

Hitchcock Independent School District

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

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The Hitchcock Independent School District Board of Trustees met at a Regular meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, held at the Hitchcock ISD Boardroom/Conference Facility located at 8004 North Railroad, Hitchcock, Texas. President Dianne James called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

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

Late Arrival Estelle Holmes, Secretary, arrived at 7:23 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, Stewart Elementary School Principal; Chris Armacost, Technology Director

Bob Henderson, Financial Advisor; Carl Joiner and Scott Brady, Architects; Stephen Dubner, Attorney

Call to Order Dianne James, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 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

Ms. Cantrell led the members of the Board and patrons in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. flag and Mr. Ivey led the members of the Board and patrons in the Pledge to the Texas flag.

#### Recognitions

Miss Haley Hubbard, Stewart Elementary School, was presented with a Certification of Recognition by Ms. James. Miss Hubbard was the runner-up in the Walsh, Anderson Holiday Art Contest.

The Above and Beyond Citizen Award for November 2009 was presented to Mr. Carlos Ponce by Ms. James.

#### Public Participation

Shawn Woodard addressed the Board regarding hiring qualified people from Hitchcock and also asked the Board to consider using volunteers and paraprofessionals in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

009-136

#### Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Monica Cantrell and seconded by Ted Robinson to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of items F and G, as presented and as recommended by the administration:

1. Minutes: Regular meeting of October 20, 2009
2. Financial Report, Check Register, and Investment Report for month ending October 31, 2009

3. Tax Collection Report for month ending October 31, 2009
4. Kids First Head Start Financial Report and Check Register for month ending October 31, 2009
5. Greater Gulf Coast Cooperative Financial Report and Check Register for month ending October 31, 2009
6. Change date for the March 2010 Board meeting to March 23, 2010

Motion carried with all in favor.

Update 86

A motion was made by Dianne James and seconded by Monica Cantrell to postpone approval of TASB Localized Update 86 until the December meeting.

Motion carried with all in favor.

RFP: Athletic Bids

A motion was made by Monica Cantrell and seconded by Tom Ivey to approve the Request for Proposals: Athletic equipment, supplies, and apparel as presented and as recommended by the Athletic Director and the administration with the following amendment: order school colors and if the colors are not specified on the bid sheet, to order red/white colors. [See attached]

Motion carried with all in favor.

Report/Information from the

Superintendent

Board Liaison Report: KFHS

Policy Council

Ms. James stated that the Kids First Head Start Policy Council met on November 10, 2009, at 5:30 PM and the following items were presented:

1. Monitoring visit update
2. Delegate report
3. Health Services report
4. New teacher aide
5. Resignation of policy council member
6. Check register and financial report

TASA/TASB

Convention

Tom Ivey reported on a session he attended concerning LPG school buses.

Estelle Holmes arrived at 7:23 PM

Dianne James reported on a session by Dr. Ron Kelly, Ed-Rap.

Estelle Holmes reported on the TASB Advocacy.

TELPAS Report

The TELPAS Report prepared by Evangelina Guerra, ESL Coordinator, was presented to the Board for their review and information. [See attached]

SHAC/Human Sexuality

Instruction Update

Dr. Bergman reported that human sexuality instruction must be offered for discussion in a SHAC meeting with a possible recommendation from them as to whether or not it should be taught in a health class. The SHAC committee meeting was held on Friday, November 13, 2009. Due to Ms. Moffett, School Nurse, being out ill, a recommendation is not ready at this time.

#### Grading Guidelines Update

Dr. Bergman reported that the secondary campuses have eliminated the minimum grade of 50 from report card reporting. He also report that on November 10, 2009, a district committee met to begin formulating a new grading policy for review.

#### Graduation Plans Update

Dr. Bergman reported that a district committee has been formed to review the bill and to make a recommendation to the Board on the three graduation plans offered in Texas.

#### Extra-Curricular &

#### Co-Curricular Activities

At the October Board meeting, the Board requested a report on students participating in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. The report was presented for the Board's review and information.

#### Hitchcock Primary School

#### Update

Dr. Bergman presented the latest update on the move to the new Hitchcock Primary School. After discussion, Ms. James called for a motion to have a Special Called meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2009, to discuss in further detail.

