

Hitchcock Independent School District

Regular Meeting

December 14, 2010

The Hitchcock Independent School District Board of Trustees met at a Regular meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, held at the Hitchcock ISD Boardroom/ Conference Facility located at 8004 North Railroad, Hitchcock, Texas. President Dianne James called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present Dianne James, President; Monica Cantrell, Vice President; Estelle Holmes, Secretary; Ted Robinson, Jr., Member

Absent Pat Turner, Member; Tom Ivey, Member; Shirley Price, Member

Others Susan Thompson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Nina Conway, Business Manager; Larry Allen, Hitchcock High School Principal; Blanca Ochoa, Crosby Middle School Principal; Donette Line, Stewart Elementary School Principal; Phyliss Coleman, Hitchcock Primary School Principal; Ethel Gaines, Kids First Head Start Director; Chris Armacost, Technology Director; Stephen Dubner, Attorney; Carl Joiner and Scott Brady, Joiner Partnership

Call to Order Dianne James, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM; announced the presence of a quorum and stated that the meeting had been duly called and the notice had been posted in the manner prescribed by law.

Pledge of Allegiance Monica Cantrell led the members of the Board of Trustees and patrons in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. flag and Ted Robinson led the members of the Board of Trustees and patrons in the Pledge to the Texas flag.

Recognitions

1. The ABC Award for December will be presented at the January board meeting.
2. Mr. Khaleel Lott, Stewart Elementary School, presented the Stewart Elementary School Class Officers for the 2010-2011 school year. Each class president gave a speech to the Board and patrons and Certificates of Recognition were presented to each office holder.

- a. 4th Grade: Brianna Landry, President; Katalina Martin, Vice President; Amaya Urbanek, Secretary
- b. 5th Grade: Venal McCall, President; Emily Kotz, Vice President; and Devaughan Elder, Secretary
- c. 6th Grade: Za-Vion Hunter, President; Brianna Jones, Vice President; Rose Connor, Secretary

Public Participation

- 1. Mr. Jean Anderson addressed the Board to consider construction of an awning for bus loading and unloading at Hitchcock Primary School.
- 2. Ms. Ochoa spoke to the Board requesting consideration for two additional part-time positions (Science and Social Studies) for the Crosby Middle School campus.

Discussion/Possible Action

010-106

Plans for Construction of a New High School

Carl Joiner, Joiner Partnership, presented plans to the Board for a 70,000 sq. ft. high school for \$12,000,000.

After discussion, a motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to proceed with the construction of a new high school for \$12,000,000, based on the information provided by Joiner Partnership.

Members in favor: Monica Cantrell, Estelle Holmes, Ted Robinson

Members opposed: Dianne James

Motion carried with the majority in favor.

010-107

Construction of Awning at Hitchcock Primary School

A motion was made by Monica Cantrell and seconded by Estelle Holmes to authorize Carl Joiner, Joiner Partnership, to get estimates on the cost to construct an awning at Hitchcock Primary School.

Motion carried with all in favor.

010-108

Two additional half-time positions
(Science and Social Studies) at
Crosby Middle School

A motion was made by Monica Cantrell and seconded by Estelle Holmes to approve two additional half-time positions, science and social studies, for Crosby Middle School.

Motion carried with all in favor.

010-104

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and as recommended by the administration and to pull item V-F 2011-2012 School Calendar, and item V-I Compass software for Hitchcock High School.

1. Minutes: Board Workshop and Regular meeting of November 16, 2010
2. Monthly Financial and Investment Report for month ending November 30, 2010
3. Monthly Tax Collection Report for month ending November 30, 2010
4. Monthly Kids First Head Start Financial Report and Check Register for month ending November 30, 2010
5. Monthly Greater Gulf Coast Cooperative/SHARS Financial Report and Check Register for month ending November 30, 2010
6. Resolution: "Make Education a Priority" [See attached]
7. Campus Performance Objectives: Hitchcock Primary School [See attached]
8. Proposed changes to Local Policy DIA: Employee Welfare: Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation [See attached]

Motion carried with all in favor.

2011-2012 School Calendar

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to approve the 2011-2012 School Calendar with changes requested. [See attached]

Motion carried with all in favor.

Compass Software for Hitchcock High School

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to approve Expenditures over \$50,000 for Compass Software for Hitchcock High School.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Reports/Information from Superintendent

Kids First Head Start (KFHS) Board Liaison Report

Ms. James, Board Liaison, presented the KFHS Board Liaison Report.

