

GISD BOARD MINUTES

January 13, 2016

The Graham Independent School District Board of Trustees met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at Graham High School, 1000 Brazos Street, Graham, Texas 76450. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President David McClendon, and it was noted that the meeting was held in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

PRESENT: David McClendon, Meredith Lucas, Stan Peavy, III, Dori Cawley, Andrea Lowery, Pat Martin, Z.T. Burkett, Superintendent Sonny Cruse, Assistant Superintendent Don Davis, and Assistant Superintendent Robert Loomis

VISITORS: Debbie Robertson and Amanda Coyac

OPENING EXERCISES:

Mr. Gordy, Principal of Graham High School recognized Mrs. Michelle Lowrey and the students involved in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Challenge and Mr. Jacob Lange & Dugan Burgess and students from the Graham FFA Agriculture Issues Forum Team that competed in the State Competition. The students are as follows:

SAMSUNG SOLVE FOR TOMORROW

Crops Team (Jacob Lange)

*Nick Moore
Cameron Pratt
Jeb Curry
Seth Hamm
Levi Partin

Livestock Team (Dugan Burgess)

*Caleb Crago
Will Busey
Hayden Husen
Jonah Qualls
Elizabeth Routon
Nicolas Saunders
Kolton Gough

Energy Team (Michelle Lowrey)

*Smith Graham
Jack Lowery
Jack Hays
Kade Darrow
Garrett Box
Seth Harvell
Cole Grisham
Garrison Stovall
*indicates team leader

Agriculture Issues Forum Team

Nick Moore
Alie Alvidrez
Gustavo Ramirez
Hiram Fuentes
Riley Wyatt

SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION: January is School Board Recognition Month. Sonny Cruse thanked the Board for the exceptional work they do on behalf of the students at Graham ISD. In their honor, each Board Member was presented a book by a student representing one of the six campuses. The books will be placed in the school Libraries in honor of each Board Member. Presenting books to the Board were Walker Bennett, representing Pioneer Elementary, Zack Burkett and Georgia Martin

representing Crestview Elementary, Ben Lucas representing Woodland Elementary, Victoria Lowery, representing Graham Junior High, Jamie McClendon representing Graham High School and Cassie Brock representing Graham Learning Center.

OPEN FORUM:

Amanda Coyac shared with the Board she would like to see Graham High School add Soccer as a UIL sport for both boys and girls at the High School Level. Signed petitions were turned into the Board with 261 signatures.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2014-2015 TEXAS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT (TAPR)

Robert Loomis presented the TAPR report to the Board and guests in attendance. STAAR Data from Spring 2014 was compared to Spring 2015. All areas showed improvement except for Science.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE:

Mr. Cruse updated the Board on upcoming events. January 14, Young County Livestock Show and February 2nd Sports Banquet. The wireless work has been completed at Woodland Elementary.

Graham ISD has been nominated by NCTC to receive the NCTC Community Service Award. This award has been established by the NCTC Ex-Students and Friends Association to recognize individuals, organizations and/or business for meritorious service to the College and/or the community. The Association endeavors to recognize individuals, organizations and/or businesses which have made a difference at the college and in the community by giving of their time and resources over an extended period of time.

NCTC Partnership/opportunities is going well. Plans are in the works to offer a HVAC class. Dual Credit courses will be offered to sophomore students in the near future. NCTC will be hosting a Career Fair day for current 8th grade students on January 24th.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion by Z.T. Burkett, seconded by Pat Martin, carried 7 to 0 to accept the consent agenda as presented which consists of Minutes of the previous meetings, District Financial Report, Investment Report, Tax Collection Report, Interest Report, Enrollment Report and Budget Amendments

REPORTS:

Campus Report

Joe Gordy, Principal at Graham High School, updated the Board on activities taking place at Graham High School. Graham ISD is one of 23 school districts in Texas and one of 425 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board

with placement on the 6th Annual AP District Honor Roll for increasing access to AP course work while simultaneously maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP Exams.

In December the student council adopted 42 students for Christmas. Over \$5400 dollars were raised by the students to provide Christmas gifts for each child.

There are currently 686 students enrolled at Graham High School.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Full Day Pre-K Program

The Board discussed the possibilities of having a full day pre-k program next year. Items considered were staffing needs, classroom availability and cost of the program.

Newton Field Stadium

Sonny Cruse updated the Board on the conditions of Newton Stadium. Track and field equipment will have to be replaced. A structural engineer will be doing an inspection on the press box to see how structurally sound it is. We will be able to use the Stadium for the PK Relays. We will have to use the stands and press box on the visitor's side of the stadium.

ACTION ITEMS:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2014-2015 FINANCIAL AUDIT

A motion by Pat Martin, seconded by Z.T. Burkett, carried 7 to 0 to approve the Financial Audit as presented by Michael Hamby of Merritt, McLane, & Hamby.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GRAHAM ISD AND CITY OF GRAHAM

A motion by Meredith Lucas, seconded by Andrea Lowery, carried 7 to 0 to approve the Interlocal Agreement that is to set the parameters for our partnership to construct an AG Science Animal Project Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. under Texas Government Code 551.074. The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. with the following action taken:

The Superintendent reported the resignation for Alesha Rogers has been received and accepted, effective December 18, 2015.

A motion by Z. T. Burkett, seconded by Andrea Lowery, carried 7 to 0 to approve the Superintendent contract extension as presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion by Meredith Lucas, seconded by Andrea Lowery, carried 7 to 0 to adjourn the meeting.

David McClendon, President

Stan Peavy, III, Secretary