Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Fabens ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, August 25, 2021 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present:	Orlando Flores (Central Office) Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia (Central Office) Sylvia Gonzales (Central Office) Viola Hernandez (Central Office) Ben Morales (Central Office) Greg Spence (Central Office)
Members Absent:	Adan Escobar
Administrators Present:	Dr. Veronica Vijil Ms. Michele Gonzalez Mr. Martin Torres Ms. Audry Ortegon-Galvan Mr. Michael Perez Maria T. Rodriguez

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance and Fabens ISD Vision Statement – 6:38 PM**
The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Board President, Mr. Benjamin Morales. All members were in attendance except Mr. Adan Escobar. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

2. **Communication and Visitors – 6:39 PM**
Under this item there were no comments received.

With District Legal Counsel present a motion was made by Mr. Greg Spence and seconded by Ms. Sylvia Gonzales to move to Item 5.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

3. **Superintendent Report – 6:41 – 7:47 PM**
A. Texas Tech Paul Foster School of Medicine Volunteers
Dr. Vijil opened the item and announced that each year, new medical students from Texas Tech Health Science Center visit Fabens ISD to learn about the community and needs. Two of those students, Ozioma Akahara and Michaela Gatan, reached out afterwards to propose a volunteer tutoring program for middle and high school. They hope to increase the amount of tutoring and mentorship opportunities available to Fabens ISD and promote and issue quality education in middle and high school.

B. COVID -19 Update
Dr. Vijil provided current numbers: 30 total active cases – 29 students – 1 staff. Protocol in place in all campuses for contact tracing and notifying parents. She thanked everyone for their patience as we continue with the situation

C. Back to School Report
Dr. Vijil announced that Fabens ISD currently has 1983 students enrolled. We have classes larger than we would like and continue to actively recruit and hire teachers for vacancies, for class size reduction and for accelerated instruction. Attendance has taken a hit as parents exercise caution and keep students home if COVID or cold-like symptoms appear. We are averaging 91% attendance. She stated that the initial round of supplies ordered by the district have been distributed and the larger packets have arrived and are being provided to the students.

4. **Consent Agenda**

A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 21, 2021
B. Fabens ISD Monthly Financial Reports
C. Resolution Adopting a List of Qualified Brokers that are Authorized to Engage in Investment Transactions with Fabens ISD
D. Resolution of the Fabens ISD Board of Trustees Regarding Review of Investment Program
E. 2021 - 2022 Texas Education Agency Waiver(s)
  1. Special Education Remote Homebound Instruction - Individual Case Waiver
F. 2021 - 2022 Interlocal Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of El Paso County Juvenile Alternative Education Programs Pursuant to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code
G. Approval of 2021 - 2022 Fabens ISD Liability, Worker's Compensation, Student Accident, Errors and Omission, Property/Equipment, Casualty Insurances and Cyber Suite Liability Renewals
H. Fabens ISD Purchases Exceeding $50,000
  1. Renaissance
  2. CDW - G - Promethian Interactive Panels
  3. Ep Tech - Front Row Security Classroom Kits
  4. ProComputing - Interactive Video Walls
  5. HB ProSound - LED Video Walls
  6. Dell Technologies - Laptops
  7. Varitec Solutions - Air Purification System
I. Fabens ISD and El Paso Community College Dual Credit Partnership Agreement
J. Fabens ISD and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Data Use Agreement
Dr .Vijil opened the item and read the list of Consent Agenda items; a motion was made by Mr. Orlando Flores and seconded by Rosamaria Gallo-Aviita to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

5. **Board of Trustees Business**

A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Legal Issues and Options Regarding Executive Order by the Governor of the State of Texas GA-38 and El Paso Local Health Order Dated August 17, 2021 – 6:40–7:37 PM

This item was taken into Executive Session along with Item 5B per Tx. Govt. Code 551.071 at 6:40 PM.
The Board reconvened at 7:36 PM and announced that a consensus had been reached and that Fabens ISD would continue to support and encourage compliance with the City of El Paso Health Authority Order about indoor mask mandate dated August 17, 2021.

B. Review Interlocal Agreement for the Purpose of Participation and Intervention in Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) Proceeding PUC Docket No. 52195, SOAH Docket No. 473-21-2606, Application of El Paso Electric Company to Change Rates
This item was taken into Executive Session along with Item 5A per Tx. Govt. Code 551.071 at 6:40 PM. The Board reconvened at 7:36 PM

C. Take Appropriate Action Related to Entering into an Interlocal Agreement for the Purpose of Participation and Intervention in Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) Proceeding PUC Docket No. 52195, SOAH Docket No. 473-21-2606, Application of El Paso Electric Company to Change Rates – 7:38 – 7:41 PM
A motion was made by Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Aviita and seconded by Ms. Sylvia Gonzales to authorize the Superintendent to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with other El Paso County school districts and like entities to participate and intervene in Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) proceeding, PUC Docket No. 52195, SOAH Docket no. 473-21-2606, application el El Paso Electric Company to change rates, authorize the hiring of special counsel at the law firm of Husch Blackwell LLP to represent the District in the matter, and authorize the El Paso Independent School District to be the fiscal agent for the group representation, and to commit an amount not to exceed $3,400 to pay for legal fees, expert fees, and expenses in that matter.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

