

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Bastrop Independent School District**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bastrop Independent School District was held on **Tuesday, August 21, 2012**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at **the Bastrop ISD Service Center, 906 Farm Street, Bastrop, Texas 78602.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Allen, President
Jim Mills, Vice-President
John Eaton, Secretary
Glenn Peterson
Linda Apostalo
David Long
Mark Martyn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bernie Jackson
Ryan Preston
Lee Ann Gassaway
Luis Montemayor
Kristi Miranda

ALSO PRESENT:

Steve Murray, Superintendent
Barry Edwards, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources
Jane Pollard, Asst. Supt. for C&I
Sandra Callahan, Chief Financial Officer
Henry Gideon, Chief Operations Officer
Donald Williams, Ex. Dir. of Communications/Comm. Svcs.
Camille Smith, Director of Assessment & Student Support
Nancy Barrientos, Adm. Asst. to the Superintendent
Tessie Young, Director of Federal Programs & Grants
Kathy Cawthron, Director of Elementary Instruction
Thomas Dowdy, Director of Maintenance
Michele Martella, Director of Special Education
Nancy Roll, Director of Secondary Education
Shawn Adams, Cedar Creek Intermediate Principal
Richard Batlle, Bluebonnet Elementary Principal
Stephanie Foster, Cedar Creek Elementary Asst. Principal
Martha Werner, Mina Elementary Principal
Melinda Soliz, Cedar Creek Intermediate Asst. Principal
LaShun Gaines, Red Rock Elementary Principal
Delores Moore, Emile Elementary Principal
Terrell King, Bastrop Intermediate Principal
Sara Guerra, Lost Pines Elementary Principal

1. Opening

A. Meeting Called to Order

President Allen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum of Board members was present. The meeting was duly called and notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

2. Pledge, Recognitions, Presentations, and Open Forum

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mark Martyn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Mark Martyn led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

C. Opening Prayer

Bernie Jackson offered the opening prayer.

D. Student Speaker on Character Education Trait for August - Respect

There was no student speaker this evening.

E. Open Forum

There were no requests to speak in open forum this evening.

3. **Public Hearing on Proposed Application for an Optional Flexible School Day Program for 2012-2013**
 - A. **Optional Flexible School Day Program Report from 2011-2012**

Information was provided to the Board. Nancy Roll reported that the OFSDP is a program that provides flexible hours and days of attendance for students who meet the criteria. She explained that this program was only offered at Genesis High School last year. Mr. Eaton asked if there were plans to increase the capacity at Genesis this year and Mr. Murray stated that the district is open to increase the capacity if there is a need. Mr. Mills asked the reason that the 2 students dropped out, and Ms. Roll said that she would bring that information back to the board next month.
 - B. **Proposed Application for an Optional Flexible School Day Program for 2012-2013**
 - C. **Consider Approval to Submit Application for an Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP) for Eligible Students for 2012-2013**

John Eaton moved and Glenn Peterson seconded to approve the request to submit application for the Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP) for the 2012-2013 school year. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Superintendent's Report and Board Discussion**
 - A. **Discussion Regarding Implementation of Agenda Review Pre-Board Meeting and Other RGA Initiatives**

President Allen stated that RGA suggested that the board have pre-agenda review meetings each month prior to the regular board meeting, and he asked the board's opinion on these meetings. He stated that it would be extremely important that there is good participation at the meetings should the board decide to have them. The board discussed the matter, and was in favor of trying out the pre-agenda review meetings. The meetings will be held on the Thursday prior to the regular board meeting at 5:30 p.m. President Allen stated that the boards' RGA facilitator (Ingrid Taylor) would like to set up two site visits – one in September and one in November. He stated that he would check with Ms. Taylor to see what the board needed to do to prepare for the meetings and also get some meetings dates from her. President Allen encouraged all board members to make an effort to participate in the site visit meetings.
 - B. **Discussion Regarding Positive Communications from the District**

President Allen commended Donald Williams for doing a great job communicating on behalf of the district. He stated that he would like to take it up a notch and be proactive in an effort to be as transparent to the community as possible. President Allen stated that he would like for the district to tell the story – not the local newspaper. He added that the district has a lot of great, positive stories to tell. Mr. Mills stated that he recently met with the former communications person from Houston ISD and he had some insightful things to say and creative ways to showcase the district and ideas on how to get ahead of the blogs, etc. He said that he offers an in-depth training program for communications directors, and Mr. Mills would like to see the district put forth the effort to develop this type of thing. Mr. Long agreed that it's important that we report the facts, good and bad, and the communication should come from within the district, not from school board

members. President Allen again commended Mr. Williams and stated that the district needs to be proactive, not reactive, in getting the story out.

C. Curriculum Report

1. Presentation by “The Meadows Center”

Janie Pollard stated that the district has been working with Michael Solis with The Meadows Center to enhance opportunities for our students and our staff. Dr. Sharon Vaughan, Executive Director of The Meadows Center, provided the Board with information on the partnership between the University of Texas and BISD. She reported on the four projects for 2012-2013— promotion of adolescents’ comprehension of text, 8th and 11th grades; reading intervention class, 9th grade; Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism collaborative strategic reading; and Texas Center for Learning Disabilities upper elementary projects.

2. Preliminary AYP Data

Jane Pollard reviewed preliminary AYP data for BISD. Mrs. Pollard reported that BISD did not meet AYP; however 5 of 13 campuses Met AYP. She added that the district is in Stage 2 in Math and Reading. Mrs. Pollard reported that the district Met AYP for Graduation Rate and in Participation Rate. She reported that only 44 percent of Texas campuses met AYP targets this year due to a substantial increase in requirements. Mrs. Pollard reported that these requirements are comparable to Recognized or Exemplary level performance in the 2011 state accountability system. She added that there would be no state ratings issued this summer because of the new STAAR tests. In addition, Mrs. Pollard stated that under the current structure of the NCLB Act, the passing standards in the federal accountability system must rise to passing of 100% on the Math and Reading tests by 2014.

Mrs. Pollard reported that districts or campuses that miss AYP for the same reason for 2 or more years and receive Title I funds move in the school improvement program and are subject to sanctions. She stated that CCIS, BIS and RRE are in Stage 1. Mrs. Pollard reported that parents of students at these campuses received letters informing them of the sanction. She stated that Red Rock parents have the option of transferring their students to Cedar Creek Elementary or Bluebonnet Elementary; however there are no options for transfers for CCIS and BIS students.

Mrs. Pollard reported that non-Title schools that miss AYP, as well as Title schools that miss AYP for the first time, must revise their already existing Campus Improvement Plans to address the reason that the campus missed AYP. BHS, CCHS and CCMS fall in the non-title school category and CCE falls in the Title I category. In addition, schools or districts that are in Stage 2-5 face stronger sanctions at each additional stage. BISD falls in the category for Stage 2 and the district is required to revise their District Improvement Plan and notify parents.

Mrs. Pollard reported that 71.4% of Districts in Texas Missed AYP in 2012 and 47.8% campuses missed AYP. She stated that if NCLB is not reauthorized with some sweeping changes, the vast majority of schools and school districts run the risk of not meeting AYP by 2014. Mrs. Pollard stated that BISD is in the process of filing an appeal with TEA based on special circumstances regarding the wildfires. TEA will notify districts of final decisions by December 2012. Mrs. Pollard assured the board that there is a lot of good instruction going on and the district is doing a lot of great things to ensure that we meet AYP goals. She added that the district received \$1.5 million of Title 1 money this year.

D. Financial Report

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

E. Personnel Report

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

5. Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Minutes of July 17, 2012

B. Consider Approval of Bids

1. **Property & Casualty Insurance CSP #2011-05 Renewal**
2. **Painting and Drywall Services #2012-11**
3. **Waste Resource Management Services #2013-01**
4. **Printing Services #2013-02**

C. Consider Approval of Advanced Course Exemptions for No Pass, No Play

D. Consider Approval of Revisions to TASB Policy EIF (LOCAL)

E. Consider Approval of Revisions to TASB Policy EI (LOCAL), EIA (LOCAL), EIC (LOCAL), DIA (LOCAL), FFH (LOCAL), and FFG (EXHIBIT)

F. Consider Approval of TASB Risk Management fund Interlocal Participation Agreement

G. Consider Awarding the Contract for Cognitive Coaching Foundation Seminar Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 from Sole Source Vendor

H. Consider Approval of District Investment Report

President Allen asked if any member of the Board would like to pull any of the consent agenda items for closer review. There being no requests, President Allen called for a motion. Jim Mills moved and Glenn Peterson seconded to approve the consent agenda items as follows: the minutes of July 17, 2012; renewing the purchase of Property/Casualty, General Liability, Educators Liability, Auto and Crime Coverage from TASB Risk Management Fund in the amount of \$174,130.00; awarding the primary vendor status to D&W Painting, Inc., and secondary vendor status to B&L Painting for painting and drywall services; rejecting all proposals for waste resource management services; award the commercial printing services bid for the category or items indicated (see attached) and all vendors submitting proposals be awarded approved vendor status for printing services on an as-needed basis; the advanced course exemptions for no pass, no play; the revisions to TASB policy EIF (LOCAL); the revisions to TASB policies EI (LOCAL), EIA (LOCAL), EIC (LOCAL), DIA (LOCAL), FFH (LOCAL), and FFG (EXHIBIT); the TASB Risk Management Fund Revised Interlocal Participation Agreement for Bastrop ISD's continued participation in the Fund's Unemployment Compensation, Worker's Compensation, Property, Casualty, and Liability programs; awarding the contract for Cognitive Coaching Foundation Seminar to Michele De Bellis, Ed.D. in the amount of \$46,800.00; and the District Investment report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Action Items

A. Consider Approval of Proposed Tax Rate to be Published in the Notice of Public Meeting to be Held in September

Sandra Callahan reported that despite the wildfires and property values, the district will be able to keep our total tax rate at the same rate as last year thanks to refinancing of bonds.

Jim Mills moved and Linda Apostalo seconded to approve the proposed tax rate of Maintenance and Operations Tax \$1.040, Debt Service Tax Rate .441 for a total tax rate of \$1.481 to be published in the notice of public meeting to be held in September as presented. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Consider Approval of the District Improvement Plan for 2012-2013

John Eaton moved and Jim Mills seconded to approve the District Improvement Plan for 2012-2013 as presented. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Consider Selecting a Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the TASB Assembly in September

Glenn Peterson volunteered to serve as Delegate and James Allen volunteered to be the Alternate Delegate to the TASB Assembly. Linda Apostalo moved and David Long seconded to name Glenn Peterson the Delegate and James Allen as Alternate Delegate to the 2012 TASA/TASB Assembly in September. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Consider Approval of Revisions to Student Code of Conduct

Camille Smith reviewed one change to the Student Code of Conduct which states that transportation will not be provided to Gateway. She stated that research shows that if you make it a little more difficult for students assigned to a DAEP, it could serve as a deterrent.

Mark Martyn moved and John Eaton seconded to approve the revisions to the Student Code of Conduct. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Consider Authorizing Administration to Issue Contracts for 4 Additional Teaching Positions and Amend the Budget for the Additional Positions for 2012-2013

John Eaton moved and David Long seconded to authorize administration to issue contracts for 4 additional teaching positions and amend the budget for \$200,000 for the additional positions for 2012-2013. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. Consider Approval of Superintendent’s Recommendation for Cedar Creek Elementary Principal

Superintendent Murray congratulated Cedar Creek Elementary Principal Kathy Cawthron on her promotion to Director of Elementary Instruction for the district. Mr. Murray stated that the district went through the process and interviewed six candidates, and he asked for the Board’s approval to name Melinda Soliz (currently the Assistant Principal at Cedar Creek Intermediate School) as the new Principal for Cedar Creek Elementary.

David Long moved and Jim Mills seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation of Melinda Soliz for Cedar Creek Elementary Principal. President Allen asked for comments or questions. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Murray congratulated James Allen and presented him with a certificate for his re-election to the board.

6. Information Items

A. District Wide Calendar

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

B. TASB Board of Directors Endorsement

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

C. Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) Members

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

D. Contracts for Classworks and Texas Educational Solutions

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, John Eaton moved and Jim Mills seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Board Secretary

Board President