A motion was made by Monica Cantrell and seconded by Estelle Holmes to postpone discussion and have a Special Called meeting (planning session) on Thursday, December 3, 2009, 6:30 PM.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Action

009-137

Funds for the Hitchcock

High School Stadium Sign

A motion was made by Tom Ivey and seconded by Estelle Holmes to postpone action on the new high school stadium sign and to form a committee to design the sign and then have Joiner Partnerships bid the sign as an alternate with the high school project and to get a competitive bid. Once the bid comes in, the Board can decide at that time how they would like to proceed with the project.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-138

Phase II of construction and

affordability of new high school

Bob Henderson, Financial Advisor, presented information to the Board on the feasibility of building a new high school in the current economic times. He asked the Board to consider the following:

1. We can sell the bonds within the current \$.50 limit. It is not as good a deal as the first bond selling; but can be done using extraordinary means.
2. Consider constructions costs—unknown, at this time.
3. Consider current and future demographics.

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to authorize Joiner Partnership to use the \$400,000 in the contingency fund to develop and to complete the construction documents for bids for the new high school and to bring the figures back to the Board to consideration.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-139

2010 Summer Nutrition Program

Intent Declaration

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to approve submitting a waiver from participating in the 2010 summer nutrition program for one year and to request assistance from TDA in identifying an alternate sponsor before January 31, 2010.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-140

Budget Amendment for

NIFA Funding

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Tom Ivey to approve the budget amendment as reflected on the attached spreadsheet, as presented and as recommended by the administration.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-141

Ballot selection for GCAD

Directors

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Tom Ivey to award Hitchcock ISD's 75 votes to Calvin McNeal, as presented and as recommended by the administration. [See attached]

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-142

H-GAC Delegate and Alternate

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Tom Ivey to designate Estelle Holmes as delegate and Dianne James as alternate on the H-GAC 2010 General Assembly. {See attached}

Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion

009-142

Statement in support of

Galveston County Schools

Dr. Bergman presented the following:

At a superintendent's meeting held in Galveston on November 5, 2009, the topic was brought up that our word may be given more weight as a county effort to influence legislation if we all endorsed several like issues. The three issues that were discussed that affects all of us are (1) State cost-sharing of property insurance for Gulf Coast weather-influenced districts, (2) an increase in transportation allotment that has not changed since 1984, and (3) allowing local boards to access the M&O tax rate up to 1.17 cents without a rollback referendum. All three of these have



financial impact on every Galveston County district. Basically, the cost of doing business is exceeding the help that the state is now giving districts.

No action taken at this time, Dr. Bergman will keep the Board informed.

#### Closed Session

Dianne James, President, called the members of the Board of Trustees into Closed Session at 9:51 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 specifically including the legal issues related to employee salary schedules and sponsors of extra-curricular activities.

#### 551.074 Personnel:

- Employment of new professional employee(s) for the 2009-2010 school year
- Employment of campus assistant principal—Crosby Middle School for the 2009-2010 school year

#### Reconvene from

#### Closed Session

The members of the Board of Trustees reconvened from Closed Session at 11:50 PM for action, if any.

- Motion 1      A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Tom Ivey to employ Robert Neelon under a Probationary One-Year Contract—Teacher plus certification addendum for the 2009-2010 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 Donette Line as Assistant Principal of Crosby Middle School and to amend her current One-Year Term Contract—Academic Advisor to a One-Year Term Contract—Administrator for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented and as discussed in executive session.

Motion carried with all in favor.

#### Announcements

1. The December Board meeting will be a short meeting.
2. Bulldogs vs. George West at El Campo at 2:00 PM.

#### Future Agenda Items

1. Consider changing the board meeting to a Monday or Thursday.
2. Special called meeting on Saturday, November 21, 2009, 9:00 AM, to discuss and take action on Resolution submitted by the Galveston County Tax Assessor-Collector
3. Special called meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2009, 6:30 PM, to continue discussion on the reconfiguration of schools
4. Hire a consultant for energy savings and efficiency for the new high school

#### Adjourn

A motion was made by Tom Ivey and seconded by Ted Robinson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Taylor

Recording Secretary

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Dianne James, President

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Estelle Holmes, Secretary