

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Palestine ISD

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Palestine ISD was held Monday, July 22, 2019, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Palestine ISD Administrative Offices Board Room, 1007 East Park Avenue, Palestine, Texas 75801.

President Bennett called the meeting to order and announced that a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Tutt, and unanimously approved by the Board, that the Board convene in closed session at 6:00 PM in accordance with the Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.001, Texas Revised Statutes. Motion carried 6-0.

**Members present: Michael Bennett, President
Kurt Herrington, Vice President
Stanley Sokolowski, Secretary
Davi Killion Ingram (Arrived 6:20 pm)
Jeffrey Schwab
Brandon Sheeley
Dyna Tutt**

**Others present: Jason Marshall, Superintendent
Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of
Human Resources
Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of
Instructional Services
David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer
Mark Schrader, Director of Technology
Lisa Edge, Recording Secretary**

Visitors present: Brian Homann, Kimberly Homann, Rhonda Herrington, Barbara Dutton, Breck Quarles, Tim Ingram, Richard Schneider.

President Bennett opened the regular meeting at 7:04 PM and stated that no action was taken in closed session.

President Bennett gave the invocation.

Pledges of allegiance were recited to the American and Texas flags.

Spotlight

Palestine Fire Department

Palestine ISD honored the Palestine Fire Department for all they do for the community and schools. Superintendent Marshall thanked the Palestine Fire Department for all that they do to protect the community and for keeping the school district informed of safety issues.

Public Comment

Brian Homann spoke regarding a New York field trip opportunity for PHS Choir students.

Financial Update

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a brief financial update.

- Tax Collections above 100%
- District continuing to review investments to ensure best interest rates possible

Budget Workshop

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the following information during a Budget Workshop for the 2019-2020 school year:

- 2019 Legislative Session having a positive effect on school finance.
- General fund (199) budget for the 2019-2020 school year projected at approximately \$34 million.
- PISD teacher pay to be increased approximately \$6,000 on average.
- PISD support staff pay to be increased approximately 10-15%.
- House Bill 3 requiring school districts to compress tax rates, therefore the district would be proposing a lower total tax rate for 2019-2020.
- 2019-2020 possible expenditures include adding a Fire Academy to the CTE Pathway, increase in safety and security measures, and addition of 1 school bus.
- Mr. Atkeisson noted that although the tax rate would be lower in 2019-2020, increased property values were expected to be higher. Therefore, property taxes may not be lower for homes/businesses that increased in value.

Proposed Tax Rate

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, informed the Board regarding the proposed property tax rate for 2019-2020. The proposed tax rate amount is \$0.1016 less than the 2018-2019 tax rate. A motion was made by Trustee Sokolowski, seconded by Trustee Herrington to approve a proposed tax rate of \$1.0684 for maintenance and operations and \$0.36 for interest and sinking, a total proposed tax rate of \$1.4284 for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Items

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Jason Marshall, a motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Schwab to approve the following consent items as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 18, 2018
- Bills paid for June, 2018
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations: (No donations received)
- Anderson County Appraisal District 2020 Proposed Budget
- 2019-2020 Teacher Shortage Areas: Bilingual/ESL (Elem & Secondary), Career & Technical Education, Computer Science/Technology Applications, Math, Science, and Special Education (Elem & Secondary)
- 2019-2020 School Supply List
- Out of State Trip for PHS Choir

- **2019-2020 Credit by Exam Plan/Timeline**
- **Endorsement of Nomination of Dr. Carolyn Booker to Serve on TASB Board of Directors**

Preliminary Accountability Ratings

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, presented 2019 District and Campus Projected State Accountability Ratings and improvement plans for 2019-2020.

Projected Accountability Ratings:

District Rating (B/88)

Southside Elementary (B) Improved from previous school year C rating

A.M. Story Intermediate (D)

PJHS and PHS (B)

LAUNCH/GT/STEAM

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services shared the district's plans for 2019-2020 LAUNCH/GT/STEAM Programs.

Campus Start and End Times

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, reviewed campus daily start and stop times for 2019-2020: (No change from previous school year)

High School (Grades 9-12)	8:00-3:40 (TACE 3:40-5:40)
Junior High (Grades 7-8)	8:00-3:40 (TACE 3:40-5:40)
Story (Grades 4-6)	7:55-3:35 (TACE 3:15-5:15)
Southside (Grades 2-3)	7:45-3:10 (TACE 3:10-5:10)
Northside (Grades K-1)	7:45-3:10 (TACE 3:10-5:10)
Washington (Head Start/PreK)	8:00-3:00

College and Career Readiness

Brian Howie, Director of College and Career Readiness, presented the following 2018-2019

College and Career Readiness information:

Number of students enrolled in dual credit classes: 265

College hours earned by the senior class: 3,537

College courses completed for credit: 1,081

Seniors completing at least one college class: 96 (125 seniors/59% of seniors enrolled in workforce classes)

Seniors earning core complete status: 42

Seniors earning an associate's degree: 26

Seniors who completed at least 20 hours of college: 64

Seniors who completed at least 30 hours of college: 59

Seniors who completed at least 40 hours of college: 47

Seniors who completed at least 50 hours of college: 35

Seniors who completed at least 60 hours of college: 26

Industrial Certifications earned by the Senior class: 210

District working with TVCC and SFA as Dual Credit Providers. District has increased offerings from SFA within the last two years but TVCC still has the majority. TVCC also handles all workforce dual credit programs at no charge (cosmetology, welding, and business)

District working toward ways to add robotics/drone competitions and exploration at the campuses through the STEAM Program.

Career Readiness additions for 2019-2020: Fire Science Academy, Ag Mechanics/Animal Science

Policy Update 113

Policy Update 113 was tabled until August regular school board meeting.

Personnel

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Jason Marshall, and Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; a motion was made by Trustee Schwab, seconded by Trustee Tutt, to approve a modified list of personnel. Motion carried 7-0.

1) Arndt, Andrew	Special Education	A.M. Story Intermediate
2) Ellis, Kendrick	Physical Education	A.M. Story Intermediate
3) Facio, Francisco	Government/Economics	Palestine High School
4) Harding, Destiny	Robotics	Palestine High School
5) Jones, Laura	Assistant Principal	A.M. Story Intermediate
6) Jones, Michael	Assistant Principal	Palestine High School
7) Jones, Sara	4 th Grade	A.M. Story Intermediate
8) Leach, Ana	Band Director	A.M. Story Intermediate
9) Martinez, Beatriz	Campus Nurse	Northside Primary
10) McCullough, Diane	6 th Grade	A.M. Story Intermediate
11) McKnight, Chauntine	Physical Education	A.M. Story Intermediate
12) Nichols, Angela	Assistant Principal	Palestine Junior High School
13) Parker, Alexandra	2 nd Grade	Southside Elementary
14) Patty, Audrey	English Language Arts	Palestine High School
15) Richardson, Lee Ann	2 nd Grade	Southside Elementary
16) Schmutz, Karen	3 rd Grade	Southside Elementary
17) Schulz, Misti	Art	Palestine High School

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations/retirements of Jaime Clark, Tiffany Cooksey, Juli Durham, and Chelsi Huff.

New Welding Shop

Superintendent Jason Marshall presented plans for a new welding shop. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Marshall; a motion was made by Trustee Herrington, seconded by Trustee Tutt, to authorize Superintendent Jason Marshall to begin the construction process for a new welding shop. Motion carried 7-0.

TASA/TASB Delegate Assembly

The Board appointed a delegate and alternate delegate to serve at the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate Assembly on Saturday, September 21, 2019 in Dallas, Texas. A motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Schwab to appoint Davi Ingram to serve as delegate. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall shared the following information:

- **Update on recent Public Information Request**
Superintendent Marshall presented an update regarding a Public Information Request. PISD had received a PIR from the Palestine Herald Press which the district denied based on FERPA requirements. After denying the Palestine Herald Press request, PISD received a communication from the Attorney General requesting the district's reason for denial of the PIR. PISD responded to the Attorney General's inquiry and later received a communication from the Attorney General that PISD's denial of the PIR had been handled correctly by the district.
- **PISD Upcoming Events**
 - 1) Student extracurricular programs to begin Monday, August 5, 2019
 - 2) New Teacher Orientation to be held Monday, August 5, 2019, 11:30 AM in the A.M. Story Intermediate Library
 - 3) PISD Employee Daycare Grand Opening to be held Tuesday, August 6, 2019, 2:00 PM
 - 4) Staff Development/Work Days: August 7-9 & August 12-14, 2019
 - 5) Convocation: Wednesday, August 7, 2019, 1:00 PM in PHS Auditorium
 - 6) Back to School Staff Picnic: Thursday, August 8, 2019, 6:30 PM in Reagan Park
 - 7) Meet the Teacher Day/Night: Monday, August 12, 2019
 - 8) PISD Presentation: Wednesday, August 14, 2019
 - 9) First Day for Students: Thursday, August 15, 2019
- **Football Scrimmages**
 - 1) Friday, August 16, 2019: Salado @ Waco ISD Stadium
 - 2) Thursday, August 22, 2019: Athens @ PISD Wildcat Stadium
- **Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday, August 26, 2019**

President Bennett declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Michael Bennett, President

Stanley Sokolowski, Secretary