.00
7. Cleckler-Heald Elementary – Local Fund to Purchase Breakfast for Staff During Staff Development in August: \$1,457.00
8. Weslaco East High School Band – Local Fund to Help Cover Costs of Starlettes & Colorguard Uniforms and Gear: \$815.00
9. Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education & Leadership – Local Fund to Purchase Nooks and Microphones for Dyslexia Students: \$7,500.00
10. Business Office – Local Fund to Set Up Budget for the Custodial Department to Cover COVID-19 Supplies and to Purchase Wax and Other Materials for Summer Projects: \$89,333.00

N. Approval of Monthly Tax Adjustments for May 2020

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

The total tax adjustments for May 2020 are as follows:

Type of Tax	Current Levy	Prior Year Levies	Roll Back Taxes	Total
M&O Taxes	(\$ 56,264.80)	(\$ 23,071.34)	\$ 16,741.11	(\$ 62,595.03)
I&S Taxes	(\$ 1,073.04)	(\$ 408.72)	\$ 301.42	(\$ 1,180.34)
Total Adjustments	(\$ 57,337.84)	(\$ 23,480.06)	\$ 17,042.53	<b>(\$ 63,775.37)</b>

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

O. Approval of Revision to (Local) Policy FNG, Students Rights and Responsibilities

The Board approved the revisions to FNG (Local) Policy as presented. In accordance with FNG (Legal), the Board is not required to address a complaint concerning a student's participate in an extracurricular activity that does not involve a violation of a right guaranteed by Chapter 26.

The Superintendent of the District's extracurricular activity committee established by the Superintendent can address complaints regarding extracurricular activities.

P. Approval of Purchase of On-Line Pre-Registration System for All Campuses

The Board approved the purchase of the On-Line Pre-Registration PowerSchool System from PowerSchool from Folsom, California, at a cost of \$40,973.89.

The pre-registration system is a module that would be added to our current Student Information System (PowerSchool) that would eliminate the required forms to be signed and other parent approvals before attending our district. This system will eliminate long lines and sorting/filing all the yearly forms for every student in the district. The information on the system will be available in English and Spanish.

All new and returning students will be able to use the on-line registration system to attend Weslaco ISD. Parents will have to log into their Home Access Center for returning students or create an account and fill out the information. The system can be accessed from a computer, tablet, or smart phone. Parents who do not have an electronic device can go to the campus and enter the student information. All campuses will have an area set up with computers for their convenience.

ITEM PULLED OUT FOR DISCUSSION:

Q. Approval of Purchase of Internet Hotspots to Be Used By Students for On-Line Learning

Mr. Erasmo Lopez pulled out this item for informational purposes. Mr. Lopez thanked the administration and Mr. Carlos Martinez, Technology Director, for this initiative. He is aware that staff is also looking into other alternatives and is very appreciative of all their efforts in making sure the students have all the necessary resources for on-line learning.

Dr. Canales explained that due to COVID-19, TEA is requiring that all districts have daily teacher-to-student connection with on-line learning if student is at home to receive ADA learning. Based on a survey sent to all WISD families, there are approximately 1,000 families that do not have internet access or poor internet access for on-line learning from home. Thus, the district will purchase 700 Hot Spots with a one-year subscription from T-Mobile from Bellevue, Washington at a cost of \$168,000.00. Sprint has also given Weslaco ISD an additional 1,000 hotspots for student use district-wide. The hotspots were secured through the efforts of Renee Dyer, Librarian at Weslaco East High School.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve Item Q. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IX. Discussion Items:

A. Interim Financial Report for the Ten Months Ended June 30, 2020

The Board acknowledged the Interim Financial Report for the nine months ended June 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	25,987,288	( 632,990 )	97.62%
5800 State Source	141,895,629	121,744,982	( 20,150,647)	85.80%
5900 Federal Sources	15,370,253	11,545,709	( 3,824,544)	75.12%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>183,886,160</b>	<b>159,277,979</b>	<b>( 24,608,181)</b>	<b>86.62%</b>

- Of the total revenues budgeted of \$183,886,160, the district has received \$159,277,979, which represents 86.62% of the budget.
- Of \$191,085,145% in budgeted expenditures, the district has expended or encumbered \$140,390,688, which represents 73.47%.

