

Brackett Independent School District
Board Minutes of Monthly Meeting
November 14, 2005

Members Present	-	Mark Frerich, Tony Ashley, Jeffrey Duncan, Sondra Meil, Sara Terrazas, Henry Lutz
Member Absent	-	Ronnie Hobbs
Administrators Present	-	Paula Renken, Alma Gutierrez, Frank Taylor, George Burks
Guests	-	John Graves, Jr., Lisa Conoly, Nancy Mendoza, Emily Valenueuda, Edna Travieso, Edward Travieso III, Julie Bruce, Leigh Volcsko, Marla Madrid, Samantha Davis, Jim DCamp, Daphne Hunt, Dusty Brotherton, Francine Collins

1. CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM

The regular meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Henry Lutz, President.

A. MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE

Jeffrey Duncan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PRESENTATION FOR AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

In honor of American Education Week, Lisa Conoly's Kindergarten class shared how their day starts with visual displays and songs. Kindergarten students shared their knowledge of the calendar, months, days of the week, colors, shapes, counting, etc.

3. RECOGNIZE BAND AND X-COUNTRY

Band Director James DCamp and Assistant Drum Major Samantha Davis accepted a certificate from the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Band, for receiving a Superior One rating at the Interscholastic League Region XI Marching Competition. Mr. DCamp commented the Band has come a long way, twenty-four are high school students, compared to a few years ago when there were only seventeen students in the whole band.

Coach Brotherton and Daphne Hunt were recognized for an outstanding cross-country season. President Henry Lutz presented Daphne Hunt with a certificate for placing U.I.L. State Qualifier in cross-country.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

No guests in attendance for public forum.

5. MINUTES

Minutes for October 10, 2005 Monthly Meeting

A motion was made by Sara Terrazas to approve the minutes for October 10, 2005, as presented. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried with Sondra Meil abstaining.

6. BUSINESS & FINANCE

A. QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Marla Madrid gave a quarterly report of investments with TexPool, Lone Star, and Bank & Trust. The total interest earned for July, August, and September is \$35,681.74, compared to \$17,040 this same time last year.

B. RECAP OF REVENUE & EXPENSES

A recap of revenue and expenditures for October showed everything is running as it should this time of year, with nothing unusual to report. Paula Renken commended Marla Madrid for taking the initiative to move money from Bank & Trust to our Lone Star Investment Fund. Marla left approximately \$300,000.00 in Bank & Trust, enough to cover payroll.

C. CHECK RUN

The board's attention was directed to several checks. A check to Alamo Music (\$9,800.00) covered the cost of two Yamaha Sousaphones for the Band. Sew What received a check (\$1,146.00) to cover the cost of new shirts for the custodians. The new embroidered shirts cost less than the rental fee of \$2,200.00 for a year with Unifirst. Rental was expensive and did not include laundering. Each custodian received five new shirts. The shirts are tailored and do not need to be tucked in. Tangent received a check (\$33,139.00) to cover the purchase of 25 computer notebooks and a locking cart. The laptops will be kept in the Library for student use. This purchase was made available through a technology grant.

7. TRACK FIELD & CUSTODIAL RENOVATIONS

Architect John Graves laid out final plans for resurfacing and renovation of the track field, subject to approval by the board. Renovation includes re-grade to the inside and outside of the track, relocating the discus throw, adding jump and pole vault pits, and alternate for irrigation which would be tapped into a 6" pipe provided by the city. Pressure will increase once the city installs a new water tower. Total with all, including alternatives comes to \$325,000.00, with a base bid of \$130,000.00. Mr. Graves stated the district will need to address handicap accessibility. The restrooms will require major renovation, along with addressing septic back-up problems. A recommendation was made by John Graves to put off the restrooms for now. Current track plans include construction of two additional lanes, going from six to eight, installation of automatic sprinkler system, a high jump area constructed of concrete, and resurfacing of the track. Colors discussed were red or gold. Time wise, bids could be taken starting December 8, allowing four weeks for bids to come in. Construction time would be 60 days. If the district goes with adding two lanes, or if construction time would run longer than three weeks, Mr. Graves recommended putting a hold on everything until after May. Following discussion, the board agreed to do new restrooms the same time as the track renovation. If possible, placing them on the south side of the track to allow tapping into the city sewer. The present restrooms could be turned into storage. The board also stated it would like a new concession stand. John Graves will present revised plans for approval at the December meeting.

