

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, July 18, 2022 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

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

Members absent: Alan Hemphill

Others present: Noe McCarthy, Zack Harris, Michael Caudill, Bethany Logan, Heather Ferrell, Mikayla Ferrell, Justin Bezner, Jim Rose, Margarita Igoe, Rebecca Hamilton, Candy Biehle, Whitney Brown, Jean Ann McCarthy, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll of members. Mr. Hemphill was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance – The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing - ESSER III, ESSA, Perkins Grant – Dr. Bethany Logan, Director of Curriculum, conducted a public hearing on the ESSER III, ESSA, and Perkins grants to comply with grant requirements.

Public Communications – The Board heard from Mr. Jim Rose regarding Big Star Solar, LLC.

Consent Agenda – Josh Magden moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the motion passed 6-0. The Consent Agenda included:

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

Financial Report – The Chief Financial Officer, Jean Ann McCarthy, reviewed the financial disbursements for the previous month with the Board of Trustees.

Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Burns shared the following information with the Board of Trustees:

- Administrators return to work on Monday, July 25th
- Teachers return on Friday, August 5th unless they have met all training requirements (SafeSchools). If so, they will return on Monday, August 8th
- The New Staff Orientation will begin on Tuesday, August 2nd
- The Beginning of Year Breakfast Convocation is Tuesday, August 9th at 8:00 a.m. The Board of Trustees are welcome to attend.
- The speaker for convocation is Roy Juarez - Impact Truth
- At this time, we still have 5 professional openings
- The first safety walk-through with Smithville Police Department was last Thursday, The next one is this coming Thursday.
- Cheryl will be out ½ day tomorrow and the rest of the week
- Students will return on Aug. 23rd
- Smithville Junior High Open House and 6th Grade Meet the Tiger at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12th
- Smithville Junior High Open House and 7th & 8th Grade Meet the Tiger at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12th
- High School Meet the Tiger at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, August 12th
- Smithville Elementary School Meet the Teacher from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18th
- Brown Primary School Meet the Teacher from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18th
- The regular school board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 29th
- Please make sure to see Denise to secure your season tickets
- Request that Mr. Gutierrez and Mrs. Parsons please sign the paperwork at your stations

Preliminary STAAR Test Results 2022 – Whitney Brown, Special Programs Coordinator, presented the preliminary STAAR test results for 2022.

Second Draft of the 2022-2023 District Budget – The school district staff is currently in the process of developing the proposed budget for the 2022-2023 school year. The process began in January with budget planning at the campus level. The Board must adopt the final budget on or before August 31, 2022 in accordance with legal requirements. Jean Ann McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer, presented the second draft of the budget.

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

- a. Public Hearing on Proposed Budget
- b. Financial Report
- c. Superintendent's Report
- d. Adoption of 2022-2023 District Budget and Tax Rate
- e. Approval of District and Campus Improvement Plans
- f. Approval of State Comp Ed Manual
- g. Approval of Professional Development Plan Board Policy DMA (Local)
- h. Review and Approve EHAA (Local) - Instructional Materials and/or Review by SHAC

School Health Advisory Committee)

i. Personnel

Proposed Student Meal Price Increase – Congress did not vote to extend the waivers that allowed free meals for all students for the 2022-2023 school year. Applications will be accepted but students that do not qualify for reduced or free meals will have to pay for meals this school year. Candy Biehle, Child Nutrition Director, proposed the following prices for school lunches: Brown Primary - Lunch - \$2.50 (no change), Smithville Elementary - Lunch - \$2.50 (no change), Smithville Junior High - Lunch - \$3.00 (.25 cent increase), Smithville High School - Lunch - \$3.25 (.25 cent increase). This increase is due in part to food costs and salary increases. Student breakfasts will be free of cost for all campuses for the 2022-2023 school year. Michael Hancock moved to approve the cost of student lunches as presented. Candice Parsons seconded, and the motion carried 6-0.

