

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Graham ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Graham ISD was held Monday, July 1, 2019, beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the GRAHAM ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 400 THIRD STREET, GRAHAM, TX 76450. President, Meredith Lucas called the meeting to order, announced the meeting had been duly called and posted in the time and manner as required by law, and announced a quorum of Board Members.

Board members present: Meredith Lucas, Andrea Lowery, Stan Peavy, III, Daniel De La Cruz, Steve Jones and Pat Martin.

Board members absent: Z.T. Burkett

Administrators present: Superintendent Sonny Cruse, Assistant Superintendent Don Davis, and Assistant Superintendent Robert Loomis

Visitors: Thomas Wallner

OPEN FORUM: No one requested to address the Board during Open Forum.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **STAAR/EOC Scores**

Mr. Cruse provided a preliminary overview of STAAR/EOC scores to the Board

- **Projects Update**

- Woodland Roof will be complete by July 5th.
- The work on the Newton Field Parking Lot is scheduled to begin July 1.
- Additional Parking- Brazos/Carolina- Completed rock work.
- Pioneer Office Flooring Complete.
- Pioneer Library Carpet Complete.
- Greenhouse
 - Tennessee Land Purchase
- CV Drainage- To Be Started-
 - Assistance by Prison Labor
- Painting- Prisoners from the Breckenridge Unit have been doing the painting at:
 - GJHS Gym
 - Woodland Cafeteria
 - GJHS Hallways
- CV Handicap Playground Concrete work will be completed in about 2 weeks.

- **August Regular Board Meeting-**

- Moved to Wednesday, August 7th- 5:30 pm at the Admin Office

- **Budget/Tax Rate Approval Meeting**

- Wednesday, August 28th- 8:00 am at the Admin Office

- **TASA/TASB Convention**

- Hotel Rooms have been reserved for the Convention September 20-22 in Dallas, TX.

- **Board Member Contact-** Based on new legislation, the district will be required to place the email address for each board member on the district website.
- **HB 2840- Amends the rules of Public Comment at a Board Meeting.**
- **Form CIS- Conflict Disclosure Statement-** This is not an annual requirement. It is an ongoing requirement. They only complete when they have something to report. We have heard of districts having people report annually “no conflicts,” but the form is not set up for that and it might lead to a false sense of security that it is just an annual thing, rather than an ongoing requirement.
 - These are excerpts from BBFA (LEGAL):
 - A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement, as adopted by the Texas Ethics Commission, with respect to a vendor **if** the vendor enters into a contract with the district or the district is considering entering into a contract with the vendor; and the vendor: [...]
 - A local government officer shall file the conflicts disclosure statement with the records administrator of a district not later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the officer becomes aware of the facts that require the filing of the statement. *Local Gov’t Code 176.003(b)*

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes
- District Financial Summary Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Investment Report
- Interest Report
- Enrollment Report
- Budget Amendments

A motion made by Steve Jones, seconded by Pat Martin, carried 6 to 0 to approve the consent agenda and the minutes as corrected.

REPORTS

Board Continuing Education Credit Report

Board President Meredith Lucas reported the continuing education hours of each board member and whether they had exceeded the hours of continuing education, who is deficient in meeting the required continuing education hours and who met the continuing education hours. Continuing education hours is a basic obligation and expectation of any sitting board member under SBOE rule.

Z.T. Burkett	0 hours	Deficient
Daniel De La Cruz	3 hours	Met Hours
Steve Jones	5 hours	Met Hours
Andrea Lowery	5 hours	Met Hours
Meredith Lucas	5.2 hours	Exceeded Hours
Pat Martin	5 hours	Met Hours
Stan Peavy	13 hours	Exceeded Hours

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion of Possible Amendments to Policy EIC (LOCAL) Beginning with the Freshman Class of 2020-2021.

Clair Jones, a student representative from the Graham High School YouthLead group shared with the Board of Trustees, the student's perspective and recommendation regarding amending Policy EIC (LOCAL) which pertains to the calculation of GPA. The YouthLead students recommended installing a weighted class's enrollment cap of 6 classes per year. This will allow students to pursue classes they desire without a perceived grade point harm. Each student would be limited to the highest GPA possible from 6 weighted courses and two unweighted courses. This would even the playing field for those students interested in Fine Arts, Agriculture, Business or other CTE courses that do not receive weighted GPA. The YouthLead reps were split with ten in favor of including PE/Athletics in GOS calculation and seven excluding PE/Athletics.

The Board may discuss the possible amendment to Policy EIC (LOCAL) at a later date.

2. First Reading for TASB Policy Update 113.

Mr. Cruse shared with the Board that the district has received TASB's Policy Update 113. Update 113 will be an action item on the August, 2019 agenda. Detailed information on the update can be found in Boardbook.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consider Amendments to the Dress and Grooming Code Section of the Student Handbook.**

A motion by Steve Jones, to approve the amendments to the dress and grooming code section of the student handbook as presented by the Dress Code Committee was not seconded. The motion failed.

The Board of Trustees wanted further discussion and wanted to review the student dress and grooming code section by section.

Appropriate Grooming Section

A motion by Dan De La Cruz, seconded by Steve Jones to approve this section as presented:

All students will exemplify grooming standards that project a positive image for the student, school, and District. Hair must be a natural color, clean and neatly groomed and worn in a style that does not cover the eyes. Male students must be clean-shaven. No facial hair such as beards, mustaches, and goatees are permitted. Sideburns may extend no lower than the bottom of the ear and must be trimmed in a straight line without flares at the bottom.