The board reviewed renovation plans for the custodian barn. John Graves stated the current building is basically in good shape. Plans include strips to the outside, adding 2 x 4's, insulation, then outside panels. A new roof would be added the same way, over the existing one. The inside would not change except to add more shelving and possibly a unisex toilet and sink, as requested by Custodian Manager Tomas Castillo. The main roof structure will extend over the lean-to-shed. New fixtures include an overhead door, entrance door, lighting fixtures, and exhaust fan. Estimate for basic renovation is \$48,000.00 to \$50,000.00. Restroom would be

optional for another \$5,000.00, and could be tied into the Cafeteria sewer lines. Cost to remove the rear shed and add to the existing structure, using the same foundation, would cost \$12,000.00, putting the total cost of renovation at \$75,000.00. Upon discussion, the board agreed it might be more cost effective to remove the existing structure and start over. John Graves will work up cost estimates for an all new building and present at the December meeting.

8. HEALTHY CHILDREN, HEALTHY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Nurse Collins briefly reviewed TEA's *Healthy Children, Healthy Schools* initiative, targeting obesity and its link to higher absenteeism, poor diet, and lack of exercise, resulting in lower test scores and behavioral problems in school age children. The Board of Trustees, along with the local Health Advisory Council, have been asked to work together to address obesity and related health problems. The board viewed a 7-minute DVD provided by TEA Commissioner Shirley J. Neeley, TDA Commissioner Susan Combs, and DSHS Commissioner Eduardo Sanchez.

9. AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

A request was made by Nurse Collins to purchase four automatic external defibrillator machines. The AED's will be placed at Jones elementary, the high school, new gym, and a portable machine at the field house. Total cost for four machines with pediatric defibrillation pads, and AED wall mount storage case with strobe light alarm, is \$6,521.50. Cardiac Science has offered the district a 7-year guarantee on the machines, and 4-year guarantee on the batteries. All employees will be trained to use the AED's. As a representative of the safety committee, Nurse Collins recommended the purchase of the AED's.

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to purchase four AED's, at a cost of \$6,521.50. Tony Ashley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

10. VOTE FOR KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD CANDIDATES 2005-2006

Candidates nominated to serve on the Kinney County Appraisal District Board of Directors include Steve Crosby, and Mike Holley. Two positions are open for the 2006-2008 term. Following discussion, the board agreed to split the district's 1,040 votes equally between the two candidates.

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to cast 520 votes for Steve Crosby and 520 votes for Mike Holley. Henry Lutz seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

11. RESOLUTION: NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Paula Renken stated the district is required by a standardized federal mandated to have an emergency plan (NIMS) in place by March 2006. Mrs. Renken received the appropriate training required and is now recommending adoption of the resolution, which will also go into our policy.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Duncan to adopt a resolution stating the National Incident Management System as the standard for incident management for the Brackett Independent School District. Sondra Meil seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

12. JUNIOR HIGH CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN, 2005-2006

Principal George Burks presented the Junior High campus improvement plan for 2005-2006. The plan was developed with input submitted by the Junior High Campus Advisory Committee and Mr. Burks.

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to approve the 2005-06 Junior High Improvement Plan as presented. Sara Terrazas seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A short break was called for at 7:50 p.m., with the board reconvening into open session at 7:54 p.m.

13. FIRST AMENDMENT RESOURCES: POLICIES FNAA, FNAB, GKD, GKDA

The Texas Association of School Boards notified the district that policy updates FNAA, FNAB, GKD, and GKDA should have been adopted in February 2005, with several major policies due June of 2004. Due to an oversight by the prior Superintendent, Paula Renken stated she is now recommending adoption of these policies, along with waiving a second reading. The bulk of policies FNAA, FNAB, GKD, and GKDA address distribution of non-school literature and use of school facilities for non-school purposes.

