

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC _____ Board Minutes _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____ Karen Winch _____ **OF:** _____ Board Secretary _____

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____ November 18, 2009 _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

- Public Hearing – October 21, 2009
- Regular Board Meeting – October 21, 2009
- Board Workshop – October 29, 2009
- Special Called Meeting – October 29, 2009

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting. Govt. Code §551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

Public Hearing on Schools First Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

October 21, 2009

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President - absent
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary - absent
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian - absent
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson –
Member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT United Independent School District will hold a School First Public Hearing on September 16, 2009 at 6:15 P.M. in the United ISD Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Bldg. 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, Texas 78043.

II. Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. A Public Hearing was held Wednesday, October 21, 2009, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:17 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

V. Overview of School First (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)

Laida Benavides, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, presented an overview of the School First (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas). Ms. Benavides advised the Board that the District had received a Superior achievement rating. She then outlined the critical indicators and how United scored in those areas in order to receive the top rating.

VI. School District's Rating – Superior Achievement

Ms. Benavides described the indicators utilized in assigning the rating to the district. She said there were 24 indicators of which 7 were critical indicators, 5 were fiscal responsibility, 5 for

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Public Hearing of October 21, 2009 be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Pat Campos –President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

October 21, 2009

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary - absent
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson
Member Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, October 21, 2009, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:32 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

Item #V - Recognitions was considered before other agenda items.

V. Recognitions

A. Region I ESC Science Teacher of the Year – Gear Up Program – Olga Vidal

Ms. Pam Juarez, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, introduced Ms. Olga Vidal who was named Region I ESC Science Teacher of the Year. Ms. Vidal was then recognized by the Board of Trustees.

B. Region One ESC Child Find Art Contest Winners 2009

Ms. Leticia Leal, Coordinator Fine Arts, introduced the teachers and students who received awards from Region I for the Child Find Art Contest.

C. AP Scholar Awards for Excellence

Ms. Juarez then introduced the Advanced Placement Scholars with Distinction. Many were represented by their parents as the students had already gone off to college. The AP scholars

with Distinction must score a 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken and must take at least five exams. Those honored from Alexander High School were Margaret Freeman, Ruchitha Goonatilake, Nathalie Quach, and Graciela Sarabia. Those honored from United High School were Eriberto Elizondo and Santos Gomez.

Ms. Juarez introduced those students who were named AP Scholars with Honor who scored a three or higher on at least four AP exams. Those honored from J. B. Alexander High School included Cassie Chan, Andres Garza, Ricardo Guerra, Diana Labrada, and Ricardo Pedraza. The AP Scholars with Honor from United High School included Arturo Elizondo, Jose Melero, Issa Ramos, John Ramsey, and Marion Villarreal. The L.B. Johnson High School was AP Scholar with Honor was Edgardo Molina.

The AP scholars who scored were then recognized by the Board of Trustee. The AP Scholars from J.B. Alexander were Gabriella Caballero, Karen de la Garza, Sabino Gonzalez, Rohlverth Guarecuco, Junhee Lee, Elizabeth Lopez, Humberto Salazar, and We Yang. The following AP Scholars from United High School included Selene Espinoza, Ramon Flores, Ricardo Gallegos, Navil Lozano, Eduardo Marina, Sharad Shama, Karen Soriano, Elda Trevino and Alexa Ura. The

Ms. Juarez asked that all the AP teachers who were present would cross the stage and be recognized by the Board.

Mr. Mike Garza, Executive Director of Support Services, introduced Mr. Roberto Trevino, President of Southern Sanitation, who assisted UISD with a storage issue at United High School. Mr. Garza explained that Mr. Trevino, as always, had "come through" in support of the athletic programs at UISD. He said Mr. Trevino donated two trailer boxes valued at \$3800. The Board thanked Mr. Trevino for his donation.

IV. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy.

