

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Fabens ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, January 16, 2019, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present:	Adan Escobar	Orlando Flores
	Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia	Sylvia Gonzales
	Ben Morales	Rey Sepulveda
	Greg Spence	

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present:	Mrs. Michele Gonzalez	Mr. Gilbert Alarcon
	Mr. Jacob Belshe	Dr. Sam Hogue
	Dr. Joe Keith	Mr. Alex Navarro
	Mr. Stacey Nunez	Mrs. Corina Ruiz
	Mr. Jorge Saenz	

Maria T. Rodriguez

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mr. Orlando Flores, Board President. At Roll Call all members were in attendance. Mrs. Michele Gonzalez led everyone in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Superintendent's Report

A. Bragging Rights

1. FHS Paola Holguin - Softball Scholarship

2. FHS Area Band Participants

After opening the item, Mrs. Michele Gonzalez, Acting Superintendent, had Mr. Jacob Belshe, FHS Athletic Director, highlight Ms. Paola Holguin. Coach Belshe listed Paola Holguin's accomplishments both academically and athletically. He stated she had recently signed with Trinidad College in Colorado after receiving a softball scholarship. Paola was presented with a banner which will be hanging at Central Office for a few weeks.

Mr. Miguel Soto, FHS Band Director, provided everyone present with information regarding all the students that had made the All Regional Band and advanced to Area. There were a total of 10 students. Mr. Soto invited the Board and all present to the All Region Band Concert in San Elizario on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at San Elizario High School Auditorium. One student from Fabens High School – Isabella Cortez advanced to State. She performed a short musical piece for the Board and all present.

3. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting - December 19, 2018

B. Minutes of Special Meeting - January 7, 2019

Mrs. Gonzalez opened the item and read the list on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Rey Sepulveda requested the correction of removing Mr. Marcos Salcido III and listing Mrs. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia. With that correction Mr. Sepulveda made the motion to approve the list of Consent Agenda items and the motion was seconded by Mr. Ben Morales.

Motion Carried 7 – 0

4. January 2019 Fabens ISD School Board Recognition Month

Mrs. Michele Gonzalez opened the item and read off a Proclamation recognizing the board members for their service to our district and community. Certificates were handed out and small tokens of appreciation were given to the members by the campuses and departments. Mr. Flores thanked his fellow board members.

5. Update on Fabens ISD 2018 - 2019 Campus Attendance Averages

Mrs. Gonzalez opened the item and had each campus administrator highlight the additional initiatives/incentives each one is doing to help increase attendance at their respective campus. A Power Point presentation was shown to the Board members and community present. Board members were able to ask questions of the different initiatives/incentives and their success. Each campus is working to increase their attendance for the following semester.

6. Fabens ISD 2017 - 2018 Annual Financial and Compliance Report

Mr. Gilbert Alarcon opened the item and introduced the district's auditor Robert Gattilia with Singleton, Clark and Company. Mr. Gattilia provided the Board with their copy of the Annual Financial and Compliance Report for the year ended August 31, 2018. He stated to the board and community present that he would be covering different parts of the packet and that he would answer any questions they had. He began with stating that the district has received an Unmodified opinion on its financial statements this year which he stated is the rating one hopes to receive. He reviewed different parts of the audit with the Board and answered questions as they

went along the packet. He reviewed and restated as required prior year financial statement findings and answered questions regarding the past findings to the best of his knowledge. He stated his concern with the Fund Balance and low reserves and possible issues that would help were also discussed. After reviewing the audit packet, Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve the annual financial and compliance report for the year ended August 2018 as presented.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

7. Fabens ISD 2016 - 2017 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Final Report

Mr. Gilbert Alarcon opened the item and announced that this was an informational item for the Board and community present. Mr. Alarcon provided everyone present with a copy of the FIRST report and announced that the district's 2017 - 2018 FIRST rating based on school year 2016 - 2017 data was "Failed". He reviewed each of the indicators with the Board and community present and explained that with the indicator #1 asking if the financial report and data were submitted to the TEA within the 30 days of our deadline, Mr. Alarcon answered No – we failed all other indicators. Mr. Alarcon reviewed the disclosures and provided the copy of Superintendent Garcia's contract. He explained that a copy of the letter the district's auditor sent to the TEA was also attached.

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Allow the Posting for a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP) or Special Education Counselor

Mr. Jorge Saenz, Special Education Director, presented the item. He reviewed the memo that had been sent to them in their packets. He pointed out the differences in a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology and a Special Education Counselor. He explained that currently there are two contracted LSSPs who are not allowed to take time off from their full-time jobs to conduct their evaluations with us during the day. Consequently, these evaluations are conducted after school or on weekends while it is not an ideal setting. Mr. Saenz explained the difference in billing under SHARS between a LSSP and a counselor. The district would be able to recoup a sizeable amount of the cost to employ an LSSP position with SHARS. Questions were asked if this was a new position. Mr. Saenz did say that we have never had a LSSP but funding (salary) would come out of the counselor's position. After a short discussion, Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Adan Escobar seconded to revisit the issue with our new superintendent.

Motion Carried 5 – 2

Voting Against: R. Gallo-Avitia
and O. Flores

9. Discussion and Possible Action to Allow the Completion of the Hiring Process Already in Progress for Campus Staff

Mrs. Michele Gonzalez opened the item and wished for the Board to discuss the possibility of completing the hiring process for the 5th grade class that has a permanent sub currently in place. Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales had questions regarding how the students were being taught. Mrs. Michele Gonzalez did clarify that there are team teachers and the class does have one certified teacher for part of their day. After the discussion Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Greg Spence seconded to wait for Dr. Vijil to complete hiring of staff as needed in our campuses.

Motion Carried 4 - 3
Voting Against: O. Flores,
R. Gallo-Avitia and R. Sepulveda

10. District Employees and Officers

Under this item, Mrs. Michele Gonzalez informed the Board that CVECHS English Teacher, Ms. Priscilla Duran, had been hired under the District of Innovation Letter of Reasonable Assurance in December and started the new year at the early college.

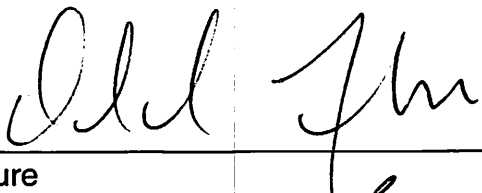
11. Communications and Visitors

Under this item no one signed up to address the Board.

12. Adjourn

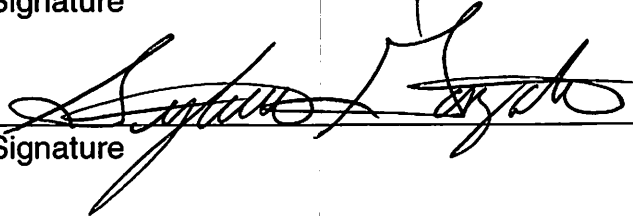
There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rey Sepulveda and second by Mr. Greg Spence to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

Motion Carried 7 - 0



Signature

02/20/2019
Date



Signature