Dr. Richard Rivera wanted to know if Mr. Sanchez had calculated the percentage for the two months pending, up to the end of August 31. He mentioned that the budget looked good at 73%, with two months to go.

Mr. Sanchez informed the Board that staff is looking at having a couple of million dollars of surplus, but staff still needs to calculate which amounts are for the local maintenance funds and for state funds.

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

The Board acknowledged the Collection Report for May 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 May 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	\$23,512,222	( \$199,703)	\$ 1,709,300	93.22%	93.16%	<b>0.06% Higher</b>
Delinquent Taxes Prior Years Levy	4,069,728	607,070	( 248,225)	3,214,433	15.89%	20.30	<b>4.41% Lower</b>
Rollback	58,547	111,169	104,624	52,002	68.13%	5.21%	
Totals	\$ 29,549,501	\$ 24,230,461	(\$ 343,305)	\$4,975,735			

- The collection of **current taxes** for fiscal year 2019-2020 through May 31 is 0.06% higher than the current taxes for fiscal year 2018-2019.
- The collection of **delinquent taxes** for fiscal year 2019-2020 through May 31 is 4.41% 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 May 2020 report.

Current taxes: Budget: 92% Actual Collections: 93.22%  
Delinquent taxes: Budget: 20% Actual Collections: 15.89%

X. Discussion and Possible Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District’s Fleet (Liability & Cargo), General Liability, Crime and Law Enforcement Insurance: OR Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same (RFP #19-07-40)

The District carries General Liability (GL), Law Enforcement, Crime and Fleet Insurance with Travelers Texas Public Entity Group. In 2019, the District solicited competitive proposals and awarded the products to Travelers Texas Public Entity Group through Shepard Walton King.

The District has the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms. This will be the second renewal option.

The Auto Physical Damage portion of the fleet auto insurance was renewed during the June regular meeting with AGCS through SWK.

The total premium is \$203,713.00. Below is a breakdown of the individual lines of coverage:

- Commercial General Liability

The renewal premium is \$26,615.00

- Commercial Auto

The renewal premium is \$169,956.00

- Crime:

The renewal premium is \$3,392.00.

- Cargo

The renewal premium is \$3,750.00

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to renew the District's Fleet (Liability & Cargo), General Liability, Crime and Law Enforcement Insurance with Shepard Walton King Insurance Group (SWK). Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion. Andrew Gonzalez did not participate in the discussion and abstained from voting.

Voting in favor of the motion were Dr. Richard Rivera, Patrick Kennedy, Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Erasmo Lopez, and Armando Cuellar. Motion carried.

B. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District's Agreement with Tri-Star Risk Management to Administer the District's Self-Funded Workers' Compensation Program for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; OR Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same (RFP #19-07-41)

Last year, the District solicited proposals for Workers' Compensation TPA services. TriStar Risk Management was selected to provide TPA services for one year, with the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms. This is the second year renewal option.

The Superintendent recommended approval of the renewal. Tri-Star's renewal reflects a 3.5% increase to the base admin fee, which equates to \$51,570.00. The fixed fee is capped at 3.5% for the second and third year. TriStar also charges ancillary fees for services on a per claim bases. These fees include peer reviews, utilization reviews, bill reviews, etc. A pricing breakdown for these services is included as an attachment. The total estimated admin fees is approximately \$85,000.00

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to renew the District's Agreement with Tri-Star Risk Management to administer the District's Self-Funded Workers' Compensation Program for fiscal year 2020-2021 as presented. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District's Workers' Compensation Excess Insurance; OR Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same (RFP #19-07-41)

The District purchases excess or stop loss insurance for its Workers' Compensation Program. This excess insurance is similar to the stop loss coverage purchased for the self-funded medical benefit program. The District's Self-Insured Retention Rate (SIR) is currently \$450,000 and is for the life of the claim.

Last year, the District conducted an RFP process and US Specialty Group was selected with an option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms. This is the second year renewal option. Premium rates will remain flat and is based on an estimated payroll of \$118,670,817. US Specialty Group will conduct a payroll audit later in the year to determine if there is a balance or credit due to the District. Renewal Premium rate is 0.0393 per \$100 of payroll.