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to adopt policies FNAA, FNAB, GKD, and GKDA, along with waiving a second reading. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

14. BISD FACILITY AGREEMENT

Along with adoption of policy GKD, Paula Renken reviewed a facility agreement form drafted from a TASB model for use in accordance with local policy GKD. Mrs. Renken stated she came up with the \$150.00 rental rate after comparing the price to what is charged for the use of other community facilities. Following discussion, the board agreed to a returnable security deposit, instead of a rental fee. In case the facility was not cleaned, etc., the deposit would be kept and used for those purposes.

A motion was made by Henry Lutz to approve the facility agreement form in accordance with local policy GKD, setting a fee schedule of a \$100.00 security deposit as discussed. Tony Ashley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

15. SURPLUS PROPERTY

The maintenance dept. and custodians have been housecleaning and come up with surplus items the district no longer has use for, along with several vehicles that no longer run. (See attached list.) The tables, student desks, and filing cabinets will be grouped and sold as units. All items will be sold by sealed bid.

A motion was made by Tony Ashley to grant the Superintendent the authority to start the bid process and sell any surplus property "as is." Sara Terrazas seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

16. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Jones Elementary School (Alma Gutierrez)

Refer to written report. Enrollment is 234, migrants are in. The fifth and sixth grades will perform for the December 5th PTO meeting.

Junior High School (George Burks)

Refer to written report. Enrollment is 205. Teacher Eileen Allen received her endorsement in Math/Science, meeting the highly qualified under NCLB requirements. Student Angel Montalvo is experiencing progressive numbness in both legs and Dr's. expect more problems as a result. Mr. Burks stated principal Frank Taylor and teacher Elizabeth Hodges have worked out a fast track program for Angel to work on at the Academy, and will adjust his hours and days as needed. Junior High students have been moved to the old side of the Cafeteria, High School students to the new side.

High School (Frank Taylor)

Refer to written report. Enrollment is 173, the same as last month, and the Academy is 15.

17. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

FALL A.D.A. REPORT

The average daily attendance has been making money. The budget was built on 585 and the average through the second six weeks is 592. Ten of our migrants are here, with another two coming. Enrollment on Friday was 631. This same time last year it was 624.

UPDATE ON ROSE & VELTMAN ADDITION BIDS

Art Baker won the bid on the Rose House for \$550.55. Mr, Baker has until May to remove the house. There were no bids on the Veltman addition. If possible, will look into letting someone have it on a first come first serve basis.

MISC. TOPICS

Football Game

There will be an early out at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Busses will run at 1:15 p.m. The game starts at 7:30 p.m. We are having a fan bus for \$8.00. Tickets into the game are \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for students. U.I.L. rules state no noisemakers are allowed.

Basketball

Practice has started for Junior High boys and girls. We have nine boys in off-season. There will be no organized games until football is over.

Voting

Marla and Susan attended a meeting with the city and county to see a demo of the new voting machines. New HVAC legislation requires us to make available one of these machines for voters. The district will need to purchase one by January 2006.

DATE FOR BOARD-EMPLOYEE LUNCHEON

Paula Renken recommended Wednesday, December 21st, for the employee appreciation luncheon, to be hosted by the board. Suggested having Sunni Girl do the cooking, rice, beans, and potato salad. The board would cook the fajitas and sausage, then meet and greet. The student advisory council could possibly serve and cleanup. Following discussion, the board agreed to hold the employee luncheon on December 21st.

The employee gift this year will benefit the community. We have ordered packages of note cards for \$6.00, with the money going towards the Community Unity Project.

My TASB Website

The board was reminded to go into the MyTASB website and set up an account and password.

Certified Agenda

A motion was made by Sara Terrazas to approve the certified agenda for October 10, 2005. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried with Sondra Meil abstaining.

18. PUBLIC FORUM

As a reporter, Leigh Volcsko stated she appreciated the board's support in getting information for the newspaper. As a parent, Mrs. Volcsko thanked the board for thinking about the future of

the students and spending district money wisely. Paula Renken commented that Mrs. Volcsko's positive attitude is reflected in her reporting on the school, which is much appreciated.

19. ADJOURN

With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry Lutz, Board President

Sara Terrazas, Secretary

Date

Date