The Board then considered **Item IV – Public Comments.**

Alejandra Lightner. Ms. Lightner said she was there as the Secretary for United ISD TSTA/NEA and said she was offering support to Mr. Keith Chappell and his wife. She said Mr. and Ms. Chappell were her neighbors and lived on her street. Ms. Lightner commented that the couple's only question was that their child be allowed to go to Pre-K classes.

VI. Open Session

A. Discussion re: Hearing of Level III Parent Grievance of Keith Chappell

Ms. Campos advised the Board that the parent, Keith Chappell, had requested the Board hear his concern in Open Session.

Mr. Chappell said he was there on behalf of his son, Joseph and other children like him who could take advantage of the Pre-K services. He said the District does outline who can enter the Pre-K program, and the policy lays out the criteria. Mr. Chappell read from the Kinder Roundup pamphlet that states the District's reason for having a Pre-K Program and emphasized that the program would benefit his son. He said he took his son to the district and was denied entrance into the program.

The speaker pointed out that the District does not take into account TEC 29.153 where students could enter the Pre-K Program if they paid tuition. The speaker said UISD policy neglects TEC 29.153.1. Mr. Chappell asked that the District change its policy.

Mr. Chappell pointed out that at Malakoff Elementary where his older son goes, there are four Pre-K classes, two in the morning and two in the afternoon with a total of 61 students. He said TEC outlines student teacher ratio is 21 to 1; however, there are no stated ratios for Pre-K. Mr. Chappell added that there were 84 possible slots at Malakoff Elementary and there were 23 extra slots available.

Mr. Chappell said he visited with Mr. Santos and provided information relating to the 26 elementary schools in UISD. If 400 were divided evenly, that would mean 16 students per class. Mr. Chappell asked that they fill the classrooms with students who may not qualify, but who would benefit. The speaker said he didn't think this would burden the district. He asked that they fill the 23 slots at Malakoff and allow the students to receive the extra benefit of the Pre-K program. He said he would prefer the District use district funds, but he would be willing to pay tuition, if necessary.

Mr. Chappell said that before he came to the meeting, he was sitting at the table with Gabriel, his six year old son. His son asked him why he was wearing nice clothes. He also asked if Joseph could go to school, but Mr. Chappell said he told him that Joseph couldn't because he had been denied. I said I was going to come to the meeting to see if it could be changed.

Representing U.I.S.D. Administration, Ms. Ann Macdonald, Executive Director for Elementary Instruction, then addressed the Board.

Ms. Macdonald began by thanking Mr. Chappell for bringing his concern to them and that he had been very professional in presenting his case. She said that, as expected by the Texas Education Code, they were honored to work as partners with parents in the best interest of every student.

Ms. Macdonald provided a brief history of the grievances filed by Mr. Chappell. She said Mr. Keith Chappell filed a Level One Grievance on August 12, 2009, in which he stated his concern with the District's eligibility for prekindergarten services not being provided to all children. Ms. Macdonald noted that Mr. Chappell was seeking the remedy to allow district funds to support all children who apply to prekindergarten. She noted that a Level One Hearing was conducted by Anna Torres, principal of Malakoff Elementary School and supervised by Sandra Cavazos, Executive Director of Student Services, on August 20, 2009.

Ms. Macdonald explained that the decision of the Level One hearing officer stated that the District policy is in full compliance with the Texas Education Code (TEC 29.153). The Hearing Office also stated that restructuring the funding, facilities and personnel of the prekindergarten program was beyond the scope of the authority of the hearing officer and the campus principal. She said his request that the Board allow district funds to support all children who apply to prekindergarten was denied.

Ms. Macdonald continued by saying on September 8, 2009, Mr. Chappell filed a Level Two Grievance, in which he stated that he did not agree that the hearing officer that she did not have the authority to change current policy and that the District was choosing to ignore TX Code 29.1531. The Level Two Hearing was originally scheduled for September 16, 2009. Mr. Chappell asked to reschedule the meeting as he was out of town. Ms. Macdonald stated that she conducted a Level Two hearing on September 21, 2009. The decision of the Level Two hearing was basically to deny Mr. Chappell's requested remedy. Therefore, Mr. Chappell's request to enroll his child in the District's prekindergarten program was denied.

