

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, February 28, 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, Mike Davis, Jr., Grant Gutierrez, Chris Hinnant, Candice Parsons, Nancy Towry

Others present: Amanda Gommert, Stephanie Foster, David Edwards, Zack Harris, April Daniels, Jill Strube, Cyril Adkins, Gordon Cyr, Charles James, Sherrell Moore, Jr., Shane Taylor, Ronnie Behrens, Devon Behrens, Connor Behrens, Amber Kristynik, Case Kristynik, Whitney Brown, Margarita Igoe, Michael Caudill, Willy Culberson, Whitney Percy, Anthony Fajardo, Josh Vinklerek, Madilyn Johnson, Ava Aguayo, Noe McCarthy, Bill Gordon, Maria Adkins, Wayne King, Ana Murray, Tucker Copeland, Jason Peterson, Jean Ann McCarthy, Charlesetta Duncan, Olivia Taylor, Delores Moore, Lacey Schwanke, Kim Hemphill, Heather McNeil, Jennifer Berry, Lisa Gonzales, Lou Ann Peavy, Heather Metzler, Sheryl Percy, Kathy Percy, Dee James, Eric Culberson, R., William Brown, Samella Williams, Chloe Whalon, Tim Whalon, Kim Dukes, Marcus Dukes, Earl Mutschink, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

Call to Order – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Roll Call – The Board President called the roll of members. All members were present but for Mrs. Towry, who came in approximately two minutes later.

Student Led Pledge of Allegiance – Students who are currently top point earners from the House of Virtue at Smithville Elementary will lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. They are: Whitney Percy, Anthony Fajardo, Josh Vinklerek, Madilyn Johnson, Connor Behrens, Ava Aguayo, and Case Kristynik.

Public Communications – The Board of Trustees heard from Sherrell Moore, Gordon Cyr, Charles James, Bill Gordon, and Willy Culberson in support of Athletic Director Cyril Adkins.

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 7-0.

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 1796 students
- 31 BP/SES UIL Academic contestants placed at the District Meet bringing home 3 - 3rd Place medals, 7 - 2nd Place medals, and 5 - 1st Place medals.
- 14 SJHS UIL Academic contestants placed at the District Meet bringing home 3 - 3rd Place medals, 3 - 2nd Place medals, and 1 - 1st Place medal.
- SJHS All Region Band - 18 students
- SJHS Texas Future Problem Solvers State Qualifiers - 3 students
- CX Debate District Champions / State Qualifiers - Camden Hippler & Rachel Frerich
- CX Debate 3rd Place / State Qualifiers - Moksh Patel & Blain Stockton
- Tiger Band UIL Solo and Ensemble brought home 80 - 1st division medals! Out of the 80 band members that competed, 61 qualified for State UIL with 17 band members qualifying for State UIL in two events.
- Lady Tiger Powerlifting Regional Qualifiers - 14 student athletes
- Lady Tiger Basketball Bi-District Qualifiers, including 9 All-District Selections & 7 Academic All-District Selections
- The Smithville ISD Communications Office received 1 Silver Star, and 3 Gold Stars at the 2021-2022 Texas School Public Relations Association Awards Banquet bringing the total Star Recognitions to 18 since 2016. One of the Gold Star recognitions received 'Best in Category, Gold Star' for Printed Newsletter Internal and External Under 15,000 students - Printed Newsletters
- Pfizer & Moderna Vaccine Clinic for ages 5+ at Brown Primary on March 3rd from 4-6 PM.
- The deadline to file applications for school board trustee has passed. Running for Place 5 is incumbent Candice Parsons, Place 6 is Margarita Igoe and Josh Magden and Place 7 is Casey Hanchey and Michael Hancock. The election will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022.
- The February Tiger Insider and the Texas Lone Star are at your seats.
- Please refer to the Smithville ISD website for the latest news and resources.

SISD Instructional/Curriculum Program Highlight – Deanne Holloway, teacher at Smithville Junior High, shared highlights from Project Lead the Way, an innovative course to support a STEM pathway at the junior high.

St. David's Foundation Capital Grant – The St. David's Foundation has joined with the City of Smithville to pursue the expansion of workforce training facilities in Smithville. Funds from the grant would support facilities renovation, repair, and restoration of facilities located near the

existing Smithville High School/Junior High School campus to provide additional classroom and outdoor training space in a community where transportation is a primary accessibility barrier. The Smithville workforce Training Center (SWTC) will be subcontracted to do the work. The grant term is 12 months. Ms. Jill Strube, with the City of Smithville, along with April Daniels with the Smithville Chamber of Commerce, were present at the meeting to share information about the grant with the Board of Trustees and to answer their questions.

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.

ESSER III Continuity of Services Update – Mr. Edwards updated the board on the status of the use of funds from the ESSER III Grant and the Continuity of Services Plan.

Update on HVAC Concerns at Smithville High School – Zack Harris, Director of Maintenance, updated the Board of Trustees regarding concerns about air quality at the high school campus and corrective measures being taken to address any issues. Earl Mutschink, with C & C Electric, was also present to answer questions from the Board.

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

- a. Financial Report
- b. Superintendent's Report
- c. COVID-19 Update
- d. Resignations and Employment of Certified Personnel
- e. Consider and Take Action Regarding Certified Staff Contract Renewal

Consideration and Possible Approval of 2022-2023 School Calendar – Administrators designed two potential school calendars that complied with standard state requirements and incorporated suggestions from campus principals and other district staff. The calendars were then presented to the district-site based committee for review and discussion. One calendar, Draft A, was selected for approval by the Board of Trustees. Candice Parsons moved to approve the calendar for the 2022-2023 school year as presented. Howard Burns, Jr. seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Resignations of Certified Personnel – The Superintendent informed the Board of the resignations of Susanne Scoggins, assistant principal at Smithville High School, Stephanie Prihoda, teacher/coach at Smithville High School, Richard Mullens, teacher/coach at Smithville Junior High, Elizabeth Allen, teacher at Smithville Junior High, Lauren Stagner, teacher at Smithville Elementary, David Edwards, Director of Federal Programs, and Ana Murray, District Communications Officer. No action was required.

Employment of Certified Personnel – There was no employment to recommend.

Closed Session - Deliberation Regarding Administrator Employment Contract

Renewals/Extensions – The Board moved to closed session at 7:27 p.m. and returned at 9:15 with no official action taken.

Consideration/Action Regarding Administrator Employment Contract

Renewals/Extensions – Board Policy DC Series addresses employment of personnel and contracts. According to Board Policy DC [Local], the Superintendent has sole authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding the selection of contracted personnel. Final authority for selection and employment of classroom teachers, principals, librarians, nurses, counselors, and other certified contractual personnel is retained by the Board. Howard Burns, Jr. moved to approve a two-year contract for Cyril Adkins as athletic director. Chris Hinnant seconded and the motion passed 5-2 with Nancy Towry and Alan Hemphill opposed. Candice Parsons moved to approve administrative contract recommendations for Stephanie Foster, Jean Ann McCarthy, Michael Caudill, Tucker Copeland, Amanda Gommert, Tammy Mayberry, Holly Brockman, Erin O'Rourke, Sarah Vinklerek, Whitney Brown, and Misty Vasquez as recommended by the Superintendent. Nancy Towry seconded and the motion carried 7-0.

Ajournment – The meeting ended at 9:20 p.m.