D. Discuss and Consider Adoption of an Order Authorizing the Issuance of Fabens Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2021, Establishing Sale Parameters, Authorizing the Execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement and an Escrow Agreement; Approving an Official Statement; and Enacting other Provisions Relating to the Subject – 7:49 – 7:59 PM
Mr. Martin Torres, Director of Business and Finance opened the item and presented Mr. Robert Tijerina. Mr. Tijerina presented the item and reviewed the information provided to the members in their packets. He stated that the district has the opportunity to refinance the bonds at a lower interest rate and save the district approximately $50,000 per year. The district will not be extending the term/maturity of the bonds only looking to lower the interest rate. This refunding would take place only if interest rates hold steady or decrease. After the presentation, Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Ms. Viola Hernandez seconded to approve the adoption of the Order authorizing the issuance of Fabens Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2021, establishing sale parameters, authorizing the execution of a bond purchase agreement and an escrow agreement; approving an official statement; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

E. Approval of Fabens ISD 2020 - 2021 Child Nutrition Fund Balance Transfer – 7:59 – 8:02 PM

Ms. Marcela Licerio, Child Nutrition Director, presented the item and informed the board that the Texas Department of Agriculture had approved the budget amendment of $137,643.36. After presenting the item, Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Aviita seconded to approve the child nutrition fund balance transfer as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

F. First Reading of Texas Association of School Board (TASB) Board Policy Update 117 Affecting Local Policies: 8:02 – 8:05 PM

1. **CH - Purchasing and Acquisition**
2. **CV - Facilities Construction**
3. **DEC - Compensation and Benefits - Leaves and Absences**

Ms. Audry Ortegon-Galvan opened the item and reviewed the list of local policies affected by Update 117. She asked the Board if anyone had questions regarding the information in their packets. She stated that the TASB Update 117 would be placed on the September board meeting for approval.

G. Adoption of Fabens ISD 2021 - 2022 Budget – 8:05 – 8:08 PM

Mr. Martin Torres, Director of Business and Finance presented the item and asked if there were any new questions about the presentation during the public meeting earlier in the evening. Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia seconded to approve the 2021 – 2022 Fabens ISD budget as presented to include the Model 2 (3%) pay increase, substitute teacher pay increases, and COVID-19 days (10).

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

H. Adoption of Fabens ISD 2021 - 2022 Tax Rate – 8:08 – 8:10 PM

Mr. Martin Torres opened the item and asked if there were any new questions about the tax presentation given earlier in the evening. Mr. Orlando Flores motioned and Ms. Viola Hernandez seconded to approve the 2021 – 2022 tax rate at:
Maintenance and Operation - $1.0295 and Interest and Sinking – $.3030 for a total of $1.33259.

Motion Carried: 6-0

I. Designation of Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate and Alternate – 8:10 – 8:14 PM

Board President, Ben Morales opened the item and requested nominations:
Ms. Sylvia Gonzales nominated and Mr. Greg Spence seconded the nomination for Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia as the TASB Delegate.

Ms. Viola Hernandez was nominated for TASB Alternate but due to work conflicts/schedule she declined the nomination.

Nomination Carried: 6 – 0

Mr. Orlando Flores nominated and Ms. Viola Hernandez seconded the nomination for Ms. Sylvia Gonzales as the TASB Alternate. Ms. Gonzales did ask if the conference would be held in person or virtual. She was informed that it would be in person.

Nomination Carried: 6 - 0

J. Approval of Texas Education Agency Connect Texas Reimburseable Expenditures – 8:14 – 8:22 PM

Mr. Michael Perez, Technology Director, presented the item and reviewed the information in the board members packets. He requested approval of the reimbursable expenditure of $481,803.61. Mr. Perez also provided information about:

What is TEA Connect Texas (TEACT)? How is the District working with TEACT? What the requirements are? What are the eligibility requirements? What are the TEACT phases? How do parents reserve free internet services? How can parents complete the application? What parents need to do with technology issues? How will the internet access be kept safe for the students? How will parents end the internet service?

6. **Lone Star Governance (LSG) – 8:22 – 8:25 PM**

A. Fabens Independent School District Board of Trustees Quarterly Self-Assessment

Ms. Monica Jaloma, LSG Coach, asked that the item be tabled in order to review the goal progress measures prior to the next board quarterly self-assessment. The monitoring calendar still needs to be adopted. Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded to table the item until the next board meeting.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

7. **District Employees and Officers – 8:26 – 8:28 PM**

A. 2021 - 2022 New Hires

Ms. Audry Ortegon, Director of Human Resources, opened the item and introduced new hires who all thanked the board for the opportunity to work at Fabens ISD:

Ms. Samantha Delgado – FES Principal, Ms. Claudia Torres – FES Assistant Principal and Mr. Edgar Rincon – FHS Principal.

All new hires were welcomed to the District.

8. **Adjourn – 8:30 PM**

There being no further business, Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Orlando Flores seconded to adjourn at 8:30 PM.

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Signature	Signature	09/15/2021 Date