<b>Workers Compensation</b>	<b>Current</b>		<b>Renewal</b>
Payroll	\$ 118,670,817		\$ 118,670,817
Premium	\$ <b>46,638</b>		\$ <b>46,638</b>

Erasmus Lopez made the motion to renew the District’s Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance with US Specialty Group through Shepard Walton King Insurance Group. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion. Andrew Gonzalez did not participate in the discussion and abstained from voting.

Voting in favor of the motion were Dr. Richard Rivera, Patrick Kennedy, Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Erasmo Lopez, and Armando Cuellar. Motion carried.

D. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of Specific and Aggregate Stop Loss Insurance for the Self-Funded Medical/Rx Employee Benefit Plan; OR Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same (RFP #19-08-43)

Specific stop loss is an integral component of the District’s Self-Funded Employee Benefit program. The District self-funds all medical and Rx claims for each employee up to \$125,000. Individual Stop-Loss insurance (ISL) reimburses the District for all medical and Rx claims over \$125,000 with no limit.

Last year, the District conducted an RFP for stop-loss insurance. BCBS was selected as having the best value to the District by including no lasers or aggregating deductibles. This is the second year of a three-year renewal option. There is a 5% increase in the specific premium. There are no changes in any of the other terms. Since this is a renewal option, Risk Management will continue to negotiate with the company for a potentially lower rate. Due to Rx rebates, the 2020-2021 Administrative fee will be \$98.87 PEPM, which equates to an overall administrative fee decrease of 4.9%.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to approve the renewal from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas through Jeff Everett & Associates for Specific and Aggregate stop loss insurance for the District’s self-funded employee benefit program (Medical & Rx). Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Renewal of the District’s Property & Casualty Insurance – Boiler & Machinery, Property & Contents, Inland Marine and Flood Insurance; OR Authorize Administration to Solicit Proposals for Same (RPF #18-04-46)

In 2018, the District conducted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Property & Casualty Insurance, (P&C) Boiler & Machinery, Property & Contents, Inland Marine and Flood Insurance. As per

the requirements set forth in the RFP, the District has the option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year terms should renewal terms be acceptable to the District. This is the third year renewal option.

In order to prevent conducting an RFP during hurricane season, the broker was advised to obtain a renewal quote with a new effective date outside of hurricane season. The renewal submitted is for seven months of coverage with a new effective date of April 1. The renewal premium proportionally reflects an 18% increase in premium. Valley Risk Consulting and Risk Management opine that the District will recoup this increase when this coverage is bid out in favorable market conditions. The District’s Total Values (TIV) increased by approximately \$19 million.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to renew the offer from Am WINS Brokerage through Montalvo Insurance for the District's Property and Casualty insurance package. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of Allowance Expenditures for Additional Work Needed at the Weslaco East High School New Band Hall Project (CSP #18-06-22)

On June 11, 2018, the Board approved NM Contracting, LLC for the construction of this project. Mr. Ron Bissett, WISD Fine Arts Director, and Mr. Armando Cuellar, WEHS Band Director, reported concerns with the acoustics in the rehearsal halls. ERO Architects hired an acoustical consultant to assess the sound characteristics of the rooms and provide recommendations.

Additional acoustical panels will be necessary to improve the acoustics in the three rehearsal halls of the new band hall at Weslaco East High School. The cost of the additional improvements will be paid from the project's contingency allowances; therefore, there is no additional cost to the project. The installation of the additional acoustical panels is expected to take approximately 8 weeks from approval date.

- Owner's Contingency/Allowance = \$80,000.00 (Balance left - \$71,747.50)
- Architect's Contingency Allowance = \$130,500.00 (Balance left - \$130,238.00)

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the allowance expenditures for additional work needed at the Weslaco East High School New Band Hall Project. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

G. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Administration's Recommendation for Award of the Restroom Partitions Replacement Project at Three Schools: Mary Hoge Middle School, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School and Airport Elementary (CSP #20-07-25)

As part of the Facilities Committee recommendation, Weslaco ISD Administration identified three schools that need attention for their student restrooms. The scope of work specifically calls for the removal and replacement of all existing boys' and girls' restroom partitions at the three schools: Mary Hoge Middle School, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School, and Airport Elementary. District staff estimated the cost of this project to be around \$150,000.00 to \$175,000.00. The committee reviewed and ranked the four (4) proposals received, and recommended that the project be awarded to the first ranked firm of R.E. Friedrichs Company, dba REFCO from Pharr, Texas at a cost of \$95,000.00.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to approve the administration's ranking of the proposals received for the restroom partitions for the three campuses and award this construction project to R.E. Friedrichs Company, dba REFCO from Pharr, Texas. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion.

