

Minutes – Board of Trustees
January 28, 2008
6:30 p.m. – Lockhart High School Conference Center

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

Call to Order

Presentation of Colors by JROTC

Invocation

Superintendent Tom Bailey gave the invocation.

Recognition of Personnel and Students

January is Board Recognition month; Superintendent Bailey presented each board member with a plaque and thanked them for their service to Lockhart ISD. Each campus presented a specific board member with tokens of their appreciation from sports equipment to cards from students. LHS, Freshman, and Pride High School thanked Gary Allen, Lockhart Junior High thanked Timoteo Juarez, Jr., Clear Fork Elementary thanked Clint Mohle, Bluebonnet Elementary thanked John Manning, Navarro Elementary thanked Juan Alvarez, Jr., Carver Kindergarten thanked John Flores, and Plum Creek Elementary thanked Carl Ohlendorf.

Open Forum

Rhoda K. Reed made a brief presentation to the board regarding the benefits of offering sign language as a second language to students.

Business

1. Action: Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes
December 12, 2007
- B. LISD Tax Collection Report
- C. Cash Investments Report
- D. Budget Amendments
- E. San Marcos Civic Foundation Grant
- F. Amendment to Records Control Schedule
- G. Amended LDMC Service Learning Grant

Mr. Manning requested that Item D, Budget Amendments and Item G, Amended LDMC Service Learning Grant be pulled from the agenda.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Tim Juarez to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, E, and F. The motion carried unanimously (6-0), Mr. Alvarez was not present.

Mr. Manning asked to move the Bluebonnet Security System Budget Amendment to Action Item 12.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to approve the remaining Budget Amendments as submitted. The motion carried unanimously (6-0), Mr. Alvarez was not present.

Mr. Manning asked for clarification regarding the amended LDMC Service Learning Grant. Mr. Juarez again asked that all grants be handled through the LISD Business Office, so the Finance Staff is aware of all district grants.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by John Flores to approve the Amended LDMC Service Learning Grant. The motion carried unanimously (6-0), Mr. Alvarez was not present.

3. Communication: Tax Collections Report

In November, the school board asked for information regarding the rate of tax collections. It has been determined that the schedule in the audit showed tax collections for ten months instead of twelve months for the fiscal year ended June 2007. There was not a footnote describing the variation, so it was misunderstood as a result. Mrs. Knudsen will determine the percentage of delinquent taxes that have been collected and get that information to the board.

4. Communication: Discuss Bluebonnet Elementary Fencing

Mr. Manning asked the administration to look into the cost of extending the fencing around the PreK-K playground at Bluebonnet Elementary. Principal Kibby agrees this is needed, Mr. Manning proposes that this fencing be paid for out of the remaining \$15,000 in bond money. Mr. Juarez hopes that BBE has prioritized the campus needs from this bond money. In the meantime Mr. Juarez would like to see how the bond money has been divided between BBE and LHS, since the administration also proposes to purchase security cameras for BBE from these funds. This item will need to come back to the board as an action item next month, Mr. Manning would like for the administration to come back with more than one bid, preferably local. Mr. Flores asked that the board be given latitude regarding Action and Communication on future agendas. For the record, Mr. Alvarez arrived.

5. Communication: Update on Durham Transportation

Lockhart ISD entered into a contract with Durham Transportation Services in August of 2005. The board of trustees requested that the Durham Transportation Services contract be considered for renewal at the January 2008 board meeting. The cost of the renewal contract with Durham is based on CPI, Consumer Price Index. The CPI will not be available until February. As a result, the district has no indication at this time what the renewal increase will be. Therefore, the administration would like to postpone taking action on this contract until February. The administration has been working closely with Durham and they have provided an update, which is included with the original minutes. Mr. Manning would really like to see an improvement in the student transfer process, especially for the Kindergarten students, he also wants to make sure the district is considering fuel costs the district pays when providing the CPI for this contract.