Review and Approve Local Board Policy Update 119 and Affected Policies – The District must update and maintain its local policies with the most recent legislation and educational regulation changes. The following policies were affected by the update: CPC(LOCAL): OFFICE MANAGEMENT - RECORDS MANAGEMENT, DMA(LOCAL): PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - REQUIRED STAFF DEVELOPMENT, EHAA(LOCAL): BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM - REQUIRED INSTRUCTION (ALL LEVELS), EHB(LOCAL): CURRICULUM DESIGN - SPECIAL PROGRAMS EHBA(LOCAL): SPECIAL EDUCATION - IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND ELIGIBILITY, EHBB(LOCAL): SPECIAL PROGRAMS - GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS, EIF(LOCAL): ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – GRADUATION, FFBA(LOCAL): CRISIS INTERVENTION - TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE, FFH(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION. Josh Magden moved to approve Local Board Policy Update 119 as presented. Nancy Towry seconded and the vote passed 6-0.

Consider Adoption of Board Policies EFA (Local), and EFB (Local), and to Repeal Current Board Policy EF (Local) – This action is being considered due to recent advice from the Texas Association of School Boards regarding instructional and library material adoption. Candice Parsons moved to adopt board policies EFA (Local), and EFB (Local) and to repeal current board policy EF (Local) as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Consider Approval of 2022-2023 Student Code of Conduct – As a practice, the Student Code of Conduct for the upcoming school year is reviewed, revised and ultimately approved by the Board prior to the commencement of the new school year. Administrators have reviewed the current Code of Conduct and no revisions were required, other than staff names. Nancy Towry moved to approve the 2022-2023 Student Code of Conduct as presented. Chris Hinnant seconded and the vote passed 6-0.

Consider Approval of 2022-2023 TTESS Appraisers and Appraisal Calendar – The Board must approve the district appraisal calendar and the list of administrators trained to evaluate teachers. Teachers must be evaluated annually by trained and board-approved appraisers. For the 2022-2023 school year, the District plans to continue to use the state-adopted appraisal system, Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS). All appraisers will be

trained before they conduct classroom observations. Teachers are evaluated on performance in the classroom, staff development activities, and performance of students on the campus. A list of appraisers and the appraisal calendar was included in the board packet. Candice Parsons moved to approve the TTESS Appraisers and Appraisal Calendar for 2022-2023 as presented. Michael Hancock seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Call for Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rate – The goal of the District is to adopt a budget and set the tax rate for the 2022-2023 school year. State Truth in Taxation laws require the school district to publish a public notice of public hearing to discuss the proposed budget and proposed tax rate for the new fiscal year. Legally the budget must be developed on or before August 20th, 2022 and adopted by August 31st, 2022. The school district will publish the notice of the public hearing in the local newspapers to comply with state laws and timelines for budget adoption and setting of the tax rate. Josh Magden moved to call for the public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate for August 29, 2022 as presented. Candice Parsons seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Schedule a Date for Board Team of Eight Training – The Board, along with the Superintendent, is required to participate in at least three hours of team building conducted by the Texas Association of School Boards, or another registered provider, on an annual basis. It is time to schedule the Team of Eight team building work shop for this year. Candice Parsons moved to schedule a Team of Eight training for September 12, 2022. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent informed the Board of the resignations of Dylan Blaha and Lora Jones, teachers at Smithville Elementary, and David Nowicki, teacher/coach at Smithville Junior High. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel – According to Board Policy DC [Local], the Superintendent has the authority to approve hire of certified personnel between June 1st and August 31st each year. The Superintendent would like to inform the Board of the hire of the following personnel: Haylee Silves as a teacher at Brown Primary, Caitlyn Wyatt and Jonathan Montgomery as teachers at Smithville Elementary, and Amanda Lowden as a teacher at the high school. No action was required.

Closed session – The Board adjourned to closed session at 7:53 p.m. and returned at 9:09 p.m. with no official action taken.

Superintendent's Mid-Point Review – This was conducted in closed session and did not require Board action.

The Board adjourned it's meeting at 9:09 p.m.