

MINUTES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SMITHVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Smithville Independent School District was held on Monday, April 18, 2022 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

Members present: Howard Burns, Jr., Alan Hemphill, Grant Gutierrez, Chris Hinnant, Candice Parsons, Nancy Towry

Members absent: Mike Davis, Jr.

Others present: Emily Synatschk, Cassandra Synatschk, Amanda Gommert, Natalie Frerich, Rodney Kinsey, Camden Hippler, Jean Ann McCarthy, Noe McCarthy, Tucker Copeland, Shannon Alamillo, Payten Alamillo, Christine Hodges, Kim Hemphill, Joshua Magden, Crystal Saffel, Miranda Blauer, Sharon Foerster, Sharlotte Seidel, Garry Synatschk, Elaine Seidel, Rebecca Hamilton, Dominga Solra, LaDarian Sullivan, Emma Adams, Ronald Behrens, Araceli Guerrero Loera, Butch Murphy, Rachel Hanslik, Dennis Hanslik, Lauren Hanslik, Margarita Igoe, Austin Steubing, Richard Steubing, Lane Hofferek, Ana Murray, David Edwards, Jennifer Edwards, Carlee Edwards, Casey Hanchey, Jennifer Bezner, Justin Bezner, Michael Caudill, Kyle Behrens, KaLeigh Behrens, Blaize Behrens, Raven Behrens, Penney Behrens, Dawsyn Behrens, Kynzie Behrens, Whitney Brown, Tucker Copeland, Stephanie Foster, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll of members. Mr. Davis was absent.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Students from the House of Confidence at Smithville Elementary led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those students were: Blaize Behrens, Tyler Jones, Bowen Welch, Scarlett Zingelmann, Dawsyn Behrens, and Luke Yokubaitis.

Character Education Speakers – Student guest speakers are present at each board meeting to read a short essay on the Character Trait of the Month. The Board heard from third-graders Colton Ellis and Lyla Loera (with assistance from Dawsyn Behrens). Their essay topic was curiosity, the virtue for April.

Recognition of Outstanding Students for the Nine-Weeks – The Board recognized the outstanding students. Payten Alamillo and Caleb Saffel have been chosen as outstanding students for the third nine-weeks from Smithville Junior High. Payten is in 8th grade and is the daughter of John and Shannon Alamillo. Caleb is a 7th grader and the son of Kevin and Crystal Saffel. Outstanding students chosen from Smithville High School are Carlee Edwards, 12th grade

daughter of David and Jennifer Edwards, and Ladarian Sullivan, 11th grade son of Emma Adams. Congratulations to these students for their outstanding achievement!

Public Communications

The Board of Trustees heard from the following community members in support of Mr. Bass, Ms. Wall and the Smithville FFA program: Rodney Kinsey, Garry Synatschk, Sharon Foerster, Sharlotte Seidel, Butch Murphy, Lauren Hanslik, and Casey Hanchey,

Consent Agenda – Howard Burns, Jr. moved to approve consent agenda items 1 through 6 as presented. With a second from Candice Parsons, the vote passed 6-0.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned
5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report

Financial Report – The Chief Financial Officer, Jean Ann McCarthy, shared the financial disbursements for the previous month with the Board of Trustees. No action was required.

Superintendent's Report – The Superintendent updated the Board on important issues pertaining to the District including the following:

- Current district enrollment is 1793 students.
- Tyler Cyr won the SkillsUSA State Plumbing Championship. This is the second student winning this competition under the direction of Ryan Moerbe. Congratulations to them both.
- Junior High State Competitors in the Texas Future Problem Solvers (story in the April Tiger Insider)
- SHS Tiger Band earned Sweepstakes in the UIL Solo Ensemble and Sight Reading for the 14th Consecutive Year.
- Tiger Track Team WON the District Meet this past week. Lady Tiger Team placed 3rd overall.
- Congratulations to Chris Piraino, Lucy Slepekis, Annie Schuck, Clayton Bolt, Blake Segel, Kylie Rosborough, Marissa Igoe, and Monica Lewis on qualifying for Regionals in Tennis.
- The April Tiger Insider is at your place and will be posted on the website this week.
- This Friday, April 22, 2022, is a Bad Weather Make-up Day. Students and staff will have a regular school day and mass communications will be shared tomorrow reminding everyone.
- An invitation to the 2022 Honor Graduate Dinner is at your place. This is sponsored by the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Smithville Education Foundation.
- The End of Year Breakfast is Tuesday, May 31, 2022 and all Board Members are invited to attend.

SISD Instructional/Curriculum Program Highlight: SHS Debate – The Board is presented with curriculum and program area highlights on a regular basis. The purpose of each presentation is to keep the Board informed of the academic progress within the district and on campuses. The program highlighted this month is SHS Debate. Mrs. Kim Hemphill and Mrs. Natalie Frerich, along with students Rachel Frerich and Camden Hippler were present at the meeting to highlight their program.

COVID-19 Update – David Edwards, Federal Programs Director, presented an update on COVID-19 including current numbers and how it pertains to instruction and mitigation plans for the district.

Review of 2022-2023 High School Course Catalog – Administrators from the high school review and edit the course catalog on an annual basis for the upcoming school year. A report was given to the Board of Trustees and updates or changes to the course catalog were noted.

Report Board Member Continuing Education Hours – Board Policy BBD [Legal] and 19 TAC 61.61 requires the Board President to announce the name of each Board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours of continuing education, and who is deficient in the required continuing education. This announcement is required annually. The Board President must announce Board members' continuing education hours at the last regular meeting prior to the next board election, shall cause the minutes to reflect the information, and shall make this information available to the local media. The Board President announced that Mr. Gutierrez, Mr. Hemphill, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Davis were deficient in continuing education hours, Mrs. Towry and Mr. Hinnant met requirements, and Mrs. Parsons exceeded requirements.

Tentative May Agenda Items – Tentative items to be included on the May agenda are:

1. Issue Oath of Office for New Board Members
2. Reorganization of the Board of Trustees
3. Recognition of State Qualifiers
4. Recognition of Outstanding Students for the 4th Six-Weeks
5. Recognition of Tiger Award Winners
6. Financial Report
7. Superintendent's Report
8. COVID 19 Report
9. 2022-2023 Dress Code
10. Resignations and Employment of Certified Personnel

Consider Approval of Instructional Materials Allotment and Textbook Adoption – Board policies EFAA (legal) and EFAA (local) address the selection and adoption of instructional materials for the district. The instructional resource committee recommendation is to adopt all titles on the state approved list. From the list, each campus will determine the supplemental materials to be ordered based on instructional allotment funds and need assessments for each campus. In order to remain in compliance with board policy and state guidelines to enable the district to

obtain state funded instructional materials for the school district, the Board of Trustees must certify the use of Instructional Material Allotment Funds for instructional resources within the school district.

The junior high recommended McGraw Hill Glencoe Teen Health Book, a resource for Health and PE for the 2022-2023 school year, Candice Parsons moved to approve the recommendation as presented. With a second from Nancy Towry, the motion passed 6-0.

Consider Approval to Revise 2022-2023 District Calendar –

The Board of Trustees voted to approve adoption of the 2022-2023 District Calendar at its regular meeting in February. After review by administrators and the District Site-Based Committee, the Superintendent is requesting approval to make two minor revisions to that calendar. On the currently adopted calendar, December 16, 2022 is listed as an early release. We would like to change that date to a full day of attendance for both students and staff. Also, the current calendar assigns April 14, 2023, Jamboree Friday, as a bad weather day. The bad weather day has been changed to Friday, March 10, 2023, leaving Jamboree Friday as a student and staff holiday. In the event that other revisions are necessary to meet attendance requirements or in cases of emergency, the Superintendent is requesting authorization from the Board to make changes to the calendar if needed during the school year without Board action. Candice Parsons moved to approve the revised 2022-2023 District Calendar as presented and to allow any future changes to the calendar deemed necessary by the Superintendent. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Call for Special Meeting to Canvass Results of May 7, 2022 Regular Election

The election for board trustees is Saturday, May 7, 2022. Chapter 67, subchapter 67.003 of the election code requires the Board of Trustees to canvass the results no earlier than the third day after the election and no later than the eleventh day after the election. Bastrop County Elections has suggested that we schedule our canvass for Monday, May 16th to allow for "cure" of any provisional ballots. Howard Burns moved to call a special meeting to canvass the results for the May 7, 2022 regular election for Monday, May 16, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Candice Parsons seconded the motion and the vote passed 6-0.

Closed Session – The Board adjourned to closed session at 6:59 p.m and returned at 7:40 with no official action taken.

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent informed the Board of the resignations of: Richard Waters, teacher/coach at the high school, Joe Brad Bass and Abigail Seidel, teachers at the high school. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent recommended hire of the following individuals for 2022-2023: Regina Estrada, Rachel Tucker, Mark Belford, Lauren Copeland, Richard King, Kiyra Crooks, Kathryn Medack, and Rachel Keemer. Candice Parsons moved to approve the employment of staff as recommended. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Consider and Take Action Regarding Certified Staff Contract Renewals

The Superintendent recommended renewal of a term contract for the 2022-2023 school year for Valerie Breeden, teacher at Smithville High School. Nancy Towry moved to approve the recommendation and Chris Hinnant seconded. The vote passed 6-0.

Adjournment – The Board President adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.