Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Fabens ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, March 13, 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:	Dr. Veronica Vijil	Ms. Michele Gonzalez
	Mr. Jacob Belshe	Mr. Ruben Carrillo
	Mr. Mario Dominguez	Ms. Anne Esparza
	Dr. Sam Hogue	Dr. Joe Keith
	Mr. Alex Navarro	Mr. Stacey Nunez
	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. Dr. Vijil led everyone in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Superintendent's Report**

   A. Bragging Rights

   1. **FHS District Champion/State Qualifying Wrestler - Belen Chavez**
   2. **FHS District Champion/State Qualifying Wrestler - Juan Sanchez**

   Dr. Vijil opened the item and asked Mr. Belshe, Athletic Director, to present the item. Mr. Belshe provided a short history of the wrestling season. He asked for Coach Rogers to highlight our District Champions; Belen Chavez and Juan Sanchez. Coach Rogers thanked Dr. Sam Hogue, Cotton Valley Early College High School for all his help with the program. Coach Rogers read off the wrestlers season record and congratulated them for a successful season. The Board asked that parents that were present, stand to be recognized. Mr. Belshe announced that Juan Sanchez would have a signing ceremony with Shriner University where he received a wrestling scholarship and as soon as a date was set, he would invite all members.

3. **Consent Agenda**

   A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting - February 20, 2019

   Dr. Vijil opened the item; Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mrs. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia second to approve the February 20, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion Carried 7 – 0

4. **Approval of ERate Year 22: School Year 2019 - 2020 Request for Proposal**

   Mr. Mario Dominguez presented the item and provided the Board members with the tally sheets and recommendation form for the RFP. He provided a short history on the process of the RFP for ERate Year 22. Board members had a few questions regarding the proposal, cost and services. After a short discussion Mr. Adan Escobar made a motion, Mr. Ben Morales second to approve the selection for the ERate services as presented.

   Motion Carried 7 - 0

5. **Review, Discussion and Approval of Engagement Letter from Singleton, Clark and Co. PC Certified Public Accountants**

   Dr. Vijil opened the item and explained to the Board that the engagement letter enclosed was from our current auditors who initially start the audit during the summer but was requesting permission to begin paying for the services. Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Greg Spence second to approve the engagement letter as submitted and approve payments for the 2018 – 2019 audit.

   Motion Carried 7 - 0

6. **Review, Discussion and Approval of Spectrum Invoices**

   Dr. Vijil opened the item and had Mr. Mario Dominguez present and answer questions from the Board. Dr. Vijil explained that currently the District pays for 10% of the Spectrum cost with ERate paying 90%. Our invoices are overdue, but the District will be meeting with Spectrum to ensure that no monies are due to the district for the charges billed. Dr. Vijil reviewed individual invoices with the Board and answered a few questions. Mr. Mario Dominguez did clarify that if any credit is due to the District, Spectrum would be making that in form of a credit to the account. After the presentation, Mr. Rey Sepulveda motioned and Mr. Greg Spence second to approve the payment of past due Spectrum invoices as presented.

   Motion Carried 6 – 1
   Voting Against: S. Gonzales

   Mr. Greg Spence requested clarification on Item #6 regarding only a motion for a question being made. After answering, Mr. Flores asked for a motion: Mr. Rey Sepulveda motioned and Mr. Ben Morales second to pay past due Spectrum invoices as presented.

   Motion Carried 6 – 1
   Voting Against: S. Gonzales

Noted Correction: At the April 17, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, Mr. Greg Spence requested that a correction be made to Item #6. After reviewing the recording of the March meeting; a motion for a question had in fact only been made by Mr. Rey Sepulveda and seconded by Mr. Greg Spence with no recommendation from the Administration being made. A vote of 6 -1 was recorded last month but after the clarification the motion to pay past due Spectrum invoices as presented made by Mr. Rey Sepulveda and seconded by Mr. Ben Morales passed with a 7 – 0 vote.

7. **Discussion of History of Closed Positions/Staffing**
Dr. Vijil opened the item and had Ms. Anne Esparza present the item regarding a request from our last board meeting on replacing teachers. Ms. Esparza had a Power Point presentation where she provided a summary of student enrollment, teacher counts and loss of teachers per campus.

8. **December End-of-Course/Texas Academic Performance Report Follow-Up**
Mrs. Michele Gonzalez presented the item with a Power Point Presentation. Questions from the Board were answered by the campus administrators and new interventions were discussed.

The second part of this item was presented by Mrs. Gonzalez who provided a sample of reports which can be created by the National Student Clearinghouse program. Previously, a request was made by the Board regarding being able to track students after they graduate. Mrs. Gonzalez answered questions and informed the Board that at cost of $425 per year per high school the clearinghouse program is available.