6. Action: Consider and/or Approve the Addition of New CTE Courses for 2008-09 School Year

Annette Gregory, LHS CTE Coordinator/Austin Community College presented information to the board regarding the addition of new CTE courses for the 08-09 school year. The courses being proposed are Intro to Veterinary Assistant Technician, Veterinary Medical Assistant I, and Medical Forensics. Student interest studies have been done and these courses would provide more elective options within a career field. Scheduling will allow student and staff flexibility and not require additional staff; although there will be start up costs. These are innovative courses that must have board approval before submitting the application to offer them to students, the board does not have to approve the start up costs at this time. Mr. Juarez would like to see a copy of the survey instrument provided to student interest and wanted to know if staff training was included in the start up costs. Ms. Gregory said they were not, Mr. Witte said that the CTE travel budget would accommodate the training/travel expenses. Ms. Gregory stated that she currently works closely with the Vet Tech program at Akins HS in Austin and the program continues to be popular with students.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Juan Alvarez to approve the addition of all three CTE courses as submitted by the administration and make course offerings to students with the costs to be discussed in the 08-09 budget process. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

7. Action: Consider and/or Approve LISD Energy Conservation Resolution

All school districts in the State of Texas have been directed to adopt a resolution outlining a pledge to conserve energy by lowering consumption over the next several years. The resolution is included in the original minutes.

The motion was made by Tim Juarez, Jr., seconded by John Manning to approve the LISD Energy Conservation resolution. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

2. Communication: Consult with Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation-Update

Gary Allen closed the meeting at 7:42 p.m. on January 28, 2008 for the purpose of Consultation with Attorney in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.071. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting opened at 8:12 p.m. on January 28, 2008.

8. Action: Consider and/or Approve the Renewal of the Wide Area Network Contract

In 2006, Lockhart ISD applied and received approval for E-Rate funding for WAN connectivity (At&T Opt-E-Man Services). The contract was for 1 year with 2 one year renewal terms. The WAN is used to connect campuses and other instructional facilities to each other, district servers and the internet. The cost of the monthly contract is \$5,439.03 for an annual total of \$65,268.36. Of this amount 80% is eligible for E-rate reimbursement. The net responsibility for the district is \$13,053.67 annually. The Administration recommends that the contract be renewed for another term with AT&T for WAN connectivity.

The motion was made by Tim Juarez, seconded by Clint Mohle to renew the Wide Area Network contract with AT&T. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

9. Action: Consider and/or Approve Request for Maximum Class Size Waiver from TEA

Each school district is required to conduct a class size enrollment survey for grades K-4. If the survey indicates any class for grades K-4 exceeds the allowable class size limit of 22:1, the district must submit a waiver by February 22, 2008. According to PEIMS, Plum Creek Elementary has a first grade class with a 23:1 student teacher ratio.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to approve the request for Maximum Class Size Waiver from TEA. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

10. Action: Consider and/or Approve the Cell Phone RFP

A request for proposal was advertised on December 3rd for district cell phones. The purpose of the proposal was to meet the district requirement for bidding contracts that exceed \$25,000. Additionally, the RFP was necessary to meet the application window deadline for E-Rate and to secure the best value for district cell phone usage. Currently, we are using 69 cell phones through 2 providers. It is important to keep in mind that all cell phones used for student related activities are eligible for E-Rate reimbursement at 80%. The administration recommends approval of Sprint/Nextel Communication as the best value for the equipment and service of 12 cell phones, 24 Push to Talk phones, 30 cell phones with Push to Talk and 4 Blackberries.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Juan Alvarez Jr., to approve the cell phone RFP with the administration taking the remarks of the board regarding lowering the costs, specifically alternative PDA's into consideration. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

11. Action: Consider and/or Approve Renewal Contract for Diesel Fuel with Gold Star Petroleum

January 2007 the board approved a bulk fuel bid with Gold Star Petroleum to purchase low sulfur diesel fuel for transportation. The per gallon price is based on a weekly "Oil Price Information Service" (OPIS) Pad 3 report Differential basis. This contract has 2 one year renewal terms. In comparing prices with a surrounding vendor, the district is saving approximately \$12,600 annually on diesel with Gold Star Petroleum. The Administration recommends that the contract be renewed with Gold Star Petroleum for low sulfur diesel.