Mr. Santos asked if the Board would entertain the informational item from the Superintendent's Report on the Annual Investment Report as the presenter was from out of town.

Mr. Sam Flores, Director of Accounting, introduced Mr. Bill Cook, Estrada-Hinojosa, the District's investment advisors. He presented the highlights of the Annual Investment Report for the period ending August 31, 2009. He said the Annual Report was showing the District balances had increased from \$92 million on August 2008 to \$124 million as of August 31, 2009. Mr. Cook said the average yield in Banks/Pools was .36%, and the CDs and Securities were at 3.31 percent for the period. The average quarterly yield of the portfolio was .72% while the fiscal year was 1.75%.

Mr. Cook advised the Board that there was \$2.814,595 million in portfolio-earned interest of which \$2.2 million was General Fund earnings. The speaker said this was less than the projected budgeted earnings of \$3.5 million. He noted that as of August 31, 2009, 88% of the portfolio was in Banks and Pools while 12% was in CDs. He said the report presented to the Board included some quarter-end balances and charts and graphs with data provided by the District. Mr. Cook commented that in looking forward in the current economic situation, they did not see any improvement in the yields until mid 2010.

VII. Closed Session: The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 7:24 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

551.074 - Consultation with Board's Attorney

1. Hearing of Level III Grievance of Keith Chappell

B. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

551.072 Discussion on the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property

1. Report and Possible Action with respect to status of negotiations for the purchase of an approximate 20-acre tract of land adjacent

to St. Luke being out of the 33 acre tract in the *Cielito Lindo* Subdivision in Webb County from *Cielito Lindo* Ltd.

C. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel and to Hear Complaints Against Personnel

- 1. Discussion with Chief of Police re: duties and responsibilities, in particular status of organizational changes, employees affected by such changes, and other matters related thereto**

D. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel and to Hear Complaints Against Personnel

551.076 Considering the Deployment, Specific Occasions for, or implementation of Security Personnel or Devices

1. Discussion re: Status Report From Internal Auditor on Duties Re: the Following Matters

- a. USHS Student Activity**
- b. UMS Student Activity**
- c. Maintenance Dept. Operations**
- d. Status of On-going Audits**

VIII. The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 8:22 p.m., and took appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session.

A. Discussion / Action Regarding Level III Grievance of Keith Chappell

Motion: I move to deny the Level III Grievance of Keith Chappell, but direct administration to conduct a study on changes to the Pre-Kindergarten Program for the year 2010-2011 (school).

Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: Johnson
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Executing an Earnest Money Contract for an Approximate 20-acre Tract of Land adjacent to St. Luke being out of the 33 acre tract in the *Cielito Lindo* Subdivision in Webb County from *Cielito Lindo* Ltd.

Ms. Sonya Garcia, legal counsel, advised the Board that the recommendation was to conduct a feasibility study on the stated tract of land and report back to the Board in November.

Motion: So move
Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

IX. Superintendent's Report

A. Presentation of Annual Investment Report

This item was considered before Closed Session.

X. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Johnson advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committees had met the previous week and were recommending approval of the following items.

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements**
- B. Approval of Budget Amendments**
- C. Approval of End of Year Outstanding Encumbrances**
- D. Approval of Tax Refunds**
- E. Medication Discount Plan**
- F. Approval of Request from Juan Roberto Ramirez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Washington Middle School for \$28,100.**
- G. Approval of Request from Ricardo Rodriguez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Zaffirini Elementary School for \$6,800.**
- H. Approval of Request From Juan A. Molina, Jr. and Ricardo Rodriguez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for United South High School for \$11,783.24.**
- I. Approval of Request from Juan A. Molina, Jr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Perez Elementary for \$7,686.82.**
- J. Approval of Board Travel for the Month of November, 200**
- K. Approval of District and Campus Improvement Plans for 2009-2010 School Year**
- L. 2009-2010 Bilingual Exceptions**
- M. First and Final Reading of Policy BBG (LOCAL): Board Members Compensation and Expenses**