Dr. Rivera asked if the company had good references. Mr. Oscar Riojas, Director of Athletics and Maintenance Operations replied that this company has good references and has done work for the district in the past. Mr. Erasmo Lopez commented that this company has been around for a long time and he is very familiar with the company.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Jaime Rodriguez and seconded by Erasmo Lopez to approve the administration's ranking of the proposals received for the restroom partitions for the three campuses and award this construction project to R.E. Friedrichs Company, dba REFCO from Pharr, Texas.

H. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval for the Construction of the Weslaco High School New Field House Project (CSP #18-02-14) as Follows:

1. A Deductive Change Order for the Unspent Owner’s Contingency and Weather and Delay Days to Complete the Project, and
2. Final Completion of the Project

On February 12, 2018, the Board approved NM Contracting, LLC for the construction of a new football field house building and storage building in the amount of \$3,004,000.00. The Notice to Proceed was issued to NM Contracting with a starting date of April 9, 2018. The actual substantial completion date for the project was April 15, 2019.

The project schedule was affected by 7 days and 12 weather related days. The unspent contingency balance will be credited to Weslaco ISD. The table below lists the summary of the contents of Change Order #4.

Item No. 1	Description	Credit Amounts	Allowance Balance	No. Days Increase	Project Cost
	Project Cost as Approved				\$3,004,000.00
	Unused Contingency Allowance Balance		\$86,968.70		
1	Delay Days: 7 days for gas line installation by the gas company accepted out of 7 days requested and 12 rain days accepted out of 12 days requested.			19	
2	Contingency: The project’s unused contingency balance is credited back to WISD.		\$86,968.70		(\$86,968.70)
Totals				19 days	\$2,917,031.30
	Payments to Date				\$(2,743,251.24)
	Balance Owed to Contractor				\$ 173,780.06

Erasmus Lopez asked legal counsel if the language of the agenda item was worded properly due to action needed by the Board as far as acceptance of payment.

Legal counsel Ivan Perez reviewed the action necessary and asked administration if the district was ready to make the final application for payment #15 as part of the retainage. He asked Mr. Sanchez to clarify if there would be any days owed to the district from the contractor.

According to Mr. Andres Sanchez, after board approval, administration will pay the pending application for payment #14, and after completion of the pending item(s) (close-out document review) mentioned above, staff will process the projects’ final application for payment (#15) for the project retainage. There will be no delay days. The revised substantial completion date for this project was April 18, 2019; however, the project was completed three days before on April 15, 2019.

Mr. Oscar Riojas mentioned that this project was delayed quite a bit for unforeseen conditions. He confirmed that there were no rain delay days for this project.

Legal counsel confirmed that the agenda item was properly worded.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the construction of the Weslaco High School New Field House Project, a deductive change order for the unspent project contingencies and weather and delay days to complete the project, and final completion of the project as recommended. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

I. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Hire the Services of An Electrical Engineering Firm to Assist the District as An Independent Engineer to Oversee the Design and Installation of the LED Lighting DistrictWide Project

On December 9, 2019, the Board approved to use the Design-Build method of construction for this project, delegated the ranking authority of the proposals to the Administration, and approved the criteria and points to be used for this project.

Under the design-build method of construction, the district will hire a design-build team that includes a contractor, engineers, and/or architects for the LED lighting upgrades districtwide. The district will need the assistance of an engineer that will work independent from the design-build team for the oversight of the project and therefore the administration recommended that the Board approve Trinity MEP Engineering, PLLC from Weslaco, Texas as the independent engineer for this project. The district has worked with this firm in several projects and past experience with their services have been very positive.

The proposed cost of the engineering services for this project is a flat fee of \$25,000.00. The cost of services will be paid from the local construction fund.

In response to Mr. Cuellar's inquiry on using local people to do work, Mr. Oscar Riojas clarified that Trinity was recommended to help the district oversee the project at this time. After a company takes over a project, staff can recommend or stipulate that the company use local representation if necessary.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to hire Trinity MEP Engineering, PLLC, to assist the District with the procurement and oversight of the LED Lighting Districtwide Project. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

J. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary Foundation Remediation Project:

1. Board Determination of a 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

Signs of foundation problems on the southwest side of the campus at Rico Elementary School have been present for some time. Cracks on walls and continued separation of expansion joints are a clear indication of the problems. The firm of Raba Kistner was approved by the Board to assess the condition of the foundation and identify the cause of the problem. The next step is to proceed with the remediation of the foundation problems for this campus, which requires the services of a professional engineer as required by law. Thus, the administration recommended contracting Raba Kistner Engineering Consulting as the engineer for this project to create the construction documents and provide construction administration services at a flat fee of \$22,000.00. The estimated project cost range will be \$280,000.00 to \$320,000.00.



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 to be received, and approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know if the work was going to be complete by August or September and it was safe for the students. According to Oscar Riojas, this project will take some time. The estimated substantial completion date is March 9, 2021.

Mr. Patrick Kennedy asked if the budget would absorb this expense. Mr. Andres Sanchez replied "Yes", but mentioned that a budget amendment would be necessary. The funds for this project will be obtained from the Unassigned Fund Balance in the Local Maintenance Fund.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Richard Rivera and seconded by Armando Cuellar 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 approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals.

K. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of An Engineering Firm to Generate the Plans and Specifications as Well as Provide Construction Administration Services for the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School Foundation Remediation Project

On November 11, 2019, the Board approved Raba Kistner to assess the foundation problems at the Rico Elementary campus. The firm provided a report on the condition of the foundation and identified the cause of the problems. The next step is to proceed with the remediation of the problems found.

The administration recommended that the Board hire Raba Kistner, Inc. to assist with this project. The District's past experiences with this company has been positive. The proposed cost of the engineering services is \$22,000.00. The funds for this project are available through the Local Construction Fund's Budget.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to hire Raba Kistner, Inc. Consulting Engineering Firm to generate the plans and specifications and to provide construction administration services for the A.N. "Tony" Rico Elementary School Foundation Remediation Project. Armando Cuellar seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

L. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Annual Review of the District's Investment Policy

Mr. Andres Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance provided information on the District's Investment Policy.

Board Policy section CDA (Legal) requires the Board to review the investment policy and strategies no less than annually. Administration has reviewed the Policy and has determined that there have been no changes for this year. The Board must also adopt a written instrument stating that it has reviewed the investment policy. Board Policy Section CDA (Local) emphasizes the following concerning district investments:

- **Safety and Investment Management**

The main goal of the investment program is to ensure its safety and maximize financial returns within current market conditions in accordance with this policy. Investments shall be made in a manner that ensures the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio, and offsets during a 12-month period any market price losses resulting from interest rate fluctuations by income received from the balance of the portfolio. No individual investment transaction shall be undertaken that jeopardizes the total capital position of the overall portfolio.

▪ **Liquidity and Maturity**

Any internally created pool fund group of the district shall have a maximum dollar weighted maturity of 180 days. The maximum allowable stated maturity of any other individual investment owned by the District shall not exceed one year from the time of purchase. The Board may specifically authorize a longer maturity for a given investment, within legal limits. The District's investment portfolio shall have sufficient liquidity to meet anticipated cash flow requirements.

▪ **Diversity**

The investment portfolio shall be diversified in terms of investment instruments, maturity scheduling, and financial institutions to reduce risk of loss resulting from overconcentration of assets in a specific class of investments, specific maturity, or specific issuer.

