

**WICHITA FALLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WFISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – BOARD ROOM
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT:

The Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District met in a special session meeting on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Mr. Mike Rucker, board president.

Board members present: Mr. Mike Rucker, Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager, Mr. Tom Bursey, Mr. Mark Lukert, Ms. Katherine McGregor and Robert Payton. Mr. Mike Rucker noted that a quorum was present and the meeting had been duly called and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law. Mr. Dale Harvey was absent.

Staff members present: Mr. Michael S. Kuhrt, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Peter Griffiths, Associate Superintendent, Mr. Tim Sherrod, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Cyndy Kohl, Director of Human Resources, Director Ms. Debby Patterson, Executive Director of School Administration, Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, Ms. Lauren Zotz, Director of Purchasing, Ms. Denise Brown, Director of Finance, Ms. Ann Work Goodrich, Communication Specialist, Ms. Kelly Strenski, Director of Fine Arts, Mr. Scot Hafley, Athletic Director, Mr. Shad McGaha, Chief Technology Officer and Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Director of Special Education.

Also present were Mr. Trish Choate, reporter for Times Record News and Ms. Ebonee Coleman, reporter for KAUZ Channel 6.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Mike Rucker gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Byron Cline, a community member, spoke to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees about mascots.

Mr. Mary Lynn Boyd, a community member, spoke to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees about mascots.

Mr. David Gray, a community member, spoke to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees about mascots.

Ms. Cheryl Johnson, a community member, spoke to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees about saving the Coyotes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Michael S. Kuhrt, Superintendent of Schools, gave a report to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees on the following subjects:

1. Inclement Weather Days on 2021-2022 District Calendar.
2. COVID numbers are down. Testing at Carrigan is down.
3. UIL Re-Alignment: Rider, 5A Division 2; WFHS, 4A Division 1; Hirschi, 4A Division 2
4. Food Service Company Pre-bids are in progress.

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021:

Mr. Tim Sherrod, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the attached year-to-date financial reports and investment reports.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees regular meeting on February 22, 2022.

JANUARY 2022 BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager, seconded by Mr. Mark Lukert, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the attached budget amendments to the 2021-2022 budgets.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

REPLACEMENT OF SYNTHETIC TURF:

Mr. Tim Sherrod, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees award the Replacement of Synthetic Turf at Memorial Stadium to Paragon Sports Constructors, LLC.

The Quote Request Q# 22-25 was issued through TASB's BuyBoard Cooperative Contract#: 641-21. Three vendors responded with valid quotes while one vendor responded with No Bid. Lauren Zotz, Director of Purchasing and Scot Hafley, Director of Athletics, reviewed the quotes and recommended accepting the proposal submitted by Paragon Sports Constructors, LLC.

Paragon Sports Constructors, LLC, is a sports construction company based in Fort Worth, Texas. Paragon specializes in construction of natural grass and synthetic turf sports fields, as well as track surfaces. The project to replace the synthetic turf at Memorial Stadium will be scheduled as soon as possible after Board approval. The project will take approximately 6 to 8 weeks to complete.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees regular meeting on February 22, 2022.

RFP# 22-24 DATA TRANSMISSION SERVICES (E-RATE):

Mr. Tim Sherrod, Chief Financial Officer, recommended that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees award RFP# 22-24 Data Transmission Services (E-Rate) to AT&T and Zayo.

Requests for proposals pertaining to RFP# 22-24 Data Transmission Services (which routinely qualifies for the E-Rate reimbursement) were posted on the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) and Public Purchase website. The RFP was advertised twice in the Times and Record News. Public Purchase website notifications were sent to 146 unique users, 72 different vendors, with 3 vendors submitting valid responses.

The proposals were evaluated by Shad McGaha, Chief Technology Officer and Frank Murray, Director of Instructional Technology and Curtis Shahan Infrastructure Manager. The recommendation for elementary services is AT&T and the recommendation for secondary and non-instructional campuses is Zayo.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees regular meeting on February 22, 2022.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

MASCOTS FOR THE TWO NEW HIGH SCHOOLS:

The Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees discussed a plan to revise the Mascot committee for the naming mascots for the two new high schools.

This plan for the mascots for the two new high schools will be discussed further at the regular board meeting, February 22, 2022.

ADOPTION OF THE WFISD 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager, seconded by Mr. Tom Bursey, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees adopt the WFISD 2022-2023 School Calendar.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

TASB RECOMMENDED LOCAL POLICY UPDATE 118:

Ms. Debby Patterson, Executive Director of School Administration, recommended that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees add, revise or delete (LOCAL) policies as recommended by TASB Policy Service and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 118.

Update 118 mostly covers recommended (LOCAL) policy revisions to address new laws enacted from the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, which ended on May 31, 2021 and changes to TEA's *Financial Accountability System Resource Guide*.

Many of the (LEGAL) policies included in this update were also affected by legislation from the 87th Legislature, Regular Session and changes to Administrative Code rules.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees regular meeting on February 22, 2022.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES:

IMPROVED ACADEMIC SCHIEVEMENT: SPECIAL EDUCATION FOLLOW-UP ON TAPR:

Ms. Alefia Paris-Toulon, Director of Special Education, presented to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees a report on Special Education on the TAPR report.

BOARD MATTERS:

MINUTES:

Minutes of special session, January 11, 2022, minutes of Public Hearing, January 18, 2022 and minutes of regular meeting, January 18, 2022.

These items will be placed on the consent agenda for the Board of Trustees regular meeting on February 22, 2022.

DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE ZONE MODIFICATIONS:

The Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees discussed Potential Attendance Zone Modifications.

RECESS:

Mr. Mike Rucker, board president, recessed the special session to go into closed session at 1:52 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Closed Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072: Discussion of Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property

Closed session Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074:

1. Personnel Matters Including the Appointment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, Dismissal and/or Compensation of Individual District Employees
2. Deliberations Regarding Abandonment of Contract by Teachers and the Attempt to Resign
3. Deliberations Regarding Notifications to the State Board for Educator Certification of Teacher Contract Abandonment
4. Deliberations Regarding Superintendent's Recommendation Concerning the Renewal of One-Year Contract of Employment as Noted on the List Provided by Administration for Certified Administrators and Non-Certified Professionals
5. Superintendent's Annual Evaluation, Contract, and Compensation

RECOVERED:

Mr. Mike Rucker, board president, reconvened the closed session to go into special session at 3:38 p.m.

OPEN SESSION:

Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager, seconded by Mr. Mark Lukert, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees issue a finding in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 21.210 (c) and 19 Texas Administrative Code 249.14(g), that good cause did not exist for Layla Englade, a probationary contract teacher, and Carolyn Fogel, a probationary contract teacher to abandon their employment contracts, abandon their positions, and attempt to resign from Wichita Falls ISD.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager, seconded by Mr. Tom Bursey, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees authorize the Board President to send a letter to the State Board for Educator Certification seeking sanctions for Layla Englade, a probationary contract teacher, and Carolyn Fogel, a probationary contract teacher for abandonment of their employment contracts.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

HUMAN RESOURCES:

MONTHLY PERSONNEL REPORT:

Ms. Cyndy Kohl, Director of Human Resources, reported to the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees a review of employee resignations/retirements that have been submitted since the last board meeting. The resignations/retirements have been accepted by Mr. Michael S. Kuhrt, Superintendent of Schools, in accordance with the requirements of Policy DFE (LOCAL).

LETTERS OF RETIREMENT SINCE THE SUBMISSION OF THE LAST BOARD AGENDA:

Professionals

Adams, Alisa – Instructional Coach, Franklin (5/21/2022)
Banda, Albert – Teacher, Denver (5/31/2022)
Brown, Whitnie – Teacher, Farris (5/31/2022)
Ford, Deborah – Teacher, WFHS (5/31/2022)
Ginnings, Connie – Teacher, Franklin (5/31/2022)

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION SINCE THE SUBMISSION OF THE LAST BOARD AGENDA:

Professionals

Breaux, Dianna – Teacher, Burgess (5/31/2022)
Buckland, Dianna – Teacher, Burgess (12/17/2021)
Helton, Jeri – Teacher, McNiel (5/31/2022)
Higgins, Jessica – Teacher, Barwise (5/31/2022)
Huckabee, Tanna “Brooke” – Teacher, Zundy (5/31/2022)
Humpert, Alysha – Teacher/Coach, Rider (1/28/2022)
Music, Christina – Teacher, McNiel (5/31/2022)

Clerical/Auxiliary/Support

Baird, Marque – Aide, Jefferson (5/27/2022)
Challis, Cristy – Aide, Hirschi (5/31/2022)
Halloran, Skyler – Aide, Hirschi (12/16/2021)

TEACHER APPLICANT POOL:

Mr. Mark Lukert, seconded by Mr. Tom Bursey, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the proposed teacher applicant pool (Exhibit A).

Carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0

ADJOURNMENT:

No further action was taken and Mr. Mike Rucker, board president, adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

President, Board of Trustees

Secretary, Board of Trustees