

Hitchcock Independent School District

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2009

The Hitchcock Independent School District Board of Trustees met a Regular meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, held at the Hitchcock ISD Boardroom/Conference Facility located at 8004 North Railroad, Hitchcock, Texas. President Monica Cantrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

Late arrival Shirley Price, Member

Others: Mike Bergman, Superintendent; Nina Conway, Business Manager; Larry Allen, Hitchcock High School Principal; Randy Dowdy, Director of Student Support Services; Chris Armacost, Technology Director; Stephen Dubner, Attorney; Scott Brady, Joiner Partnership

Call to Order

Monica Cantrell, 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

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

Recognition

Glen Newsom, Head Boys Baseball Coach presented the 2008-2009 Boys Baseball Team to the Board. The Board presented Certificates of Recognition to each of the members for placing third in District and for advancing to the Bi-District playoffs.

Team Members:

Nick Newsom, Morris Tuck, Caleb Johnson, Sam Johnson, Robert Dohman, Kenny Navarro, Justin Williams, Justin Mata, Brandon Scott, Zac Tanner, Tommy Bond, Ervin Billiot, and Carl Elmore

Glen Newsom, Director, One-Act Play presented the cast and crew of the 2009 One-Act Play Competition. This year's play was "Flowers for Algernon". The Board presented Certificates of Recognition to each of the members.

Directors: Fred Zimmerman and Glen Newsom

Crew:
Jordan Holmes, Ervin Billiot, Liz Harper, Danielle Ivey

Actors:
Caleb Johnson, Sage Rouser, Kenny Navarro, Eddie Hicks, Sarah Johnson, Nick Newsom

Individual Awards:
Nick Newsom—All Star Cast
Eddie Hicks—All Star Cast Honorable Mention
Liz Harper—All Star Crew

Public Participation

Rev. Reginald Gilford addressed the Board regarding an Immersion Program for kindergarten students for bilingual education.

Governance

Trustee Election
May 9, 2009

Statement of Elected Officials and Oath of Office

Brenda Taylor administered the Statement of Elected Officials and the Oath of Office to Ted Robinson, Jr., Single Member District 4; Monica Cantrell, Single Member District 6; and Tom Ivey, Single Member District 7.

Presentation of Certificate of Election for Single Member District 4, 6, & 7

Brenda Taylor presented a Certificate of Election for Single Member District 4 to Ted Robinson, Jr., for Single Member District 6 to Monica Cantrell, and for Single Member District 7 to Tom Ivey.

Reorganization of the Board

President

A motion was made by Tom Ivey and seconded by Estelle Holmes to elect Dianne James as President.

Members in favor: Monica Cantrell, Tom Ivey, Estelle Holmes, Pat Turner,
Ted Robinson, Dianne James

Members abstained: Shirley Price

Motion carried with the majority in favor.

Vice President

A motion was made by Dianne James and seconded by Estelle Holmes to elect Monica Cantrell as Vice President.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Secretary

A motion was made by Pat Turner and seconded by Dianne James to elect Estelle Holmes as Secretary.

Motion carried with all in favor.

New officers were seated.

Dianne James, President
Monica Cantrell, Vice President
Estelle Holmes, Secretary

009-045

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Shirley Price to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and as recommended by the administration.

1. Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 21, 2009
2. Approved the Monthly Financial and Investment Report for month ending April 30, 2009
3. Approved the Monthly Tax Collection Report for month ending April 30, 2009
4. Approved the Monthly Kids First Head Start Financial Report, Check Register, and Monthly Kids First Head Start Report for month ending April 30, 2009
5. Approved the Greater Gulf Coast Cooperative/SHARS Financial Report and Monthly Check Register for month ending April 30, 2009
6. Approved TASB Localized Manual: Update 85 according to the Instruction Sheet
7. Approved the rule which determines local areas of acute teacher shortage in the District in accordance with board policy DC(LEGAL): Vocational Auto Mechanics and Band
8. Approved the Technology Plan for 2009-2012

Motion carried with all in favor.

Reports/Information

Construction Report

Dr. Bergman reported he attended a pre-construction meeting on Thursday, May 13 to discuss the final part of Phase 1: field house, concession, and gym addition. The start date for the final part of Phase 1 will be May 18.

Board Liaison Report—KFHS

Dianne James reported that the Board reviewed and approved the COLA Application for Kids First Head Start on May 7, 2009.