**N. Second Reading of Policy DEC (LOCAL) Compensation and Benefits:
Leaves and Absences**

O. Second Reading of DK (LOCAL) Assignments and Schedules

**P. Second Reading of DBBA (LOCAL): School Communications Program
New Media Relations**

Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: J. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

XI. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

- 1. Public Hearing – August 19, 2009**
- 2. Regular Board Meeting – August 19, 2009**
- 3. Regular Board Meeting – September 16, 2009**
- 4. Special Called Meeting – October 7, 2009**
- 5. Special Called Meeting – October 7, 2009**

Motion: So move.

Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the list of donations totaling \$16,029.63 into the record and thanked all who had given to the District for their generous donations.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

C. 2009-2010 Bilingual Exceptions

This item was approved under the Consent Agenda Items.

D. Approval of Request from Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for J. B. Alexander High School for \$20,095

Motion: So move.
Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

E. Approval of Request from Bill Johnson and Juan Roberto Ramirez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for United High School for \$36,000

Motion: So move.
Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

F. Approval To Adopt Resolution Regarding Review of Investment Policies and Strategies

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: J. Molina
Discussion:

Mr. Sam Flores, Director of Accounting, read the resolution into the record.

In Favor: Unanimous

G. Approval for Resolution for the Election of Board of Directors of Webb County Appraisal District

Ms. Norma Farabough, UISD Tax Assessor-Collector, advised the board that they were bringing a resolution that entitles the Board to cast their votes equally between the two Board members we are proposing or to split those with the two Board members or LISD. She said it takes 834 votes to garner one seat on the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Ms. Farabough said we have done both options, however, even without our votes they would still be able to get a seat on the Board.

Mr. Johnson asked who would get the votes. Ms. Farabough said it would be the city and the county. Ms. Farabough read the resolution after deciding that they would split the votes between our Board members.

Motion: So move
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: Rodriguez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

H. Discussion/Action re: Installation of Lights at all High School Campuses Sports Fields

Mr. Johnson said this item was presented at the Business Committee meeting, and the committee had asked for the rates.

Mr. J. Molina also asked if they could into out how much it would cost for marching pads at United South High School.

Mr. Gilpin a said he would like to find out about getting other alternatives that might be more cost-effective. Mr. Zuniga, Associate Superintendent for Support Services, said Administration would present responses to the requests at the next business meeting.

Mr. Gilpin asked that they bring in a list of priorities as to which campuses need the lights the most. Mr. Zuniga responded that he would do so.

Action was not taken on this item.

Items XI-I, J, and K were all First Readings and no action was required.

- I. First Reading of CFB(LOCAL) – Accounting Inventories**
- J. First Reading of Policy EF(LOCAL) – Instructional Resources**
- K. First Reading of Policy EIC(LOCAL) – Academic Achievement: Class Ranking**

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of October 21, 2009 was adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Pat Campos – President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Board Workshop
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

October 29, 2009

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President - absent
Juan Molina – Vice President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian – arrived 6:05 p.m.
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson – Member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, October 29, 2009, in the U.I.S.D. Administrative Building Board Room located at 301 Lindenwood Drive, Laredo, TX 78045. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:03 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Workshop

**A. Presentation of Financing Options in Relation to Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCBs)
Presenter: Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc.**

Mr. Jordan, Estrada Hinojosa & Company, Inc., addressed the Board offering an overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009 – Qualified Tax Credit Bonds and the implications for United I.S.D. The presenter described the QSCBs (Qualified School Construction Bonds) and the purpose of such bonds. He said that the QSCBs provide bond owners with a tax credit in lieu of interest payments. The speaker said UISD submitted an application for QSCB and was able to buy \$17,444,000 in bonds. Mr. Jordan continued by saying the net tax benefit of QSC Bs was that the Credit Rate is determined by the Treasury Department in a manner that allows the issuance of tax-credit bonds without discount. He further elaborated by saying an issuer must repay the amount initially borrowed and does not repay interest on it.

