

MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, March 25, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

Members present: Grant Gutierrez, Michael Hancock, Chris Hinnant, Josh Magden, Nancy Towry

Members absent: Candice Parsons, Alan Hemphill

Others present: Sarah Vinklarek, Debra Carter, Layne Neumann, Amanda Hudspeth, Julie Bishop, Rebecca Hamilton, Noe McCarthy, David Henderson, Martha Henderson, Kylee Friend, Shane Owen, Tucker Copeland, Anna Berryann, Doug Berryann, Dana Thornton, Margarita Igoe, Zack Harris, Chelsa Vinklarek, Matt Jones, Tracy Jones, Michael Caudill, Reena Reese, Bruce Larsen, Damalya Larsen, Brenda Ricketts, Lindsey Saunders, Lucy Kirkby, Paloma Martinez, Fabian Garza, Jean Ann McCarthy, Cheryl Burns

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll. Alan Hemphill and Candice Parsons were absent.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Those students were Marley Smith and Paige Owens.

Character Education Speakers – Student guest speakers are present at each board meeting to read a short essay on the Character Trait of the Month. The character trait for March is Virtue. This month, the Board of Trustees heard essays from Marley Smith and Paige Owen, 3rd grade students in Ms. Mahaffey’s class.

Recognition of Outstanding Students for the Nine-Weeks – Each nine-weeks the middle school and high school faculties select an outstanding student from their respective campus. Students are rated on a scale of 1 to 10 on such criteria as grades, honesty, enthusiasm, cooperation with teachers and their peers, class participation and leadership. Kiersa Henderson and Brady Jones, both sixth graders, were chosen as outstanding students for the 3rd nine-weeks from Smithville Junior High. Kiersa is the daughter of David and Martha Henderson. Brady is the son of Matt and Lora Jones. Outstanding students chosen from Smithville High School are eleventh graders Carina Berryann and Sylvio Campbell-Evans. Carina is the daughter of Doug and Ana Berryann, and Sylvio is the son of Carrie Evans.

Tiger Award Recipient Recognition – Tiger Award recipients are nominated by peers. Each campus and department nominate a representative. Final nominations are voted on by a select committee. Each campus and department will have an award winner that will be recognized at the board meeting every 9-weeks. The Board recognized the Tiger Award winners for the third 9-weeks: Brown Primary - Leanne Vinklerek (Teacher), Smithville Elementary - Julie Bishop (Teacher), Smithville Junior High - Kylee Friend (Teacher/Coach), Smithville High School - Reena Reese (Counselor), ISD - Paloma Martinez (Transportation), ISD - Hillary Earp (Nurse)

Communications from the Public – Margarita Igoe spoke to the Board of Trustees to about school government and SHAC curriculum. Dana Thornton spoke about SHAC education curriculum.

Consent Agenda – Grant Gutierrez moved to approve consent agenda items 1 through 6 as presented. With a second from Josh Magden, the vote passed 5-0.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned
5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report

Financial Report – The Chief Financial Officer, Jean Ann McCarthy, reviewed the financial disbursements for the previous month with the Board of Trustees. No action was required.

- Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent updated the Board on important issues pertaining to the District including:
District enrollment as of Friday, March 22, 2024 is 1794 students with a daily attendance rate of 92.08%.
- The Lady Tigers varsity soccer team is playing a playoff game against La Vega in Georgetown this evening.
- The boys powerlifting competed at state over this past weekend and had a good showing.
- One Act Play competes Wednesday at the bi-district competition.
- Kindergarten has their ABC's of Texas program tomorrow at 2:00 p.m.
- Smithville ISD is working on the Teacher Incentive Allotment. An application will be submitted in April. This is coming from the state for teachers who have the targeted score on their evaluation and student growth.
- Friday, March 29th is Good Friday and is a holiday for staff and students.
- Friday, April 5th is also a staff and student holiday.
- Many of our students will be competing in Jamboree events next weekend and spring sports are in full swing. Please come out and support your Tigers and Lady Tigers!
- Board member continuing education hours will be reported at the regular April meeting. You have access to your continuing education progress report on your mytasb account. Training is available online through Region 13, Vector Solutions (SafeSchools) and various other websites.
- The Tiger Insider is at your seats.

- Please refer to the Smithville ISD website for the latest news and resources.

SISD Instructional/Curriculum Program Highlight - Financial Transparency – The Board heard from Chief Financial Officer Jean Ann McCarthy and District Communication’s Officer Lindsey Saunders about the transparency star that has been awarded to the District by the Texas Comptroller’s Office. This was a very prestigious honor.

Review of 2024-2025 High School Course Catalog – Administrators from the high school review and edit the course catalog on an annual basis for the upcoming school year. Mr. Copeland, high school principal, presented the proposed 2023-2024 High School Course Catalog and noted any updates or changes. The course catalog will be brought to the Board for approval at the April meeting.

Tentative April Agenda Items – Tentative items to be included on the April agenda are:

- a. Financial Report
- b. Superintendent’s Report
- c. Consider Approval of Strategic Plan
- d. Consider Approval of 2024-2025 High School Course Catalog
- e. Resignations and Employment of Certified Personnel

Consider Amendment of 2023-2024 Salary Schedule – Mrs. McCarthy presented information to add the title of Business Manager to Pay Grade 3 of the Administrative/Professional Pay Grades. No other changes were made to the salary schedules. Josh Magden moved to approve the amendment as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Consider Approval of Certification of Provision of Instructional Materials Survey 2024-2025 – In accordance with Texas Education Code 31.1011, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools are required to certify annually to the State Board of Education and the commissioner that, for each subject in the required curriculum other than physical education, students have access to instructional materials that cover all the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the coming school year. Additionally, in accordance with Texas Administrative Code 19 TAC 66.105, school districts or charter schools are required to certify that they protect against access to obscene or harmful content in compliance with the requirements for certification under the Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 USC 254(h)(5)(B) and (C). These certifications must be ratified by local school boards of trustees or governing bodies in public, noticed meetings. Districts and open-enrollment charter schools will be unable to order instructional materials through EMAT until the certifications have been received by the Texas Education Agency. Grant Gutierrez made a motion to approve the certification of provision of instructional materials as presented. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent notified the Board of the resignations of Rachel Altman, Regina Estrada, Cari Ulrich, Amanda Tyler, Judy Supak, Doug Simms and Harlye Bonorden. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel including Business Manager – The Superintendent recommended hire of Sean Sanchez as business manager and Hailey Sherrill as a Brown Primary teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Consider and Take Action Regarding Certified Staff Contract Renewals – The administrators of the district have submitted to the office of the superintendent their recommendations for contract renewal of existing certified staff members. The Board of Trustees is the final hiring authority for certified contract employees for Smithville I.S.D. and will act upon the recommendations for renewal of certified staff as presented by the Superintendent. Grant Gutierrez moved to approve the recommended renewal of staff as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the vote carried 5-0.

Adjournment – Josh Magden moved the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion passed 5-0.