**Current Investments of Weslaco ISD**

- Currently all investments of the district are held in investment pools.
- The interest rate on the First Public Investment pool on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 was .6024%, down 1.8276 from 2.43% last year on July 23, 2019.
- The interest rate on the Texas Term Investment Pool on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 was .24%, down 2.10% from 2.34% last year on July 23, 2019.
- The interest rate on the TexPool Investment Pool on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 was .2129%, down 2.1371 % from 2.35 % last year on July 23, 2019.
- **The funds in the pools can be withdrawn in any amount within a day's notice by wire transfer.**
- The current US Treasury bill discount rate as of Tuesday, June 30, 2020 was .16% for one year, down 1.75% from 1.91% for one-year term last year on July 23, 2019.
- The interest rate on Texas National Bank CDs of \$1,000,000.00, for 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months as of July 2, 2020 is 0.15% for all the different maturity periods.
- The interest rate on Plains Capital Bank CDs of \$1,000,000.00 for 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months as of July 2, 2020 is .20% and .35% respectively. This is a CD placement program where funds are invested in groups of 4 CD's of up to \$249,000.00. Then CD's are invested at separate (individual) banks so as not to exceed the \$250,000.00 FDIC insurance limit.
- Based on information gathered from the banks and comparing to the investment pools as of right now, the rates are better at the investment pools than CDs at the banks.

The Texas Term Investment Pools have a CD placement program where funds are invested in groups of 4 CD's of up to \$248,000 each (total of \$992,000) for 6 months or 12 months. CD's are then invested at separate (individual) banks so as not to exceed the \$250,000 FDIC insurance limit. Their rates were .60% for 6 months and 12 months, respectively as of June 30, 2020 down from 2.25% and 2.26% for 6 months and 12 months, respectively for last year on July 13, 2019.

**Investment Training**

The treasurer or chief financial officer and the investment officer must also attend an investment training session not less than once in a two-year period that begins on the first day of the District's fiscal year and consists of the two consecutive fiscal years after that date, and receive six (6) hours of instruction relating to investment responsibilities under the Public Funds Investment Act from an independent source approved by the Board or a designated investment committee advising the investment officer. Government Code 2256.008(a)-(b).

The following investment officers for Weslaco ISD attended training as required:

- >Andres Sanchez Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance
  - October 18, 2019
- >Jesse Fonseca, Director of Payroll and Business Operations
  - June 12, 2020
- >Sylvia Esquivel, Compliance Auditor
  - June 12, 2020

Dr. Rivera wanted to know why the interest rates were so low. Mr. Sanchez replied that the CDs at the banks pay half the interest rate than investment pools. Therefore, staff would like to continue to keep the district's investments in the investment pools. Staff will continue to monitor the interest rates in case something better comes up.

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the Annual Review of the District's Investment Policy. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- M. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Change the District's Fiscal Year Cycle **from** September 1 through August 31 **to** July 1 through June 30 Beginning with the Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The administration recommended that the Board approve to change its fiscal year cycle from September 1 through August 31 to July 1 through June 30, effective with the fiscal year 2021-2022. The Board discussed the possibility of changing the fiscal year cycle during the June 8, 2020 regular board meeting. The Board was informed that if during the transition year, fiscal year 2020-2021, Administration determined after further evaluation that it would not be in the best interest of the district to change the fiscal year end date, Administration would inform the Board via a board workshop and public meeting. If the Board decides not to change the fiscal year end date, Administration would have to file another Form FIN-003 with the Texas Education Agency to notify them.

Dr. Rivera asked if they could wait to take action on this item for one more month, pending the status of COVID 19. Mr. Sanchez explained that TEA initially wanted submissions by June 30 but they are working on the deadline with school districts. He pointed out that the Board could approve the change; nonetheless, should the Board decide during the year that they do not want to change the fiscal year cycle, the administration would bring it back to the Board and would notify TEA that the district does not want to proceed with the change.

Dr. Rivera was okay with the administration's recommendation to change the fiscal year cycle after Mr. Sanchez confirmed that action on this item could be reversed during the year.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to change the District's fiscal year cycle from September 1 through August 31 to July 1 through June 30 beginning with the fiscal year 2021-2022. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Patrick Kennedy asked staff to present this item as a discussion item at a future meeting to receive an update on the status.