Mr. Jordan says the Municipal Bonds were very predictable; however, the QSCBs were unique. He said when the first tax credit bonds were issued, it was thought there was only one buyer. However, there is a market developing now. As the economy improves, Mr. Jordan explained that the tax credit rate has gone down. He said the 5 ¾ percent was attractive, but the bonds are geared toward the 7 ¼ rate. The speaker said that being able to borrow money and only having to pay 1% is good. He commented that one wrinkle in the QSCB is that you could set the funds aside, but there is no place to earn 4 ½ to 5% interest.

Mr. Jordan described Maintenance Tax Notes which are used to pay the costs of maintenance, repair, rehabilitation or replacement of heating, air conditioning, water, sanitation, roofing, flooring, electric or other existing building systems. Additionally, he said that the notes must mature no later than twenty years from their date and that the aggregate principal amount of notes issued (including asbestos, maintenance, and tax anticipation notes) may not at any time exceed 75% of a district's income for the previous year. The notes, he said, are not voted debt, they are paid from the maintenance tax and are not eligible for the Permanent School Fund (PSF) guarantee.

Continuing with the presentation, Mr. Jordan provided an overview of the Series 2009 Financing Cost Comparison. He said the District would not receive state assistance and that the best idea would be to take the money and pay the bonds off earlier.

Mr. Jordan said if they were able to save the District more, he would come back and show the actual debt service and what savings resulted. He said they would like to come back with a bond sale in December. However, he noted that they would not take action tonight.

B. Presentation of Construction Projects to be Funded from Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCBs)
Presenter: Enrique Rangel, Assistant Superintendent for Construction, Facilities, and Student Services

Mr. Eduardo Zuniga, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services, introduced Enrique Rangel, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities/Construction/Student Services, who provided a list of projects based on their five-year master plan that was developed in 2007. Mr. Rangel said they had input from the campuses and from the Maintenance Department. The speaker said that they narrowed the projects down and the cost would be approximately \$17 million.

Mr. Rangel listed projects at six campuses that involved removal of architectural barriers, ADA-compliance and replacement of door hardware. The projected cost was \$1,140,000. He also noted that there were five campus projects that were related to fire detection and alarm systems replacement that had a projected cost of \$890,000.

The speaker then presented the HVAC Systems replacements saying they had been replacing them throughout the year through the maintenance budget. He said the replacements would cost approximately \$8,200,000.

Mr. Rangel then pointed out the electrical and lighting systems upgrades that were planned. He said some of the systems go back many years such as United Middle School in 1963 and that the systems have degraded through wear and tear. Mr. Rangel said they didn't want to be caught off-guard but to be proactive. The cost of the proposed project would be \$950,000.

Mr. Ramirez asked what actual warranty is given. Mr. Rangel responded that it is normally five years. He said we need to continue with the annual maintenance. He added that this is a complete replacement of a system that is exhibiting wear and tear.

Mr. Rangel then explained that the A/C and electrical power for technology head in rooms were part of the needs at the fifteen campuses to support technology. The projected cost of the upgrades was \$1,480,000.

Mr. Ramirez asked if we still use the water-cooling system. Mr. Rangel responded that they have almost all be replaced. He said they want to be proactive and be prepared for emergencies. He said the last project is the repair of Krueger Stadium and upgrade of the trace and field facilities. Mr. Rangel said this would be a good investment.

Mr. Ramirez commented that it is too dark along the tree line by Krueger Field. He asked if we were going to try to save money. Mr. Santos responded that Mr. Rangel would provide the Board with information regarding the savings. Mr. Johnson asked if there was any way they could bundle the items, and Mr. Rangel responded that they do whenever possible.