9. **Fabens ISD 2019 - 2020 Academic Calendar**
Mrs. Michele Gonzalez presented the item and informed the Board that the two (2) calendars developed by the District Improvement Team were presented to the staff for vote. The winning calendar was reviewed and Mrs. Gonzalez did highlight a change that was made (moved a staff development date from Monday, February 10, 2020 to February 17, 2020); which would not affect the calendar selected by the employees. She reviewed the calendar legend and informed the Board that our new calendar did not have Cesar Chavez and Veteran's Day off, which generated a discussion on how the District would honor those events. Mrs. Gonzalez explained that the DIT teacher members would create lessons teaching about Cesar Chavez and Veteran's Day. After answering a few more questions, Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales second to approve the 2019 – 2020 Academic Calendar as presented.

Motion Carried 6 – 1
Voting Against: R. Sepulveda

10. **Discussion of Fabens ISD Board Policy GKD: Community Relations - Nonschool Use of School Facilities**
Dr.Vijil opened the item and reviewed our current policy GKD Local. After a lengthy discussion regarding our facilities, rental fees, percentage of Fabens

students, request process and consistency a motion was made by Mr. Ben Morales and second by Mr. Adan Escobar to table the item for a future board meeting.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

11. Fabens ISD Proclamation 2019 Textbook Adoption

Mrs. Michele Gonzalez presented the item and reviewed the recommendations submitted for the textbook selections for the new textbook adoption. After reviewing the Fabens Elementary, O'Donnell Intermediate and Fabens Middle School selections, a motion was made by Mr. Greg Spence and second by Mr. Rey Sepulveda to approve the list of textbooks for adoption as presented.

Motion Carried 6 – 0

Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales has stepped out of the board room.

12. Discussion of Fabens ISD Board Policy DED: Compensation and Benefits - Vacations and Holidays

Dr. Vijil opened the item and explained to the board the current local policy addressing vacation days for maintenance, transportation and security employees. As policy currently reads, these employees must use their current vacation days by June 30th, Dr. Vijil is requesting approval to extend the deadline to December 31st of that year in order to allow more time for the employees to use their days. Dr. Vijil stated that the Administrative Regulation that address exempt and non-exempt employees would also be included. After a brief discussion, Mr Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Adan Escobar second to approve the extending of the deadline to use vacation days by six months to December 31st.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

13. Communication and Visitors

Under this item Mrs. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia addressed the Board and community present regarding the current conference (Mexican American School Board Association) she attended in Austin and thanked the district for the opportunity which was very empowering and informative on legislative issues affecting education.

Mr. Rey Sepulveda addressed the Board and community and highlighted the sessions he attended at the MASBA Conference in Austin. He also thanked the District for the opportunity.

Mr. Marcos Martinez, community member addressed the Board and offered his services thru Texas Rio Grand Legal Aid for the planning of lessons, presentations or quests for Cesar Chavez Day. Mr. Martinez asked that the Board look into some of the issues of concern:

- TRE, availability of TRE funds and fulfilling TRE promises
- Fund Balance

- Writing off Assets
- Collaborating with UTEP student interns to provide help in the classroom

Mr. Orlando Flores stated he had also attended the MASBA conference and also thanked the District. He also congratulated Dr. Vijil for her recent recognition at the El Paso Commissioners Court by State Board of Education Representative Georgina Perez and commissioners.

14. District Employees and Officers (Texas Government Code 551.074)

A. Superintendent Recommendations Regarding Employment and Contract Status of Administrators

1. **Assistant Superintendent for Leadership, Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction**
2. **Dean of Instruction**
3. **Principals**
4. **Assistant Principals**
5. **Directors**

Dr. Vijil read off the list of employees and after a few questions regarding employees and job descriptions the item was taken into Executive Session at 9:18 PM. The meeting reconvened at 9:46 PM with Board President stating it was an information item only.

15. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Program Change(s) and to Determine Employment Area(s) Pursuant to Fabens ISD Board Policy DFFB: Reduction in Force - Program Change

Dr. Vijil opened the item and stated that there are currently 2 areas with excess staff. She requested to move forward with a reduction in staff in the areas of: HS English Arts and CTE Business Information Management. She stated that the Superintendent would bring back specific recommendations at a future board meeting. A motion to approve her request to move forward was made by Mr. Rey Sepulveda and second by Mr. Greg Spence.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

16. Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rey Sepulveda and second by Mrs. Sylvia Gonzales to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 PM.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

Signature

05/15/2019
Date

Signature