

Hitchcock Independent School District

Board Workshop

Thursday, February 18, 2010

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The Hitchcock Independent School District Board of Trustees met at a Regular meeting on Thursday, February 18, 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 6:34 PM.

Present                   Dianne James, President; Monica Cantrell, Vice President; Ted Robinson, Jr., Member; Tom Ivey, Member

Late Arrival             Estelle Holmes, Secretary, arrived at 8:30 PM

Absent                    Pat Turner, Member; Shirley Price, Member

Others                    Mike Bergman, Superintendent; Susan Thompson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Nina Conway, Business Manager; Blanca Ochoa, Crosby Middle School Principal; Phyliss Coleman, Hitchcock Primary School Principal

Call to Order            Dianne James, President, called the meeting to order at 6:34 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.

Discussion

Grade levels at Stewart Elementary School  
and Crosby Middle School  
Restructuring/Reconfiguration

Denise Charlston started the discussion on the restructuring/reconfiguration of Stewart Elementary School and Crosby Middle School by recommending that the Board keep Crosby Middle School as a middle school.

Michael Charleston showed a video of maintenance and safety concerns at Crosby Middle School and recommended that the Crosby Middle School move in its entirety to the Stewart Elementary School campus.

After viewing the video, the Board questioned the following:

1. Why repair orders have not been sent to the Maintenance Department?
2. Why maintenance is not doing a walk-through of facilities and fixing problems?
3. Stated that Crosby Middle School has deteriorated during the last two years.
4. Requested that a copy of the video be given to maintenance.

Suggestions by Crosby Middle School on the reconfigurations of the campuses:

1. Keep 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades together at Crosby—5<sup>th</sup> grade to Stewart
2. Move 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades to Stewart campus and move 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Hitchcock Primary

Dr. Bergman stated that he would share the video with Mr. Mull, Maintenance Director.

Dr. Bergman's recommendation to the Board is to move 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade and the Day Care/After School Program to the Stewart campus. The District is also examining starting its own behavioral unit rather than contracting with Shiloh. He also recommended leaving 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby.

Mr. Robinson stated that he agreed with Dr. Bergman's recommendation.

Ms. Cantrell stated:

1. Need long-range planning
2. Wants all students in new facilities
3. Hitchcock Primary School is already overcrowded
4. Does not recommend moving the Day Care/After School Program to Stewart
5. Move Student Support Services to the Annex and the Day Care to the current Student Support Services building
6. Community prefers: PK-2nd or 3rd at Hitchcock Primary School; 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grades at Stewart campus; and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby campus

Mr. Ivey recommends Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Hitchcock Primary School; 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart; and 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby.

Ms. James thanked Mr. Charlston for pointing out the safety issues at Crosby. She recommended PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Hitchcock Primary School; 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart campus; and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby

campus. Ms. James stated that she would like to bring the Shiloh students back to the District and also stated that Hitchcock Primary School was already overcrowded.

Suggestions by Hitchcock Primary School on the reconfiguration of the campuses:

1. Leave 4<sup>th</sup> grade at the Primary campus and move 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade to the Stewart campus, leave 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at the Crosby campus.
2. 4<sup>th</sup> grade does not need to be with 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
3. Leave 4<sup>th</sup> grade at the Primary campus – they are not ready for upper elementary; move 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade to Stewart
4. Keep Pre-K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Primary campus

Suggestions by parents on the reconfiguration of the campuses:

1. PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Primary campus; 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart campus; and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby campus
2. 4<sup>th</sup> grade does not need to mix with 6<sup>th</sup> grade
3. 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart campus; 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby campus
4. Move 6<sup>th</sup> grade away from 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade
5. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart campus; 6<sup>th</sup> grade does not need to be with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade; can go either way for PK-4 or PK-3

Estelle Holmes arrived at 8:30 PM

Ms. Holmes recommended 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Crosby and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Stewart.

Ms. James thanked everyone for coming and providing input.

#### Future Agenda Items

1. Ms. Holmes—discuss mandatory homebound for pregnant girls
2. Ms. Cantrell—have a workshop to address maintenance issues
3. Ms. Cantrell—requested a list of all properties owned by Hitchcock ISD and possibly downsizing and liquidating District property to raise funds
4. Ms. Cantrell—address furniture needs at Hitchcock Primary School, currently using hand-me-down furniture. Primary School needs to be a showcase for the District.
5. Ms. Cantrell—Family concept vs. Team concept—need to have Team concept
6. Mr. Ivey—apologized to Crosby staff for lack of maintenance

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ted Robinson and seconded by Estelle Holmes to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Taylor  
Recording Secretary

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Dianne James, President

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Estelle Holmes, Secretary