

Terrell County Independent School District

Sanderson, Texas 79848

Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2024, Board Meeting

The Terrell County Independent School District convened for the regular meeting on Wednesday, March 27, at 7:00 P.M., in the conference room at the Sanderson High School, 302 North Second Street, Sanderson, Texas.

Trustees Present:

Mr. Jon Tom Lowrance

Mr. Fernando Sanchez

Mrs. Lali Ortiz

Mr. Clay Houston

Mr. Marco Fuentes

Mr. Chris Case

Mr. Enrique Rivera

Administration and TCISD Staff Present: Tanna Lowrance, Superintendent, Justin Hilliard, Athletic Director, Blain Chriesman, Chief Financial Officer, David Carrasco, Technology Director, Virginia Garza, School Counselor, Micaela Fuentes, Helen Daillet, Erica Sanchez,

Community Members:

Laycee Lowrance, Euphemie Daillet, Thalia Sanchez, Robin Deneergaard, Marco Fuentes, Colby Blaylock

Regular Meeting

A quorum was established with Mrs. Ortiz presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. The pledges were said, and a moment of silence was observed.

Public Comments/Audience Participation TCISD Policy BED (LOCAL) pursuant to Gov't Code §551.007:

Robin Deneergaard spoke regarding "bullying, targeting and singling out a student".

Student Recognitions:

State XC Debate (Thalia and Mimi) was recognized for their silver medal finish in the Texas 1A Cross Debate meet in Austin. Texas Citizen's Bee is sending a student to state for the second year in a row. Harper won gold and will go to the State Convention in April. Two juniors were selected for Girl's State, Laycee and Thalia. The elementary, junior high, and high school students are making great strides in reading and setting new reading goals each week.

District Reports:

- a. **Athletic Report:** - Coach Hilliard reported on the following:
 - i. Spring Sports are underway with students participating in tennis, track and golf.
 - ii. District competition is coming up and we are hoping to have students advance.
 - iii. New aluminum bleachers have been ordered to replace the old ones at the tennis courts.
 - iv. Sanderson will be district football chair for the 24-25 and 25-26 school years.
 - v. Updates to the athletic policy are already underway for the 24-25 school year.
- b. **Counselor's Report:** - Mrs. Garza reported on the following:
 - i. Working on the FASFA opt-out form for some seniors.

- ii. Local scholarships have gone out to seniors.
- iii. Students have been busy with AT, TSI, SAT testing.
- iv. Teachers have had STAAR training.
- v. 8th grade orientation is planned for April 17th.
- vi. Sul Ross is hosting a health fair 'camp' open to our high school students.
- vii. Applications for the Tony Gonzalez internship have gone out.
- viii. High School District UIL is April 5th in Rankin, students and teachers are working hard to compete well.

Technology Report - David Carrasco reported on the following:

- i. New network switches have been purchased with the TCISD Bond funds.
- ii. Abacus will be on site to install the new network switch April 5th.
- iii. 14 Clevertouch Panels have been ordered for classrooms to replace Promethean boards.
- iv. Adobe has been purchased / renewed for the PAAV class, HS CTE classes and yearbook
- v. New tables are being ordered for the HS CTE lab

c. **Financial Report**- Mr. Chriesman reported on the following:

- i. Mr. Chriesman reported on the monthly financial report
- ii. he also explained the list of bills and checks in the board packet
- iii. budget amendments included insurance and items purchased for the Guardian program

d. **Superintendent's Report** – Mrs. Lowrance reported on the following:

- i. All busses are back on campus and running well
- ii. The new track is still functioning as intended and the Rio Grand Relays went well
- iii. Mrs. Lowrance is working with Region 18 and an online auction company to sell surplus items this summer
- iv. The March-May calendar was presented
- v. Bond projects underway are: new bleachers for the tennis courts have been ordered, the ultra coachliner has been ordered, two mini busses need to be ordered, quotes for the science lab and additional classroom wall are in the works, a company has been contacted about new lights in the library and around the exterior of the JH building
- vi. TCISD Policy Review will be July 8-10 with TASB
- vii. To date Pre-K enrollment is 3 students
- viii. A survey has gone out to teaching staff regarding a 4 day school week
- ix. SLI for School Board Training is June 12-15 in San Antonio

Consent Agenda:

Approval of the minutes from the regular Meeting on March 27, 2024.

A motion was made by Mr. Houston to accept the minutes as presented and a second was made by Mr. Lowrance. It was approved 5-0, with abstaining from Mr. Rivera and Mr. Fuentez.

A motion was made by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Lowrance to accept the budget amendments as presented. It was approved 5-0, with abstaining from Mr. Rivera and Mr. Fuentez.

Action Items:

- a. **Discussion and possible approval to continue with the Walsh Gallegos attorney retainer.**
The motion was made to continue with Walsh Gallegos by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Houston. The motion passed 7-0.

b. Discussion and possible approval of the TCISD Athletic Handbook Updates

This was tabled until the July meeting.

c. Consideration of continuing the district's audit engagement with Singleton & Clark, P.C. for the 2023-2024 Fiscal year and authorizing management / superintendent to sign the Audit Engagement Letter

The motion was made to continue the district's audit engagement with Singleton & Clark, P.C. for the 2024-2025 Fiscal year and authorizing management / superintendent to sign the Audit Engagement Letter by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Fuentes. The motion was approved 7-0.

d. Discussion and possible approval of retention bonuses for certified staff and at-will employees for the 2024-2025 school year

The motion was made to approve retention bonuses for teaching staff at a rate of \$2000 and \$1500 for non-teaching staff by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Fuentes. The motion carried 7-0.

e. Discussion and possible approval of the 2024-2025 Budget Calendar

The motion was made to approve the 2024-2025 Budget calendar by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Rivera. The motion was approved 7-0.

f. Discussion and possible approval of authorizing the Superintendent to move forward with the purchase of two 14 passenger busses, one with handicapped accessibility

The motion was made to approve the Superintendent to move forward with the purchase of two 14 passenger busses, one with handicapped accessibility with a budget of \$25,000 by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Rivera. The motion was approved 7-0.

g. Discussion and possible approval to authorize the Superintendent to move forward with Science Lab renovations

The motion was made to authorize the Superintendent to move forward with Science Lab renovations by Mr. Case and seconded by Mr. Rivera. The motion was approved 7-0.

h. Discussion and possible approval to authorize the Superintendent to move forward with construction of a dividing wall in classroom 201 to create two separate classrooms

The motion was made to authorize the Superintendent to move forward with construction of a dividing wall in classroom 201 to create two separate classrooms by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Case. The motion was approved 7-0.

i. Discussion and possible approval of the 2024-2025 West Texas Food Service Cooperative Interlocal Agreement

The motion was made to approve the 2024-2025 West Texas Food Service Cooperative Interlocal Agreement by Mr. Fuentes and seconded by Mr. Case. The motion was approved 7-0.

j. Discussion and possible approval of authorizing the Superintendent to opt Terrell County ISD out of purchasing a bus with 3 point seat belts due to budgetary constraints. (see Texas State Bill SB 693 for the ability to OPT-OUT of 3-Point Seat Belts.)

The motion was made to authorize the Superintendent to opt Terrell County ISD out of purchasing a bus with 3 point seat belts due to budgetary constraints. (see Texas State Bill SB 693 for the ability to OPT-OUT of 3-Point Seat Belts.) by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Rivera. The motion was approved 7-0.

The Board took a break at 8:36 pm and entered Executive session at 8:44 pm.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to Texas Governmental Code §551, the Board retired to closed session at 8:26 P.M., for discussion of the items listed below.

i. Personnel Issues

- o Personnel Resignations/Reassignments/Retirements/Non-Renewals
- o Certified Teacher Contracts / School Nurse Contract / Technology Director Contract

ii. School Housing

- o School Housing Agreement Updates

At 9:43 P.M., the Board returned to an open meeting.

Action Items:

- a. **Consideration of and possible action to extend certified teacher contracts**
- b. **Consideration of and possible action to extend the School Nurse Contract**
- c. **Consideration of and possible action to extend the Technology Director's Contract**

The motion was made to extend certified teacher contracts, the School Nurse contract and the Technology Director's contract for the 2024-2025 school year by Mr. Rivera and seconded by Mr. Fuentez. The motion carried 7-0.

Adjourn:

A motion was made by Mr. Sanchez and seconded by Mr. Fuentez to adjourn the meeting. The adjournment was unanimously approved 7-0.

Mr. Houston adjourned the meeting at 9:45 pm.

X 

Mrs. Lali Ortiz
President

X 

Mr. Fernando Sanchez
Secretary