Superintendent's Monthly Goals Report

The Superintendent's Monthly Goals Report was presented to the Board for their review and information.

October 2010 TAKS Exit Level Retest Results

The October 2010 TAKS Exit Level Retest Results were presented to the Board for their review and information.

Announcement of Board Members Continuing Education Hours and Framework for School Board Development

Ms. James announced the names of those Board members who have completed their required continuing education hours. The Framework for School Board Development was also presented to the Board for their review and information.

Board Member	Tier One Orientation to & Texas Education Code	Tier Two Teambuilding	Tier Three Discretionary Continuing Education
Dianne James, President	Y	Y	Y

Monica Cantrell, Vice President	Y	Y	Y
Estelle Holmes, Secretary	Y	N	Y
Pat Turner, Member	N	N	N
Ted Robinson, Member	Y	Y	Y
Tom Ivey, Member	Y	Y	Y
Shirley Price, Member	Y	Y	Y

Budget considerations for
2011-2012

A list of possible reductions/cuts for 2011-2012 was presented to the Board for the review and discussion.

1. Discussion with Durham Transportation about secondary route reductions-saves route expense?
2. Discussion with Durham about taking transportation back into the ISD; saves maybe 6 figure amount?

Discussion:

- a. *Look into a Mobile Repair Unit*
- b. *Possibly join a cooperative*

3. Sun setting the AEP program-saves one teacher & one aide position-saves \$57,000+.

Discussion:

Not in favor of cutting high school classes—find funding

4. Reviewing high school staffing ratios: using 3 teachers per core area will save \$50,000.
5. Setting thermostats to reduce energy consumption-5-10 % reduction in costs.

Discussion:

- a. *The District is not doing all that can be done to reduce energy consumption.*

- b. Gym lights left on at the track after hours.*
- 6. Consider attrition & and not filling some retiring positions.
- 7. Consider closing certain classes at high school-saves at least 1 teacher unit.
- 8. Consider doing some high school classes half-time-saves salaries such as \$50,000
- 9. Close Crosby and move students to high school-saves utilities and custodial, \$ 170,000 total.

Discussion:

- a. Combining middle school and high school students has never been discussed.*
 - b. Cannot combine the grades.*
10. Increase schedule at Crosby from 6 to 7 periods- this will reduce staffing ration and eliminate need for possible staff additions.

Already in progress or completed

- 1. Annex vacated- saves utilities and custodial, \$ 11,300.
- 2. Consolidated ESL coordinator and Director of Student Services-saves one salary, \$83,000+.
- 3. Library aide at Stewart was combined with Maintenance secretary-saved \$15,000 +/-.
- 4. Nurse aide position not filled at Stewart- saved \$15,000.

Committee Members:

Susan Thompson
Larry Allen
Blanca Ochoa
Donette Line
Phyllis Coleman
Nina Conway
Evangelina Guerra

Closed Session

Dianne James, President, called the members of the Board of Trustees into Closed Session at 8:33 PM for the purposes permitted as authorized by the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code:

551.071 Consultation with District's Attorney Stephen Dubner of the Law Office of Stephen Dubner on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act specifically including the legal issues related to the Level III Grievance—Blanca Ochoa

551.074 Personnel:

Discuss the employment of new professional employee(s) for the 2010-2011 school year

551.074, 551.082

Level III Grievance—Blanca Ochoa

Reconvene from Closed Session

The members of the Board of Trustees reconvened from Closed Session at 10:34 PM for action, if any, from Closed Session.

Motion 1 A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to employ Jennifer Murray under a Probationary One-Year Contract—Teacher for the 2010-2011 school year as presented and as discussed in executive session.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion 2 A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to employ Debra Duncan under a Non-Chapter 21 contract—Noncertified Professional for the 2010-2011 school year as presented and as discussed in executive session.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion 3 A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to deny the Level III Grievance—Blanca Ochoa.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Future Agenda Items

Request the high school to engage a judge or state representative as a guest speaker at graduation.

Announcements

1. Retirement Reception for Randy Dowdy and Carl Hyatt, Wednesday, December 15, 4:00 PM, Boardroom
2. Soup with the Superintendent, Wednesday, December 15, 6:00 PM, Hitchcock High School cafeteria

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ted Robinson and seconded by Estelle Holmes to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Taylor
Recording Secretary

Dianne James, President

Estelle Holmes, Secretary