The motion carried and this section was approved by a vote of 4-2.

Inappropriate Grooming Section

a). A motion by Stan Peavy, seconded by Steve Jones to strike the following paragraph:
Neon or other hair colorings or bleaching, whether permanent or temporary, in a shade or tone that the principal determines to be unnatural, such as neon orange, neon pink, magenta, any shade of blue, any shade of green, violet, purple and white.

The motion carried and was approved by a vote of 6-0.

b) A motion by Andrea Lowery and seconded by Stan Peavy to strike the following paragraph:

Hair coloring or bleaching for the purpose of creating extreme differences in color, shade, or tone (i.e. "color blocking") between sections of individual strands of hair or areas of hair on the head.

The motion failed by a vote of 2-4.

Inappropriate or unacceptable attire

A motion made by Andrea Lowery, seconded by Steve Jones to accept the following sentence:

Blankets are not outerwear and are not appropriate for school.

The motion carried and was approved by a vote of 6-0

Jewelry, Tattoos, Body Piercing Section

a). A motion by Stan Peavy to strike the following paragraph:
Students may not wear facial jewelry of any kind, other than non-distracting earrings worn on the earlobe. Male students may not wear earrings at all. Spacers, tapers, gauges or any other device that serves the same function, such as, but not limited to ropes, coins, strings etc. may not be worn.

The Motion died due to lack of a second.

b). A motion by Daniel De La Cruz and seconded by Stan Peavy to amend the third sentence of the paragraph below to remove the word "Spacers", and to add the following sentence:

Students may wear clear plastic spacers in the ear that are intended for temporary use.

The motion carried and was approved by a vote of 4-2

Principal's Authority Section

A motion by Stan Peavy, seconded by Andrea Lowery to reject the proposed changes. The first sentence of the paragraph will read as follows:

The principal will determine if clothing or attire not addressed in this policy creates a

distraction to the education process and may prohibit that clothing or attire for his or her campus.

The motion carried and was approved by a vote of 6-0.

2. Consider Approval of the 2019-2020 Weighted Course List

A motion by Daniel De La Cruz, seconded by Pat Martin, carried 6 to 0 to approve the 2019-2020 weighted course list as presented by Administration.

3. Consider Appointment of Delegates for the TASA/TASB Convention

A motion by Andrea Lowery, seconded by Pat Martin, carried 6 to 0 to approve Stan Peavy as the delegate and Daniel De La Cruz as the Alternate for the TASA/TASB Convention.

4. Consider Approval of a Vendor to Replace Lighting Fixtures at Newton Field

A motion by Stan Peavy, seconded by Steve Jones, carried 6 to 0 to procure the lighting fixture project at Newton Field via BuyBoard, and approve the proposal from Musco Sports Lighting for \$204,900.00 and amend the budget accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Under the authority of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, the Board will enter into closed or Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property Gov't Code 555.072, Deployment or Specific Occasions for Implementation of Security Personnel or Devices Gov't Code 551.076, and Employment, Retirement, Resignation & Discussion of Personnel, Gov't Code 551.074.

1. Employment Recommendations for Teachers and Other Professional Personnel.
2. Salary/Compensation for District Administrative and 226 Day Staff
3. GISD Compensation and Pay Grade Scale

Executive Session

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. under Texas Government Codes 555.072, 551.076, and 551.074. The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. with the following action taken:

Employment Recommendations for Teachers and Other Professional Personnel

Mr. Cruse shared that six teachers were hired, on a Probationary contract, since the June 10, 2019 Board Meeting; Emily Leyba, Donald Sewell, Erin Mazy, Brittany Green, Amanda Martinez, and Mackenzie Keilers.

Mr. Cruse stated he had accepted and approved the resignation letters of Kelsey Hobbs, Shawna Rogers, Amy Murphy and Mackenzie Keilers.

Consider Approval of Salary/Compensation for District Administrative and 226 Day Staff

A motion by Pat Martin, seconded by Stan Peavy, carried 6 to 0 to approve the 2019-2020 Salary/Compensation for District Administrative and 226 day staff as presented by the Administration.

Consider Approval of the GISD Compensation and Pay Grade Scale

A motion by Daniel De La Cruz, seconded by Pat Martin, carried 6 to 0 to approve the Compensation Plan as presented by Superintendent Sonny Cruse and Assistant Superintendent Don Davis that provides the following:

- \$2900.00 raise for teachers with 1-5 years of experience.
- \$3000.00 to \$3140.00 raise for teachers with 6+ years of experience.
- A 5% pay raise from the pay grade midpoint for employees other than teachers.
- A new hiring schedule that exceeds the mandated new state salary schedule with a salary range of \$40,000.00 - \$55,040.00.
- Adjustments to individual teacher salaries to guarantee they are at least \$500.00 above the new state minimum salary scale.

ADJOURN

A motion by Andrea Lowery, seconded by Stan Peavy, carried 6 to 0 to adjourn the meeting.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Assistant Superintendent, Don Davis, provided the Board an overview of the upcoming 2019-2020 budget and tax rates.

APPROVED

Meredith Lucas, President
Board of Trustees
Graham Independent School District

Stan Peavy, III, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Graham Independent School District