

Hitchcock Independent School District

Board Workshop
on
Thursday, October 2, 2008

The Hitchcock Independent School District Board of Trustees met at a Board Workshop on Thursday, October 2, 2008, held at the Hitchcock ISD Boardroom/ Conference Facility located at 8004 North Railroad, Hitchcock, Texas. President Monica Cantrell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present Monica Cantrell, President; Tom Ivey, Vice President; Ted Robinson, Member; Shirley Price, Member; Dianne James, Member

Late Arrival Pat Turner, Member, arrived at 6:40 PM

Members Absent Estelle Holmes, Secretary

Others Mike Bergman, Superintendent; Larry Allen, Principal, Hitchcock High School; Sandi Belcher, Asst. Principal, Hitchcock High School

Call to Order Monica Cantrell, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 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.

Workshop

Student Dress Code

The following concerns were expressed:

1. Dress code is not consistent from year to year
2. Dress code is not consistent from campus to campus
3. Implementation concerns for parents
4. All campus dress codes should be the same
5. Standardized dress is easier to enforce
6. Limit type of clothing choices
7. Red or white polo shirts or spirit shirts
8. Limit pants to 3 – 4 colors
9. Red, white, or blue—good options
10. Effective for the 2009-2010 school year
11. Want staff and parent input now so parents can buy clothes on sale
12. Give parents the opportunity to voice opinion
13. Some board members were not in favor of standardized dress codes across the campuses
14. Keep the dress code simple – important to keep kids in class
15. Some board members are in favor of collared shirts/polo shirts—any color
16. More and more school districts are moving away from the standardized dress code
17. What is the Board trying to accomplish with the dress code?

18. Dress codes in the work place are more relaxed now
19. Enforce the dress code we have now
20. Need teacher, principal, parent participation survey
21. Condense all dress codes into one policy and spell out the differences

Graduation Credits

No discussion is required; the district is in compliance with the State requirements.

“Bring Kids back to HISD”

Discussion as follows:

1. Take parent complaints through the chain-of-command
2. What is the Board doing to help parents understand?
3. Find means to communicate with parents and students
 - a. Moon walk
 - b. Registrations
 - c. Flyers
 - d. Distribute newsletter to businesses
 - e. Go to where the people are
 - i. Churches
 - ii. Community gatherings
 - iii. Address at apartments – set up meetings
4. Offer additional career and technology classes to our students
 - a. Cosmetology
 - b. Home economics
 - c. Choir

Shawn Woodard, patron, spoke the Board stating that they need a Parent Liaison to get the parents involved with their children at school; go door to door and talk to parents and students; plan activities in the community; have social programs; male/female role models lead activities once a week or on weekend; give stipend for extra time; reach kids who are left out of activities; recruit volunteers.

The Board requested that the position of Parent Liaison be brought to the Board at the next Board meeting.

Closed Session

Monica Cantrell, President, called the members of the Board of Trustees into Closed Session at 7:57 PM for the purposes permitted as authorized by the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code:

- 551.071 Consultation with the District’s Attorney Stephen Dubner of the Law Office of Stephen Dubner to discuss land purchase
- 551.072 Discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property
- 551.074 Personnel matters
 - Discuss Superintendent’s contract
 - Discuss Non-chapter 21 contract and at-will status
 - Discuss other personnel matters

Reconvene from
Closes Session

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:20 PM, for action, if any from Closed Session.

Motion 1

A motion was made by Dianne James and seconded by Ted Robinson to move Brenda Taylor, Superintendent's Secretary, from a One-Year Non-Chapter 21 contract to an at-will employee effective October 6, 2008.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Future Agenda Items

1. Superintendent's Contract on October 21, 2008 – Closed Session
2. Set date for workshop to review pre-kindergarten qualifications/process

Announcements

1. Hitchcock Bulldogs are ranked third in State—football
2. Pep Rally at 2 PM
3. Volleyball begins
4. Bulldog hats and shirts – call Nadine to order

Adjournment

A motion was made by Pat Turner and seconded by Tom Ivey to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Taylor
Superintendent's Secretary

Monica Cantrell, President

Tom Ivey, Vice President