



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Board Minutes

SUBMITTED BY: Delia Campos **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: March 23, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

Regular Board Meeting – February 16, 2011

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting. Govt. Code §551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

February 16, 2011

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President - Absent
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian – arrived 6:04 pm
Judd Gilpin – Member
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Member
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God,
one and indivisible.

III. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, February 16, 2011, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President, Pat Campos made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:01 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

No one signed up for public comments.

IV. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before

bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy.

V. Recognitions:

The Board then recognized the following organizations, students and employees for outstanding accomplishments:

- A. Licienciado Eduardo A. Garza-Robles – Uni-Trade Forwarding
- B. Olakunle Johnson, DDS
- C. Constable Rudy Rodriguez – Navidad en el Barrio
- D. Trautmann Elementary – 2010 NCEA Higher Performance School
- E. Clark Middle School 0 2011 International Aviation Art Contest
- F. Lyndon B. Johnson High School – 2nd place National Cheerleading Association

VI. Superintendent's Report:

- A. Review of LEGAL Policies Update 89

No action required – Only for review

VII. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval of Budget Amendments
- C. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- D. Approval of Sale of Salvage Equipment
- E. Approval of Proposal and Agreement with DEH Construction Co., LLC for Completion of the "New United High School Exterior Facilities Upgrades" Project
- F. Approval of Requests from Ricardo Molina, Sr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Kennedy/Zapata Elementary for \$2,498.45 and Juarez/Lincoln Elementary for \$4,800
- G. Approval of Request from Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for JB Alexander High School for \$19,100

- H. Approval of Request from Juan Roberto Ramirez and Javier Montemayor, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Clark Elementary \$23, 647
- I. Approval of Request from Javier Montemayor, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Nye Elementary \$3,486
- J. Approval of Request from Javier Montemayor, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Trautmann Elementary \$10,238.20

Motion: Mr. Judd Gilpin advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committee Members had met and were recommending the approval of the following items:

Moved by: Judd Gilpin
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina

Discussion: Mr. Cruz told the Board that on Item VII. D the only exception is that all the transportation equipment is going to be disposed by other means. It is not going to go through this procedure after all.

In Favor: Pat Campos, Judd Gilpin, Ricardo Rodriguez & Judd Gilpin

Abstained: Mr. Juan R. Ramirez (Mr. Ramirez said he was not present at that meeting).

VIII. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

1. Regular Board Meeting – January 19, 2011
2. Special Called Meeting – January 26, 2011

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Judd Gilpin
Seconded by: Juan R. Ramirez

Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations into the minutes and requested that the Board accept the generous donations to UISD totaling \$ 4,795.00.

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Juan R. Ramirez
Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Approval of Proposed Boundary Changes for School Year 2011-2012

Public Comments:

Parents arrived late and wanted a chance to speak.

Mr. Cruz – We will have a speaker to address the board on this issue.

Good afternoon, my name is Jorge Sabrino and I am here representing the students of Fasken Elementary School. We were talking about the change that UISD is considering changing the students to Kazen Elementary and, to tell you the truth, we do not agree with this. One of the reasons we disagree with this change is because these students are taking their last year of studies at Fasken, they were students here since the first year the school opened its doors. This change really will affect these students because they will attend Kazen only for a year before moving to Washington Middle. We, as parents, think this is not correct. In my case, my son takes special classes, classes that are not offered at Kazen Elementary. Now, we also represent the Boys Scouts, chapter 411 and, therefore, we represent Fasken. If we get transferred to Kazen, what's going to happen to this chapter? The students are also in disagreement with this change. They were students at Fasken since first grade; all their friends are here (Fasken). If you change them to another school, it will be a very difficult process for them because they do not know anybody at this school. I can make a suggestion: if you need to fill out some classrooms with students, why don't you change those incoming students, those 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders to Kazen? First, our children were sent to Muller instead of Kazen and now you want to send them back to Kazen when at first you refused to send them to this same school. I don't have anything against other schools but I take this opportunity to come before you and express my opinion. I believe Fasken offers a better learning opportunity when compared to Kazen or Finley Elementary. You can check the statistics and you will find that those children with learning problems come from these schools, not from Fasken. These are some of the reasons why I want you to reconsider this boundary change. I believe Fasken offers better learning opportunities for our children, among those resources and special classes you do not offer at Kazen or Finley.

Thank you.