The motion was made by Carl Ohlendorf, seconded by Clint Mohle to approve the renewal contract for diesel fuel with Gold Star Petroleum. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

12. Action: Consider and/or Approve Purchase of Alarm System for Bluebonnet Elementary

Bluebonnet Elementary was built in 2004-2005. When the school was built, an alarm system was not put in the scope of work or the budget. Bluebonnet Elementary has been vandalized for the past two weekends. The administration feels that the school needs an alarm system as soon as possible. The alarm system would cost \$6485, funds are available through a budget amendment from bond money which has been placed in the budget amendments. The administration recommends that an alarm system is put into Bluebonnet Elementary. There was discussion regarding the security needs, Mr. Flores recommends that we check with local vendors regarding surveillance equipment. Mr. Manning stresses that this system go out through a bid process/clear scope of work to help determine the exact needs of the campus. Mr. Juarez said he has previously requested a true facilities inventory/asset/improvement management plan to get to protect the district from future losses. Mr. Bailey replied that he understands that the board would like the administration to do more research into the options, such as cameras vs. alarms information and bring back to the board next month. No action.

13. Action: Consider and/or Approve Resolution Recognizing Texas Public Schools Week, March 17-20, 2008
TEA recommended designating the week of March 3-7 as Texas Public School Week, but that is the week we will be giving TAKS tests to our students. It is the feeling of our administration that this plan would have a negative impact on student performance. The administration recommends approving the resolution recognizing Texas Public Schools week, the week of March 17-20, 2008.

The motion was made by John Flores, seconded by Tim Juarez to Approve the Resolution Recognizing Texas Public Schools Week, March 17-20, 2008. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

14. Action: Consider and/or Approve Recommendation for 2008-09 Lockhart ISD Athletic Department
We will discuss the structure of our athletic department from top to bottom including Athletic Director(s), staffing patterns, assignments, and other topics. Consideration should focus on equity for all students at all grade levels and building a successful, winning program. Mr. Juarez requested that the board discuss this item in closed session. Mr. Bailey is concerned that there will not be as great a talent pool, if there are no coaching responsibilities tied to the position. Mr. Juarez hopes to bring equity to each sport, boys and girls by excluding the coaching responsibilities from the AD position, head coaching responsibilities remain with each specific sport, the Superintendent and Campus Administrator will decide teaching responsibilities. The board asked for input from LHS Principal, Larry Ramirez, AD Moses and AD Johnston. The board agreed that if the best candidate for the position stipulates that they want coaching duties, the board will consider based upon the best candidate being recommended.

Gary Allen closed the meeting at 9:03 p.m. on January 28, 2008 for the purpose of discussing Personnel (Action Items #14,17,18,19 and 20) in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting opened at 10:31 p.m. on January 28, 08. The board did not discuss items 14 or 17 in closed session.

The motion was made by Tim Juarez, seconded by Juan Alvarez to have the Athletic program go to one Athletic Director with no coaching responsibilities, teaching abilities as needed for Lockhart ISD. The motion carried (4-3), Gary Allen, Clint Mohle, and Carl Ohlendorf voted against.

15. Action: Consider and/or Approve Update 81 LOCAL Policies BDAE, DGBA, FD, FEA, FEC, FFH, GKC, and delete GKG

Portions of Update 81 have already been approved and the Policy Committee met recently to discuss the remaining policies. No opposition was voiced to approval of the remaining portions of the update and the committee recommends approval of the above listed policies. A spreadsheet explaining the recommendation is included in the original minutes.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to approve Update 81 Local Policies as presented by the administration. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

16. Action: Consider and/or Approve Changes to LOCAL Policies DC and DEA

Interim Superintendent Cockrill requests that the statement “and dismiss” in the sixth paragraph be removed from this policy. In his 21 years as Superintendent, he has never had this restriction in local policy. Mr. Flores would like to see the board remain the neutral party in an appeal as the change to local policy DC would allow. The administration requested TASB Policy Service to correct the paragraph containing “workweek defined” be changed to match the rest of the district policy. The policies are included in the original minutes.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Juan Alvarez to approve Local Policy DEA and Policy DC be left as is, and be discussed in goal setting session. The motion carried (5-2), John Flores and Carl Ohlendorf voted against.

17. Action: Consider and/or Approve Cost of Department Head/Lead Teacher Stipends

The current 2007-08 budget includes \$1,000 for each secondary school department head. During the fall of the year these teachers were told these stipends would be increased to \$2,000 per year to be paid in two installments. To date these teachers have received the first \$1,000. In the fall our Elementary Lead Teachers were also promised a stipend of \$500 and \$250 of that stipend has been paid to date. The proposed stipends do

not seem excessive when compared to stipends received for other extra duties within the district. It is my opinion that grade level and department leadership is an integral part of aligning curriculum, communicating expectations, and building strong teams throughout the district. It is appropriate for these leaders to receive adequate compensation for duties performed. It is also reasonable for administration to require ongoing justification for these stipends as they relate to high quality instruction and student success. The administration recommends approving the stipends for Department Heads and Lead Teachers as presented. Mr. Manning reminded the board that this was discussed June 25, 2007 during the budget talks, and the administration was told to bring this back for consideration in the 2008-09 budget. Mr. Juarez requested that this be discussed in executive session, Mr. Manning requested that the board also discuss items 18, 19, and 20 in executive session. Mr. Bailey understands that the board would like this item brought back in February with criteria regarding how people are selected.

Gary Allen closed the meeting at 9:03 p.m. on January 28, 2008 for the purpose of discussing Personnel (Action Items #14, 17, 18, 19 and 20) in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting opened at 10:31 p.m. on January 28, 08. The board did not discuss items 14 or 17 in closed session.

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by John Flores for the administration to bring back the Head/Lead Teacher stipends for consideration in February and that an approved criteria for everyone to apply for the job comes with the request. This year we will use the parameters as previously established including the money, \$500 for Elementary and \$2000 for Secondary. The motion carried (6-1), Tim Juarez voted against.

18. Action: Consider and/or Approve Administrator Contract Changes

Gary Allen closed the meeting at 9:03 p.m. on January 28, 2008 for the purpose of discussing Personnel (Action Items #14, 17, 18, 19 and 20) in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting opened at 10:31 p.m. on January 28, 08. This item will be on a future agenda with the district attorneys, February 20, 2008.

19. Action: Employment of Personnel

Consider and/or Approve Resolution Recommendations by Donald Henslee and Dr. Jack Cockrill Regarding Compensation Issues

Gary Allen closed the meeting at 9:03 p.m. on January 28, 2008 for the purpose of discussing Personnel (Action Items #14, 17, 18, 19 and 20) in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074. No final action, decisions, or motions would be made while the board was in executive session.

The meeting opened at 10:31 p.m. on January 28, 08. This item will be on a future agenda with the district attorneys, February 20, 2008.

20. Action: Employment of Personnel

Consider/Approve Employment of Professional Personnel:

Jo Wicker	Temporary HR Director
Janie Wright	Asst Superintendent of Instruction and Technology
James Rabe	Executive Director of Student Success
Bill Coleman	Maintenance Director
High School-Asst Band Director	
High School-Asst Cheer Sponsor	
High School-Counselor	
High School-Librarian	
High School-Speech Teacher	
High School-Choir Director	

Consider/Approve Employment of Paraprofessional Personnel:

Bryan Evans	Freshman Campus-Tech Aide
Mary V. Martinez	High School-ISS Aide
Community Ed-Cub House Child Care/Lab Director	
Central Office-Curriculum Secretary	

Employment Action Concerning:

Recommendation to put Tracy Kanemeier on Temporary Disability

Accepting Resignation:

Ashlee Johnson	High School-Speech Teacher
Joanna Bagley	High School-Choir Teacher

Rescinding of Resignation:

Ashlee Johnson	High School-Speech Teacher
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The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by John Flores to approve the Employment of Paraprofessional Personnel as submitted by the administration. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to place the Employee on Temporary Disability. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

The motion was made by John Manning, seconded by Carl Ohlendorf to accept the rescinding of Resignation of Ashlee Johnson as recommended by the administration. The motion carried unanimously, (7-0).

21. Communication: Personnel Information

Administratively Hired or Reassigned:

Support Staff

Anatanacio Hernandez	Pride/DMC Custodian
Elvira Hernandez	Navarro Elementary Custodian
Armando Ibarra	LJHS/Custodian Athletics

Resignations/Retirements of Personnel:

Support Staff

Virginia Martinez	Clear Fork-Food Service Retiree
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Adjournment.

Agenda completed, meeting adjourned.

SIGNED: _____

Gary Allen, Board President

SIGNED: _____

Clint Mohle, Board Secretary

APPROVED: _____

Dated

APPROVED: _____

Dated