Action

009-046

Colors & Color schemes for New Primary School

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded Shirley Price to approve red carpet, walnut doors, and neutral colors for the new primary school.

After discussion, Estelle Holmes rescinded her motion.

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Shirley Price to accept the colors discussed: reds, light gray, dark gray for the new primary school. Samples of the acoustic tile will be sent to Central Office for the Board to review.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-047

Industrial Technical Education Contract between HISD and SFISD— Auto Tech/Bldg. Trades

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to approve the Industrial Technical Education Contract between Hitchcock ISD and Santa ISD for the 2009-2010 school year, as presented and as recommended by the administration.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-048

TEAM of Eight Board Training

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to set June 23, 2009, 6:30 PM as the date for TEAM of Eight Board Training with Kay Douglas, TASB Leadership Team Services.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-049
Goal Setting

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Pat Turner to set May 28, 2009 as the date for a Goal Setting Workshop, 6:30 PM.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-050
Cornerstone for the new Primary
School and the new High School

A motion was made by Tom Ivey and seconded by Monica Cantrell to postpone discussion on the placement of a cornerstone at the new primary school and the new high school by the Masons until the next meeting when a representative could be present.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-051
National Read First Conference in
Cincinnati, OH

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Monica Cantrell to approve the request for Ms. Chambers and Ms. Jones to attend the out-of-state National Reading First Grant Conference in Cincinnati, OH on July 14-16, 2009.

Motion carried with all in favor.

009-052
CenterPoint Energy Terms and
Conditions for Underground Electric
Service for New Primary School

It was the consensus of the Board to table action until advised by the District's attorney that all questionable language in the document concerning indemnity and liability are agreed upon. The Board requested that the item be brought back to the Board at their May 28 meeting.

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 to discuss legal issues including the contract, duties, and discipline of the Kids First Head Start Director; and legal issues regarding Level III Grievance of Brenda Kemmerling.

551.074 Personnel: Contract, duties, and discipline of Kids First Head Start Director

551.074, 551.082 Level III Grievance of Brenda Kemmerling

Reconvene from Closed Session

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:40 PM, for action, if any, from Closed Session.

Level III Grievance

A motion was made by Estelle Holmes and seconded by Ted Robinson to deny the Level III Grievance—Brenda Kemmerling for failure to file the grievance in a timely manner.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion: Contract, duties, and discipline of Kids First Head Start Director

The Board discussed in open session, as requested by Doreatha Walker, KFHS Director, the contract, duties, and discipline of the Kids First Head Start Director.

Dr. Bergman reported the following:

1. Failure to fulfill duties and responsibilities
2. Incompetency in the position
3. Insubordination for failure to comply with directives
4. Failure to maintain an efficient working relationship with staff, parents, and students
5. Misrepresentation of facts in conducting business

Dr. Bergman stated that he is in the process of formulating a recommendation to the Board.

Ms. Holmes asked Dr. Bergman if he recommended renewing her contract in March 2009, he replied that he did. The incidents he is referring to occurred after March.

Ms. James asked if evidence exists to support his statements and Dr. Bergman replied yes, he has e-mails, documentation, and tape recordings.

Ms. Turner asked if there was documentation of insubordination and Dr. Bergman replied yes, he has written documentation.

Ms. Turner asked about misrepresentation of facts and Dr. Bergman replied that the misrepresentation of facts was supported by statements from by Joe Smith and Betty Martins.

Dr. Bergman stated that he had specifics to back up his general statements and he would make a recommendation to the Board at the next meeting.

Future Agenda Items

1. Order a perpetual plaque for the ABC Award to be placed in the boardroom.
2. Investigate the Immersion Program and bring back findings to the Board.
3. Schedule a Parent Workshop—Scientific Calculators at the end of the summer or in the Fall.
4. Have a Science Fair to be held at the high school next year and to compel the science teachers to participate.
5. Have a Summer Reading Clinic for parents to help their children to read. Incorporate with the previous mentioned Parent Workshop.
6. Need to get parents to participate.
7. Explore membership in the National School Board Association and bring back as a report.

Announcements:

Upcoming events:

1. Honor Society Induction
2. Sports Banquet
3. Baccalaureate
4. Graduation

Adjournment

A motion was made by Pat Turner and seconded by Ted Robinson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Taylor
Recording Secretary

Dianne James, President

Estelle Holmes, Secretary