Good afternoon,

I am a mother of several children that attend Fasken Elementary and I do not agree with you because you want to transfer my children to another school. I disagree with this change because I know for a fact that there are several children who attend Fasken and they belong to another school. You allow these students

to attend Fasken simply because they use the wrong address, because they live with their grandparents or with an uncle. I think it is unfair that you want to transfer my children. If I am not mistaken, during the last meeting we were about 120 children that were to be transferred, I don't know if you want to count us now, but now we are not even half of the parents that were present at that meeting. Why? Probably because a lot of these parents work for the district and they already know their children will not be transferred. I do not think this is fair because we also pay our taxes; we have the same rights as other taxpayers. I know UISD does not have sufficient funds right now, but I believe there are other ways to solve this problem. I tell you, I beg you please find another solution for this problem. I talk on behalf of my son who will attend 5th grade. This situation affects him emotionally. He has been a student at Fasken since this school opened its doors for the first time. Now, you want to send him to another school where he will be a student only for a year. Please, I beg you please find another solution to this problem. If you want, raise our taxes; think twice before you implement any change. Thank you very much and I hope you can help us. Thank you.

Mr. Juan Ramirez - Madam Chairman, I would like for Mr. Mike Garza give us an explanation before I ask for a motion.

Mike Garza - Madam President, Members of the Board as you know we took on the endeavor over the last couple of weeks to meet with parents. We presented to the Board of Trustees the proposed boundary changes. There are approximately 300 children affected district wide in several locations north, south, central and in the west Laredo sites. These changes were being recommended because of issues we are having with our financial budget in the State of Texas and the uncertainty the district is going to be facing. We did meet with the parents and received their concerns on the changes. Over the course of several years we have had boundary changes almost on a yearly basis. This year more than ever the changes are almost necessary because of the situation that we are in. We do have some schools with empty classrooms and we want to make sure that those classrooms are being filled. And also the cost avoid ness to have to add portable buildings, portable facilities in some of our locations. We are making these recommendations tonight with the only change being the middle school situation where those children will be allowed to continue without transportation.

Motion: Mr. Ramirez - Madam Chairman, I want to see if we can table this item for further discussion.

Mr. Cruz – Is that your motion Mr. Ramirez to table for further study?
Mr. Ramirez - Yes

Moved by: Juan R. Ramirez

Seconded by: Rick Rodriguez

Discussion: Mr. Cruz - Ms. Campos would you like to translate this to the parents on what the board decided on.

Pat Campos - The Board of Trustees did not vote for any change. We are going to discuss this with the administration. We will probably have this on the agenda for next month.

Mr. Ramirez - Dear parents, after listening to the concerns of the parents, Mr. Mike Garza, the Superintendent, and our attorney, the Board of Trustees decided not to vote on a motion right now to change the students to another school. We are not taking any action this month. We will try to find a solution for this problem. We know the schools are overpopulated, we know there are students that do not belong to those schools. The administration and the Board of Trustees will discuss this to find a solution. We would like to invite you to attend this meeting and discuss this again. The next meeting will be March 8, at 201 Lindenwood Dr. After we discuss this with the administration and when this issue is presented with Mr. Mike Garza and his staff, we will have a meeting at 201 Lindenwood Dr., right behind United Middle School. You are welcome to attend.

In Favor: Unanimous

Mr. Garza offered his office number for any concerns that parents might have.

E. First Reading of Policy EIC (LOCAL): Academic Achievement - Class Ranking

No action required

F. First Reading of Policy FDA (LOCAL): Admissions - Inter-district Transfers

No action required

G. First Reading of Policy FM (LOCAL): Student Activities

No action required

H. First Reading of (LOCAL) Policies in TASB Update 89

No action required

IX. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:44 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 Consultation with the Board's Attorney

1. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding current Delinquent Tax Attorney Contract
2. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding Proposed House Bill affecting Webb County School Land Funds
3. **Item VIII. C. (moved to closed session) Second Reading of Revisions to Board Policy DC (LOCAL) in reference to Retire-Rehires**

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Juan R. Ramirez

Seconded by: Javier Montemayor, Jr.

Discussion: Pat Campos, just for the record I am still opposed of rehiring the retirees but this is not the agenda item. The agenda item is to pass the surcharge on to them. I want to make it clear that since the beginning I am still opposed to hiring the retirees.

In Favor: Unanimous

**B. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel
551.076 Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or
implementation of security personnel or devices**

1. Status of On-going Audits

X. The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:55 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

Mr. Cruz – Ms. Campos the only recommendation is to approve agenda item VIII.C Second Reading of Revisions to Board Policy DC (LOCAL) in reference to Retire-Rehires

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2011, was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Pat Campos – President

Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary