

Minutes – Board of Trustees
April 24, 2006
6:30 p.m. – LHS Conference Center

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by board president, John Flores. Other members present were Gary Allen, Alan Fielder, Timoteo “Tim” Juarez Jr., Carl Ohlendorf, Dennis Placke, and Clint Mohle.

Administrators and staff present were: Dr. John Hall, Superintendent; Phil McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Information; Theresa Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; James Rabe, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Student Success; Janie Wright, Executive Director of Curriculum and Special Programs; Monica Parks, Executive Director of Special Education; Larry Ramirez, LHS Principal; John Henk, Freshman Campus Principal; Patrick Venglar, Pride High School Principal; Ed Sheppard, LDMC Principal; Susan Brooks, LJHS Principal; Susan Masur, Navarro Elementary Principal; Donna Moore, Clear Fork Elementary Principal; Evangelina Orta, Plum Creek Elementary Principal; Barbara Bernal, Carver Kindergarten Principal; Joan Schlaht, Director of Community Education; Jesus Espinoza, Bluebonnet Elementary Principal; Les Goad, Boys Athletic Director; David Johnston, Girls Athletic Director; Darrell Hess, Director of Maintenance; and Candy Risien Secretary for Superintendent/Board of Trustees.

Presentation of Colors by JROTC

Invocation

Dr. John Hall gave the invocation.

Recognition of Personnel/Students

The board recognized Plum Creek Elementary TAG teacher Keitha Fortman for being an outstanding teacher as awarded by Newspapers in Education. Clear Fork elementary fifth graders were applauded for their participation in a pilot Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program, the students read their essays for the board. The board commended freshman UIL students and their sponsor, Nita McBride on their awards and participation.

Open Forum

Mr. Chuck Yunkun addressed the school board regarding discipline administration, recommending a closed campus at LHS, and budget reduction ideas. Carver Pre-K teacher, Ms. Alicia Pierpont spoke to the board regarding the benefits of the full day Pre-K program for at-risk children in the community.

Business:

1. Action: Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes for Board Meeting on March 27, 2006.
 - B. Quarterly Investments Report dated March 31, 2006.
 - C. Budget Amendments included in the original minutes.
 - D. Request Aid for Project Graduation

The motion was made by Carl Ohlendorf, seconded by Dennis Placke to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

5. Action: Consider and/or Approve Accepting Computer Donation from Wal-Mart and Frito Lay

The administration recommends accepting the donation of this \$600 value e-Machine computer, printer and paper from Wal-Mart and Frito Lay.

The motion was made by Clint Mohle, seconded by Alan Fielder to accept the computer donation. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

6. Action: Consider and/or Approve Formation of Johnny Hazelett Memorial Scholarship Fund-Class of 1988

George and Bonnie Hazelett propose this scholarship to provide financial assistance to a qualifying senior graduate of Lockhart High School. The student recipient must be seeking college preparation or vocational/career training. The administration recommends accepting this scholarship opportunity. Gary Allen remembers Johnny Hazelett as a fine young man and considers it an honor to accept.

The motion was made by Clint Mohle, seconded by Alan Fielder to approve the scholarship formation. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

2. Action/Comm: LISD Tax Collection Report

The Tax Collection report was submitted to the board. This report reflects totals as of March 31, 2006.

3. Action/Comm: Lockhart High School Students Taking Action for Respect (STAR) Team Presentation

Lockhart High School CIS sponsor, Jan Venable introduced LHS students who are participating in a student organization that will train, practice and present early awareness programs on sexual abuse, assault, and harassment to their peers, communities, schools, and other youth groups. It is the first program of its kind developed in the country. STAR groups have already reached 10,000 students in 150 communities in Texas. These students feel there is a real need for this kind of peer education at LHS to prevent any kind of dating violence.

4. Action/Comm: Lockhart High School Lion Band Report

Band Director, Roxanne Vickers gave the board a review on the successes of the Junior High, Freshman Campus and LHS. They won their fourth sweepstakes trophy to Lockhart, beginning with 4A UIL marching contest, they won 11th place out of over 20 bands during area competition for the 3rd time. During the 'Drums Along Medina' competition they won every outstanding category and 2nd place overall. The Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Bands won superior ratings this spring. 35 students excelled during solo and ensemble competitions, 2 students will advance to the State level. Ms. Vickers is very proud of the fact that all band members retained their eligibility and looks forward to working with the 500 students already enrolled in band programs. Thanks to the band staff and all of their supporters.