Mr. Gilpin asked if we could get the steel roof in order not to have to face it in the future.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Board Workshop of October 29, 2009 was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Pat Campos, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

October 29, 2009

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President - absent
Juan Molina – Vice President
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Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
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I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

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III. Action Items

A. Consideration and Approval of a Plan of Finance in Conjunction with District's Issuance of the Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCBs); Establishing Guidelines for Consideration of the Amount of issuance, Supplemental Coupon, Construction Projects, and Target Debt Service Savings on these Obligations Authorizing and Directing District Staff In Concert with the District's Legal and Financial Consultants to engage An Underwriter(s) for the Financing and Other Matters Related Thereto

Ms. Laida Benavides, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, addressed the Board and recommended that the Board move to authorize Administration along with District's financial and legal consultants to proceed with issuing \$17,440 million in Maintenance tax notes (Series 2009). She said they would be in the form of the QSCBs where they hoped to find a better rate than compared to issuing traditional tax exempt bonds. Ms. Benavides commented that, provided the District obtained the savings that are at least 10% of the debt service on these obligations. Mr. Jordan, Financial Advisor, had noted in his presentation that the savings might be more than the 10%. She said they needed to move forward with the paperwork to get ready in case the market gets to a point where the District can meet these savings. Ms.

Benavides said the reason they wanted to put in the 10% is because, at a later date, they might want to come back to issue tax exempt bonds and Administration would have to come back to the Board for approval. She said she hoped the Board would authorize Administration to move forward with the paperwork to prepare in case the market gets to the point to meet these savings

In addition, Ms. Benavides said they were asking the Board to direct and authorize the District staff in concert with legal and financial counsel and to engage underwriters for the proposed financing. She said Mr. Jordan had explained that this is a new type of financing and there are not many underwriters engaged in this type of financing. Ms. Benavides said they would want a team of underwriters who know of investors who would want these types of instruments.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Approval of Projects to be funded by QSCBs.

Mr. Eduardo Zuniga, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services, addressed the Board saying Administration was asking the Board to approve the projects to be funded by the QSCBs. He said they would be packaging the projects in order to receive a better price.

Mr. Gilpin commented that he would like to add that the roofing project be flexible and looked at during the next meeting.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: R. Molina
Seconded by: Ramirez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

C. Approval of Procurement Method for Projects to be Funded by QSCBs

Ms. Cordy Flores-Jackson, Director of Purchasing, addressed the Board saying staff was recommending that they use the procurement method for projects to be funded by QSCBs.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Consideration and Approval of Resolution by the Board of Trustees of the United Independent School District Establishing the District's Intention to Reimburse Itself for the Prior Unlawful Expenditure of

Funds from the Proceeds of Obligations to be Issued by District for Authorized Purposes, and Other Matters in Connection Therewith

Ms. Benavides asked the Board to consider approving the resolution establishing the intention to reimburse itself for the prior unlawful expenditure of funds from the proceeds of obligations to be issued by the District for authorized purpose. She said that in case they did have expenditures before they issue the bonds that they would be allowed to reimburse the District once the bonds are issued. She said they may have to have some type of pre-cost before they issue the bonds which mean it might be necessary to hire the architects and engineers to design the plans. Ms. Benavides explained that many of the projects need to be completed during the summer time. If they have two months planning time and then two-three months to do the plans and the District goes out for competitive sealed proposals, it would be April or May before all is completed. Ms. Benavides said they needed the people who are going to do the projects to begin in June.

Ms. Benavides commented further that they would hate to see a school having to close down. The HVAC and roof replacements would have to be done in the summer, but they do have the latitude to move some of the projects. In addition, she said they have a set three-year timeline to spend all the money. Ms. Benavides said approval of the item would allow them to start hiring the architects and work with them on different roof types and also to allow us to reimburse ourselves.

Mr. Ramirez asked that they bring the costs to the Board. Ms. Benavides responded that the architect's or any engineering fees are usually around 7%-8% which is already incorporated.

Motion:	So move
Moved by:	Johnson
Seconded by:	R. Molina
Discussion:	None
In Favor:	Unanimous

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Special Called Meeting of October 29, 2009 was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Pat Campos, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary