

Minutes – Board of Trustees
June 19, 2006
6:30 p.m. – LISD Administrative Boardroom

Call to Order

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

Administrators and staff present were: Dr. John Hall, Superintendent; Phil McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Information; Theresa Ramirez, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Janie Wright, Executive Director of Curriculum and Special Programs; Tina Knudsen, Finance Director; Monica Parks, Executive Director of Special Education; Larry Ramirez, LHS Principal; John Henk, Freshman Campus Principal; Patrick Venglar, Pride High School 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.

Invocation

Dr. John Hall gave the invocation.

Business:

2. Action: Employment of Personnel

Consider and/or Approve Employment of Personnel:

Kendall Center	Science Teacher/Coach @ LJHS
James Huffty	Special Ed Teacher @ LJHS
Jennifer Huffty	Special Ed Teacher @ LJHS
Jennifer Jones	Math Teacher @ LJHS
Esmiralda Moreno	3 rd Grade Bilingual Teacher @ Plum Creek
Kurt Obersteller	Social Studies Teacher @ Lockhart High School
Stephen C. Patterson	Science Teacher/Coach @ Lockhart Junior High School
Frankie Robinson	Bilingual Teacher (40%) @ Navarro
Erin Sanchez	Math Teacher @ Lockhart High School
Shad Scharlach	Social Studies Teacher @ Lockhart High School
Kelly Springfield	Science Teacher @ Lockhart Junior High School
Beatrice Starks	5 th Grade Teacher @ Plum Creek
Brian D. Stonecipher	Rescue Math Teacher/Coach @ Lockhart Junior High School
Howard Thompson	Assistant Band Director
Arlette Winkler	Theater Arts Teacher @ Lockhart High School
Kim Moses	Math Teacher @ Lockhart High School
Troy Moses	Math Teacher @ Lockhart High School

Transfer Teaching Position:

Science Teacher From Freshman Campus to Lockhart High School

John Flores closed the meeting at 6:34 p.m. on June 19, 2006 for the purpose of discussing personnel. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting was opened at 6:51 p.m. on June 19, 2006.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to accept the district recommendations for Employment of Personnel. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

1. Action: Budget Workshop

The administration previously provided the board with a 2006-07 Budget handbook reflecting the 6th finance template and Tina Knudsen has been working closely with ESC XIII and the Equity Center regarding legislative information. Dr. Hall directed the board to page seven, which includes the revenue and expense totals that reflects a balance of \$1,343,062.00; including the mandated teachers, counselors, and nurse raises. Mrs. Knudsen reports that the state revenue did increase due to HB 1 and she reminds the board that 80% of the total budget is in salaries, 13% goes toward contracted services/utilities, 4% supplies and materials, and 3% for other operating costs. The federal funding amounts have decreased by \$58,000 for 2006-07 in technology, innovative, and safe/drug free programs. Mrs. Knudsen reminds the board that school districts with \$1.50 M & O tax rates must lower their taxes to \$1.33, local school boards have the discretionary power to add an additional 4 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.37. The budget being presented is based on the \$1.37 tax rate, since the district will miss out on Tier 2 state funding for this school year and next. Mrs. Knudsen explains that Tier 2 funding is based upon local tax effort and the state matching those funds. Based upon the \$1.37 tax rate and new state funding that LISD will realize from HB 1, the increase in local funding is about 3.2 million dollars. 1.5 million is dedicated to specific projects as mandated by the legislature, such as teacher salary allotments. Tina reminded the board that although the legislature granted \$2500 in annual teacher raises, the state is taking away a \$500 health insurance contribution, that the district will need to make up locally. HB 1 also calls for a step increase for teachers that will need to be funded locally. Tina is also researching the legislature's High School Success Initiative allotment (grades 9-12), which could provide for \$330,000 in additional funding. The rules are still being written for this funding, Dr. Hall states that the secondary campuses are poised to take real advantage of this program. The district could apply for a waiver and use these funds all the way down to sixth grade, this money is intended for college preparedness. Juan Alvarez asked what the ADA was at LHS and Mr. Ramirez stated they are up to 95% this year from 93%. Mrs. Brooks campus reached 96% attendance this year and they both attribute the improvement to the efforts of the new Truant officer and the support of Judge Cisneros. Tina Knudsen reports that HB 1 also provides for districts that have previously been recipients of Chapter 41 funding, will not be penalized. LISD should note that technically \$400,000-\$500,000 is a net gain that no longer will be dedicated to technology, requiring the board to budget for future technology expenses that were previously paid from Chapter 41 funds. The 2006-07 budget will be based upon 4,210 ADA, which is the same as 2005-06. The current state standard for administrative costs is no more than 14% and the state report shows 9.3% for Lockhart ISD. The current budget assumptions include: salary increases for teachers, librarians, counselors, and nurses, step increase, updated tax rate of \$1.54 vs \$1.69 last year, and items 20-24 are new to the list previously provided to the board (included in the original minutes). Mr. Manning had questions regarding the Pre-K program and Dr. Hall stated that the full day program was approved by the board last year and while searching for ways to reduce the budget, the dismantling of the full day program was only a suggestion. John Flores recalls that during previous budget discussions a lot of opinions were shared and it is difficult for the administration to know how to move forward. He asked the board to provide more direction to the administration and it was agreed for the administration to move forward with including full day Pre-K and Communities in Schools in the 2006-07 budget and give the program(s) a chance. John Manning feels there are many, many needs within the district and hopes the economical impact of the full day Pre-K program will be realized. John Flores' research indicates a 16% investment return in the long term and one year is not enough time to determine the impact. There was much discussion about setting the tax rate and maximizing local collection efforts. If the district stands to gain \$270,000 in local funds by setting the tax rate at \$1.37; Mr. Manning would like to see these funds earmarked for vocational programs, other board members recommend setting it aside for roof repairs. John Manning also recommends keeping the second Student Resource Officer, to be shared among Freshman Campus, LDMC, and Lockhart Junior High School. Several board members agreed with this idea and Phil McBride will look into budget increases from the city. Tina will add this item to the budget. Carl Ohlendorf had some questions regarding the coaching assignments and Coach Goad responded that rarely does a coaching/teaching assignment match a particular vacancy. He is working closely with the principals to find the best fit and Coach Johnston said there would be a golf coach at LJHS. AD Goad and Johnston explained the cuts to coaching stipends, but assured the board there will be staff for intramural sports. There was further discussion regarding budget needs for athletes meals and game officials. Tina reminds the board that the budget process will begin earlier next year, in order to have a budget ready by

June 30, 2007. She proposes that the board speculate salary increases for next year and wait on the adoption of the tax rate to make the raises official. Juan Alvarez agrees that the earlier preparation of the budget will make personnel issues more timely. Mr. Manning would like to see funds reserved specifically for the CATE program and Phil McBride discussed the funds available for High School Improvements this year in the amount of \$330,000, a portion of which could be used for CATE. Mr. Manning wanted to know if the proposed budget included the pay increase for substitutes and Tina said that it did. Mrs. Knudsen recommends two more budget workshops before the board will need to finalize the 2006-07 budget, she anticipates one meeting in July and one in August. Mr. Flores wanted to know if anyone had other budget questions. Mr. Alvarez wanted to know if fuel costs needed to be increased and Tina replied that there is actually a surplus fuel budget at this time. John Manning wanted to know what the \$1500 food service travel was for? Tina stated that is the cost for each cafeteria manager to drive to the bank daily. Mr. Manning pointed out the San Antonio surplus website advertises some very affordable furniture that the district should look into. Mr. Flores said the budget discussion would continue at the next called meeting.

2. Action: Board Member Items

The board will meet on July 10 for budget workshop and July 17 for team building with Kay Douglas of TASB. Tina anticipates August 7 meeting to call public hearing and discuss budget and tax rate, that meeting date will then be advertised and she recommends official public hearing on August 21 and adoption on August 28. Mr. Flores asked about the Open Meetings training that is being required for board members, Mr. Flores, Mr. Ohlendorf, Mr. Juarez, and Mr. Mohle still need to get this training by the end of the year. Juan Alvarez asked about the Secondary Student Handbook, which will be presented at the next regular board meeting; once it is approved it will be edited for the printer. Mr. Flores attended the Board Presidents Academy at a recent TASB conference in San Antonio, he stated that the average ‘lead time’ is 3-4 days for agenda deliveries to the board. John Manning presented some information regarding enterprise fund issues and asks each board member to read it. New board member training is scheduled for June 29 at central office.

Agenda completed, meeting adjourned.

SIGNED: _____
John Flores, Board President

SIGNED: _____
Timoteo “Tim” Juarez Jr., Board Secretary

APPROVED: _____
(Dated)

APPROVED: _____
(Dated)