- N. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Set Up a Meeting Date for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget and Proposed Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021

School Districts must follow the notice and hearing requirements of the Education Code Section 44.004 for adopting a Budget and Tax Rate. This section sets out the items to include in the Public Hearing for the Budget and Proposed Tax Rate. The State Comptroller's Office also provides a planning calendar for all school districts to follow when adopting their budget and tax rate. The calendar calls for the governing body to decide on a meeting date for the Public Hearing on the Budget and Proposed Tax Rate.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board set the meeting date on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to set a meeting date for the Public Hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate for fiscal year 2020-2021 on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- O. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Renew and Extend the Contract for Legal Counsel Services, or Approval to Release a Request for Qualifications for Legal Counsel Services

The current legal counsel firm of Jones Galligan Key and Lozano has provided legal counsel services to the district since 2014. The current contract will expire in October 2020. The new agreement would start October 1, 2020 and continue through September 30, 2022. The agreement will continue on a month-to-month basis. The agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days' written notice to the other. The Superintendent recommended that the Board renew the current contract for legal counsel services.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to renew and extend the contract with Jones Galligan Key and Lozano for legal counsel services. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion.

Mr. Lopez commented that the current legal counsel has provided very good services to the Board and the district, and asked if there were any accommodations for an increase in pay. Mr. Andres Sanchez replied that the contract included a \$30.00 per hour increase in pay, for an hourly rate of \$225.00.

Mr. Lopez supported the increase and in extending the contract.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Andrew Gonzalez and seconded by Erasmo Lopez to renew and extend the contract with Jones Galligan Key and Lozano for legal counsel services.

Legal Counsel Ivan Perez thanked the Board on behalf of the firm. He stated, "We certainly appreciate the confidence that the Board has entrusted us with and to work with you and to work with the administration. We look forward to working with you in the time to come."

XI. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 8:18 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)

XII. Reconvene in Open Meeting:

The Board returned to open meeting at 8:50 p.m. to take action on the following items. Dr. Richard Rivera did not return to open meeting.

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

1. Discussion and Possible Action on New Employment

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the contracts of certified professional personnel as discussed in closed session.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>
1. Ruby Coronado	Teacher Orientation & Mobility/Homebound Teacher	Special Education Department
2. Genesis Montalvo	FROM: Math Interventionist @ Weslaco High School	TO: Teacher @ Weslaco High School
<b>ADDENDUM</b>		
3. Amanda Alvarez	Math Teacher	Weslaco East High School

Patrick Kennedy made the motion to approve the contracts of certified professional personnel as recommended. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/Location</b>	<b>Reason/Effective Date</b>
1. Maricruz Cardenas	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher Airport Elementary School	Maricruz Cardenas resigned to accept a position with Edinburg CISD. Resignation is effective June 25, 2020.
2. Maria C. Chamberlain	Language Arts Strategist Curriculum & Instruction	Maria C. Chamberlain is retiring after 33 years in education, with 29 years of service at WISD. Her retirement is effective July 31, 2020.
3. Kristian Chavez	Math Teacher Weslaco High School	Kristian Chavez is resigning for personal reasons. His resignation is effective June 16, 2020.
4. Eric Ehramjian	Orchestra Teacher Weslaco East High School	Eric Ehramjian is retiring after 36 years in education, with all 36 years of service at WISD. His retirement is effective May 29, 2020.
5. Esmeralda Figueroa	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher Silva Elementary School	Esmeralda Figueroa is resigning to provide full time care to her mother. Her resignation is effective June 30, 2020.

6. Maria G. Hernandez	Math Teacher Cuellar Middle School	Maria G. Hernandez is a retire/rehire employee and is resigning after 49 years in education, with 48 years of service at WISD. Her resignation is effective July 11, 2020
7. Mario A. Lazo	Social Studies Teacher Weslaco High School	Mario A. Laza is resigning to accept a teacher/coach position with another school district. His resignation is effective June 17, 2020.
8. Jorge A. Martinez	Health Teacher Weslaco East High School	Jorge A. Martinez is resigning for personal reasons. His resignation is effective June 25, 2020.
9. Israel Perez	Social Studies Teacher Weslaco High School	Israel Perez is resigning for personal reasons. His resignation is effective June 12, 2020.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the resignations/retirements as discussed in closed session. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Acquisition of Real Property (Tx. Gov't Code 551.072)

No action item.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.