

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting on June 22, 2015

The Board of Trustees West Orange-Cove CISD

A Regular of the Board of Trustees of West Orange-Cove CISD was held Monday, June 22, 2015, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 902 W. Park Ave. Orange, Texas 77630.

I. Public Hearing

A. Information/Discussion:

1. Public Meeting to Discuss Budget & Proposed Tax Rate (Melinda James)

Melinda James presented a power point presentation on the proposed budget and Tax Rate.

II. Routine Business

- A. Call To Order – Ruth Hancock
- B. Invocation – Ruth Hancock
- C. Pledge of Allegiance - All
- D. Certification of Notice – Ruth Hancock

Board Members Present: Ruth Hancock, Linda Bryant-Platt, Roderick Robertson, Sarah Jefferson Simon, Bryan Thomas Muhammad & John Gray

Board Members absent: Rev. Hardy O’Neal

Board Attorney Present: George Barron

School Personnel Present: Rickie Harris, Dr. Nina LeBlanc, Dr. Wayne Guidry, Anitrea Goodwin, Melinda James, Dr. Silvia Martinez, Anthony Moten, Sherry Hardin, Rod Anderson, Beverly Robertson, Elvis Rushing, Lorraine Shannon, Camille Franklin & Bonnie Tegge

III. Audience with Patrons (limited to 5 minutes per patron)

Persons wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting reserved for that purpose were required to sign up as they arrive and to indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

Camille Franklin – Stated the following concerning a new leader at the elementary

- We need a new leader who knows us

- New leader needs to have a strong elementary background
- This is the Fourth principal in four years
- We have lost lots of great teachers due to the inability to keep good leadership
- New leader needs to be a successful elementary principal before. We don't need to be someone's first rodeo
- New leader needs to remember what it's like to be in an elementary classroom
- New leader needs to be comforting when we need it and a good disciplinarian when we need it.
- New leader needs to trust teachers and let them teach and let students learn
- New leader needs to be approachable and to celebrate success all along the way
- New leader that makes promises to kids and keeps his promises
- New leader needs to know all the laws for students and especially Sp. Ed students
- New leader needs to like the parents of our students
- New leader needs to support the teachers and not one who threatens them and their jobs
- New leader needs to make sure that students who are disruptive are dealt with and not rewarded
- Discipline is a must
- Please include teachers in the search committee
- Please find us a leader that will be a Mustang and never give up

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. Student Recognitions are as follows:

Rod Anderson recognized the following students in band & choir for advancing to the State Solo and Ensemble Contest:

Choir:

Felicia Amy

Sadie Greer

Nathaniel Hayes

Joshua Cotton

Band:

Karington Blanchard who earned a first division rating at State

Academics/Journalism:

Brittany Barclay who advanced to State Headline Writing competition & placed 7th.

Coach Thompson recognized the following students for advancing to the State

Track & Field competition:

William Johnson
Aaliyah Teel

V. Action Items:

A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:

1. Budget Amendments (Melinda James)
2. Board Agenda Minutes: (Bonnie Tegge)
 - a. March 2, 2015
 - b. March 9, 2015
 - c. March 23, 2015
 - d. March 30, 2015
 - e. April 20, 2015
 - f. April 27, 2015
 - g. May 18, 2015

Sarah Jefferson Simon motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented
Roderick Robertson seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

VI. Finance (Melinda James)

A. Information/Discussion Items:

1. Financial Statements
 - a. General Operating Funds
 - b. Student Nutrition Fund
 - c. Debt Service
 - d. Check Register
 - e. Tax Collection
 - (1) Tax Collection 2014
 - (2) Tax Collection 2015
 - f. Investment Report
 - g. Head Start
 - h. Discussion of Homestead Exemption (Melinda James)

B. Action Items:

1. Consider Approval of 2015/2016 Budget (Melinda James)

John Gray motioned to approve the 2015/2016 budget

Linda Platt-Bryant seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

2. Consider Approval of Tax Rate (Melinda James)

Sarah Jefferson Simon motioned to approve the Tax Rate as presented
Linda Platt-Bryant seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

3. Consider Approval of the Following Bid Properties (Melinda James)

- a. Property Address: 2408 Hird, Orange, Tx.
- b. Property Address: 1402 10th Street, Orange, Texas

Sarah Jefferson Simon motioned to approve the two bid properties as presented
Roderick Robertson seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

4. Consider Approval of the Following Bid Proposals: (Melinda James)

- a. Dust Mop Service

Bryan Thomas Muhammad motioned to approve the dust mop service as presented
Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

- b. Repair & Service of Electrical Equipment

Linda Platt-Bryant motioned to approve the repair & service of electrical equipment as presented
John Gray seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

- c. Repair & Service of Plumbing Equipment

Linda Platt-Bryant motioned to approve the repair & service of plumbing equipment as presented
Roderick Robertson seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

VII. Instruction

A. Information Item:

- 1. Head Start Monthly Report (Sherry Hardin)

2. Head Start Program Information Report 2014/2015 (Sherry Hardin)

B. Action Items:

1. 2015/2016 Textbook Recommendations (Dr. Silvia Martinez)

Linda Platt-Bryant motioned to approve the 2015/2016 textbook recommendation as presented

Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion

Motion passes 4/2 with Bryan Thomas Muhammad and John Gray opposing

VIII. Policy

A. Action Item:

1. Discussion/Consider Approval of Possibly Changing the Supplemental Employee Benefits Vendor (Anitrea Goodwin)

Bryan Thomas Muhammad motioned to table changing the supplemental employee benefits vendor to a later date

Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion

Motion passes unanimously

Board convened to closed session at 8:15 p.m.

Board reconvened to open session at 9:28 p.m.

IX. The open session of the meeting will adjourn. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in closed session for the following purposes.

A. Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's Attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.(Tex.Govt.Code 551.071)

1. Consider legal advice regarding renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.

2. Consider legal advice regarding Special Education Case Docket Number 197-SE-0315

B. Teachers and Administrators (Tex.Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Discussion of Selection/Employment

2. Reassignment and Resignations

3. Discussion of Evaluation

4. Discipline

5. Duties

6. Discussion of Termination

7. Consider renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.

C. Discussion of Discipline of Students (Tex.Govt. Code 551.082)

- D. Discuss other matters as authorized by (Tex.Govt.Code 551.071-551.084)
- E. Paraprofessional, Support Staff, and Personnel (Tex. Govt. Code 551.074)
- X. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on items discussed in closed session and open session items.

XI. Action Item:

- A. Consider Possible Action on the Settlement Agreement Regarding Special Education Case Docket Number 197-SE-0315

No Action

XII. Personnel (Anitrea Goodwin)

A. Information Item:

- 1. Resignations

B. Action Item:

- 1. Approval of Contractual Staff

Bryan Thomas Muhammad motioned to approve the contractual staff as presented
Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

XIII. Adjourn: 9:29