7. Action: Consider and/or Approve Split Teaching Assignment at Navarro Elementary

Navarro Principal, Susan Masur is requesting a split teaching arrangement for the coming school year only. Bilingual Teacher, Faith Pope is proposing that her teaching partner come highly qualified in the bilingual field that she can work closely and cooperatively with. She has worked in an assignment like this previously and feels very confident that her students will flourish with the additional creative instruction, provided by this arrangement. Tina Knudsen stated that a retired teacher that works less than ½ time will not penalize the district of any costs other than salary. This is not creating a new position, but splitting one position into two. Mrs. Pope located a qualified bilingual teacher that would be interested in job sharing for one school year, she felt she was doing the district a service due to the shortage of bilingual instructors. Mr. Rabe would consider it a disservice to the students of this district to lose a teacher of Mrs. Pope's capability. Theresa Ramirez said that if the board approves the part time teaching position, the position would be posted appropriately. The board had several questions regarding salary, in-services, stipends, administration, effects on the students, and the perception of a prearranged employment situation. Mr. Placke said it would have been much easier to approve, if names had not been associated with this decision. Theresa Ramirez assured the board that the position will be posted for a minimum of ten days and all bilingual applicants will be given fair consideration.

The motion was made by Alan Fielder, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to approve the split teaching assignment at Navarro Elementary for the 2006-07 school year. The motion carried, (5-2), Dennis Placke and Tim Juarez voted against.

8. Action: Consider and/or Approve LISD Wellness Policy

District nurse, Julie Hart states that LISD will meet federal, state, and TEA guidelines by adopting this Wellness Policy which has already been reviewed and approved by TASB.

The motion was made by Alan Fielder, seconded by Gary Allen to approve the LISD Wellness Policy. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

9. Action: Consider and/or Approve Interlocal Agreement with the Central Texas Purchasing Alliance

The administration recommends approving this agreement to expand the purchasing power for LISD, this network is made up of school district purchasers. The co-op currently includes Eanes, Schertz-Cibilo, Georgetown, Waco, Dripping Springs, Round Rock ISD and others. The district will continue to use BuyBoard and current networks, this source will better enable the district to combine and coordinate bids.

The motion was made by Dennis Placke, seconded by Clint Mohle to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Central Texas Purchasing Alliance. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

10. Action: Consider and/or Approve 2006-07 Student Transfers

The administration recommends that the board approve the 2006-07 student transfer list included in the original minutes, with two written exceptions given to the board at their places tonight.

The motion was made by Dennis Placke, seconded by Gary Allen to approve the 2006-07 Student Transfer lists, with the exceptions noted. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

11. Action: Consider and/or Approve Annual Review of District Policy FDA (Local) Interdistrict Transfers-Tuition

The administration recommends that the board review and approve District Policy FDA (Local) Interdistrict Transfers/Tuition. Dennis Placke wanted to know how many students transfer out of Lockhart ISD. PEIMS Coordinator, Judy Cathey was present and stated that 27 students have transferred out vs. 93 that transfer into LISD. John Flores wanted to know if the district has seen an increase in transfer students since we no longer charge tuition, there has been an increase in numbers along with the increased ADA. Mr. Juarez wanted to know if there was any indication why so many students are leaving the district, Ms. Cathey will prepare a report for the board to show the number of students leaving. Mr. Placke wanted to know the amount of tuition surrounding districts charge transfer students.

The motion was made by Carl Ohlendorf, seconded by Clint Mohle to approve the District Transfer Policy FDA (Local). The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

12. Action: Consider and/or Approve Open/Closed Campus Lunch at Lockhart High School

The administration provided the board with information regarding comments from a recent parent/student/community forum. LHS Principal, Larry Ramirez is asking the board to either open or close the campus during lunch. He feels the current situation requires too much manpower to enforce, 6-7 staff members are needed to monitor the parking lots, cafeteria, courtyard and campus perimeter. Mr. Ramirez said that he would much rather spend his time and asst. administrators time in the classroom, rather than monitoring lunch traffic. The board had several questions/suggestions and much discussion followed regarding logistics, safety issues, and using the larger cafetorium. Mr. Placke said he likes the current situation, but admits that seniors based on credits may need to be looked at further.

The motion was made by Tim Juarez, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to leave the policy as it is. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

13. Action: Consider and/or Approve Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) Interlocal Agreement with Travis County

The administration presented the board with an agreement from Travis County JJAEP as required by law in conjunction with the Chapter 41 funding received by Lockhart ISD.

The motion was made by Dennis Placke, seconded by Gary Allen to approve the JJAEP Interlocal Agreement with Travis County. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

14. Employment of Personnel

Consider/Approve Recommendations for Substitute Personnel:

Jeanine J. Alleman	Substitute Teacher
Nora Brown	Substitute Teacher
Bonnie B. Cheatham	Substitute Teacher
Freddie Clements	Substitute Teacher
Randall Frye	Substitute Teacher
Geneva Gonzales	Substitute Teacher
William Hyatt	Substitute Teacher
Gloria O’Balle	Substitute Teacher
Joseph Owen	Substitute Teacher
Cathy Ramirez	Substitute Teacher
Marisela Rodriguez	Substitute Teacher
Susan C. Thomas	Substitute Teacher
Tommie A. Thompson	Substitute Teacher

Resignation of Personnel:

Teresa Castillo	Head Secretary @ High School
Sarah Colby	Kindergarten Teacher @ Carver
Andrew Corpus	Special Ed Teacher @ LJHS
Shirley DuBoise	Special Ed Teacher @ Carver
Veronica De La Garza	Pre-K Bilingual @ Carver
Steven Gilpin	Rescue Math/Coach @ LJHS
Ruben Gonzales	Custodian (12 month) @ LHS
Stephanie Johnston	Third Grade Teacher @ Clear Fork
Susie Saucedo	Tech/Keyboarding Aide @ LJHS
Earline Sneed	Choir Director @ LHS
Patricia White	Science Teacher @ LHS
Leandra Vasquez	Fourth Grade Bilingual Teacher @ Clear Fork

For Your Information: (*Administratively Reassigned and Approved*)

Rachel Pruett-Grubbs	Librarian @ Plum Creek Elementary
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The motion was made by Carl Ohlendorf, seconded by Clint Mohle to approve the Employment of Personnel as presented. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

15. Action: Parent Complaints/Grievances
None requested.

16. Action: Student Complaints/ Grievances
None requested.

17. Action: Other Members of the Public Complaints/Grievances
None requested.

22. Action/Comm: Employment of Personnel
Kathi Valentino Redirection Teacher @ Navarro

The motion was made by Carl Ohlendorf, seconded by Tim Juarez based on the recommendation of Susan Masur to rescind the resignation. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

19. Action/Comm: Salary Comparison Report

The administration provided the board with a comparison of surrounding districts 2005-06 salaries including, teacher salaries, benefits, and a placement chart as requested by the board. There will be an area personnel administrator's meeting on May 2, Theresa Ramirez will have more information regarding surrounding districts after that meeting. Mr. Placke would like to see districts within a 50 mile radius, Mr. Ohlendorf inquired about the 14 district report that the board used to receive. The board would like to see four more districts added to this comparison. Carl Ohlendorf asked about the district insurance, Ms. Ramirez stated that the basic TRS plan is covered 100% for an employee only.

20. Action/Comm: TASB Salary Survey

Theresa Ramirez said TASB is still working on this survey, Mr. Placke wanted to know which districts they will be using for comparison. Ms. Ramirez said she did not request specific school districts, other than ones that are comparable to Lockhart ISD in size and make-up.

21. Action/Comm: Bilingual Stipend Report

Dennis Placke stated that according to the report, only one district is paying a higher bilingual stipend than LISD. Ms. Ramirez reports that these stipends are for the current school year, to raise the bilingual stipend to a more competitive level will cost the district \$25,000 total and should attract more qualified bilingual teachers to Lockhart. Mr. Juarez would like to know from either Human Resources or campus administrators regarding bilingual classroom settings, such as: supplies, aides, books, and class make-up. He would then like to identify the funding sources, he wonders whether a stipend is the real issue affecting bilingual teacher turnover. One LISD bilingual teacher was present and she stated that a higher bilingual stipend might attract more new teachers to the district. She stressed that classroom support/make-up and additional curriculum alignment would help retain more teachers in this area. A couple of the board members wanted to know if a waiver is needed to permit 'special groups' more inservice time together. Special Ed Director, Monica Parks said she schedules several in services throughout the school year. The report is included in the original minutes.

18. Action: Board Member Items

Mr. Juarez would like a current LDMC report/profile and would like for him to include the turn around time for assignments from the home campus. Mr. Juarez would also like to know how agenda items are formed, how back up material is provided and when, but he is concerned that the board continues to get information that shouldn't be part of the packet, or it is not in a timely fashion. He does not know what the process or procedure is and Mr. Fielder agrees that information could be given in a more timely manner and tightened up to better reflect the administrative recommendation. Mr. Placke wants to know when the final calendar will be presented for approval, Ms. Ramirez stated that she is waiting on a TEA waiver approval, hopefully next week. The board wanted to know if the administration is ready for another budget workshop, Tina Knudsen anticipates the middle of May would be a good time following the receipt of the food service bids. Phil McBride reminded everyone that early voting begins on Monday, May 1 at Central Office. Theresa Ramirez reminds everyone of the Service Award Banquet on Thursday. John Flores and Dr. Hall would like to set aside a date for an Administration/Board Workshop in the near future to work on board/administration relations and how we can work better as a team. This workshop would be for Principals, Central Office Administrators, and Board members on May 17, 6:30 p.m. at the State Park.

Agenda completed, meeting adjourned.

SIGNED: _____
John Flores, Board President

SIGNED: _____
Timoteo "Tim" Juarez Jr., Board Secretary

APPROVED: _____
(Dated)

APPROVED: _____
(Dated)