

SWEET HOME INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
August 14, 2023

A meeting was called to order by President Ray Peagler at 5:30pm. A quorum was present, the meeting was duly called, and notice of meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law. All members were present.

Billy Berger with RMA presented the Facilities Assessment. SHISD facilities are noncompliant in regard to accessibility and cafeteria and library size. Other major areas of concern are building disrepair and cafeteria functionality. Mr. Berger offered additional information on area buildings and projects.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read. Johnny Turk made a motion to accept the minutes. Amy Picha seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Due to an account signature issue at Crossroads Bank, no bills or budget status was available. This will be resolved after the current meeting.

Nathan Wenske nominated Amy Picha as Board Secretary. Ray Peagler seconded. All approved, motion carried. There were no budget amendments at this time.

Dr. Pohl presented TASB Policy Updates 120 and 121 for approval. Robin Boswell made a motion to approve; Johnny Turk seconded. All approved, motion carried.

The board reviewed a listing of 10 nonbusiness Public Information Act days required by HB 3033. Johnny Turk made a motion to approve Dr. Pohl's recommended nonbusiness PIA days for 2023 and 2024.

The board then considered the candidates for TASB Board of Directors who would represent Region 3 and our interests. Robin Boswell made a motion to approve Margaret Pruettt based on Dr. Pohl's recommendation. Johnny Turk seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dr. Pohl reviewed the 2023-24 T-TESS Appraisal Calendar with the board. Amy Picha made a motion to approve the 2023-24 T-TESS Appraisal Calendar; Robin Boswell seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Robin Boswell made a motion to approve SHISD Superintendent Dr. Pohl as the District Investment Officer. Ray Peagler seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Nathan Wenske made a motion to approve SHISD Superintendent Dr. Pohl and SHISD Board President Ray Peagler as named signature authorities on additional Crossroads Bank accounts. Robin Boswell seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dr. Pohl stated Function 240 is working at an approximate \$40,000 deficit. After checking with other area schools, most operate with a deficit in the same function, however at a much lower deficit. Dr. Pohl recommended increasing the lunch price by \$.05 to help curb this year's deficit while other options are explored. Nathan Wenske made a motion to approve the cafeteria price increase and Ray Peagler seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dr. Pohl then presented the revisions to the Student Code of Conduct and Handbook based on TASB Updates 120 and 121. Johnny Turk made a motion to approve the revisions to the Code of Conduct. Robin Boswell seconded. All approved, motion carried.

A Resolution Regarding Armed Personnel stating the district qualifies for an exemption to the HB3 mandate requiring the hiring of an armed security guard. In lieu of an armed security guard the district will employ a school marshal or guardian as designated by the superintendent to comply with the HB 3 mandate. Robin Boswell made a motion to approve and adopt the resolution. Jeff Points seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Nathan Wenske made a motion to schedule the public meeting for SHISD Budget and Proposed Tax Rate on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Ray Peagler seconded. All approved, motion carried.

The board reviewed the proposed tax rate of 0.6828 which is a 0.2316 cent decrease from the previous year. Robin Boswell made a motion to approve publishing the proposed tax rate. Amy Picha seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Nathan Wenske made a motion to approve the TEKS Certification for 2023-24 allowing the district access to EMAT Instructional Materials with our allotted funds of \$29,000. Amy Picha seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dr. Pohl updated the board on back-to-school progress with staff in-service day activities, facility improvements, and a safety collaboration with county agencies. SHISD has also been awarded a \$200,000 safety and security grant to be used for compliance with new safety standards from TEA. Results from an unofficial safety audit revealed the front perimeter fence complies as well as the door locks, and panic alert system. Non-compliant items are side and rear fencing, windows that need shatter resistant film and a visitor entry system. A district safety and security committee is also recruiting additional members and will meet in the summer, fall and spring.

Dr. Pohl then presented the proposed 2023-24 budget. The actual 2022-23 budget won't be final until August 31 and there are 2 months not included in the actual numbers thus far. Most significant changes in the budget are shifts from


one function to another. Operational changes to help alleviate the deficit in Function 240 fund include following up on outstanding balances from the 2022-23 school year, requesting prepayments for the 2023-24 school year and encouraging participation from parents in returning completed Free/Reduced Lunch forms.

Projected enrollment for the 2023-24 school year is 140.

The board went into closed session at 7:47pm and resumed open session at 8:47pm.

Johnny Turk made a motion to approve the transfer applicants as recommended by Dr. Pohl. Ray Peagler seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Robin Boswell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nathan Wenske seconded. All approved, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm.



Ray Peagler, Board President



Amy Picha, Board Secretary