

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Brackett ISD

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Brackett ISD was held April 16, 2007, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Central Office, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville.

Members Present: Sondra Meil, Mark Frerich, John Paul Schuster, Henry Lutz

Members Absent: Ronnie Hobbs, Sara Terrazas, Tony Ashley

Administrators: Paula Renken, Alma Gutierrez, Frank Taylor

Guests: Doc & Bea Dorrell, Bill & Carolyn Conoly, Julie Bruce, Jamie Ballew, Eileen Allen, Greg & Candi Voyles, Jimmy & Kathy Bader, Leigh Volsko, Steven Hutcherson, Charlie & Rhonda Marquardt, Shatona Hicks, Ricky Creel, Dusty & Bonnie Brotherton, B. Schroeder, Erik Henson, Marvin & Marian Walton, Jeff Janca, Marla Madrid, Susan Esparza, and students; Arlene Roth, Charles Conoly, Brandon Allen, and Samantha Moore

1. CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m., with a quorum present. Following a moment of silence, Sondra Meil led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. COACHES APPRECIATION

Presenter: ATHLETIC DIRECTOR GREG VOYLES

The following Coaches were recognized by Athletic Director Greg Voyles:

Steven Hutcherson	Charles Marquardt	Rhonda Marquardt
Shatona Hicks	Ricky Creel	Dusty Brotherton
Bonnie Brotherton	B. Schroeder	Erik Henson

To Coach Voyles knowledge, this is the first time every sport has advanced into regionals. Carolyn Conoly recognized Charlie & Rhonda Marquardt for serving as FCA coach sponsors for 10 years. The Marquardts were presented a tree. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization, representing over 400 schools, will honor the Marquardts at a banquet on May 21st in San Antonio, as FCA Sponsors of the Year. Appreciation was expressed to all the coaches, with best wishes going to Coach Hutcherson. He will be missed next year.

3. OPEN FORUM

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

Leigh Volsko [Parent]: Concern over her eighth grade daughter's lack of knowledge/deficit in Math. Mrs. Volsko stated she is concerned other children will be

falling through the cracks. The board was asked to review the Math program at the Junior High level, and pay close attention to who is being hired to teach our kids.

At Mr. Lutz's request, items *6 and *7 were moved up on the agenda.

***6. TEXTBOOK SELECTION - MATH**

Presenter: FRANK TAYLOR / JAMIE BALLEW / JULIE BRUCE

Jaime Ballew reviewed the selection process used by the textbook committee to select Math textbooks for grades seven through twelve. Committee members attended several workshops, bringing materials accessed back with them. Though a tentative decision was reached in early March, the committee requested they postpone their recommendation to the board one month. It has been eight years since math textbooks have been offered for adoption. The committee's decision was based first on the needs and levels of our students.

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to adopt Math textbooks as recommended by the Textbook Committee. Sondra Meil seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

***7. LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR STUDENTS**

Presenter: TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REP. NOE MALDONADO /
PAULA RENKEN

Providing laptops for students addresses one of the Board's goals for 2006-2007. Noe Maldonado reviewed a breakdown of estimated prices. Price estimates are based on dollars from the districts most recent purchase of laptops. The committee made on-site visits to LaPryor High School and Pleasanton High School. Two problems encountered at Pleasanton; the district found it hard to manage and maintain laptops when seen once a year and over a period of four years, insurance jumped to \$200.00 per laptop due to claims. They have since turned to "cows," computers on wheels; a rolling cabinet with 20 laptops.

Findings from a survey provided by the student council and given to all high school students, were discussed. Sixty-eight students said they have access to a computer at home. Juniors and Seniors write the most research papers with three to five a year. All students said yes to checking a laptop out all year and when asked about distribution, seventy-seven said seniors should get one first. All said yes to taking a training course in order to get a laptop.

Brackett is looking at laptops for grades 7-12. A recommendation was made by the committee to go with seven "cows," and scale up two or three a year. This would give the district time to monitor use and integrate into what we need. Another computer technician would also be needed to help with the increase in work load. Issues discussed include downloading of textbooks, online End of Course exams, and district security filters. With proper scheduling, all students could be tested in one day. District internet security filters banned websites, etc. A form would need to be developed to release the district from content accessed at home. Following discussion, a recommendation was made to go with one cow for Junior High, three for the High School, one at the Annex,

and one at the Library. Any purchase would be from the summer fund balance. Noe also recommended going with Windows.

A motion was made by Henry Lutz to adopt and start the bidding process for the purchase of six “cows” (computers on wheels, 24 laptops each) as recommended by the Technology Committee, and to hire an additional computer technician. Sondra Meil seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Continue with original agenda.

4. MINUTES

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to approve minutes for the March 19, 2007, regular meeting as presented. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5. BUSINESS & FINANCE

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN / MARLA MADRID

A. MONTHLY RECAP OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

Presenter: MARLA MADRID

A recap of revenue and expenditures for the month of March was conducted by the board. Business Manager Marla Madrid stated the recap does not include all purchase orders. It also does not show money received for excellence grants, as these are not in the budget yet. The district is expecting additional payments by the state.

B. CHECK RUN

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

Several large checks discussed included pay outs for post district competitions for overnight stays and meals, and set materials for One Act Play.

C. AMENDMENTS

Presenter: MARLA MADRID

All amendments are adjustments for increases in Federal grant monies received. These should be the last federal adjustments for the 2006-2007 school year. [See agenda for amendments.]

A motion was made by Henry Lutz to approve the budget amendments as presented. John Paul Schuster seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8. SAFETY AUDIT

In accordance with Senate Bill 11, Section 37.108.

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

In accordance with Senate Bill 11, Section 37.108, a school safety audit was conducted February 6, 2007. Security audits must be conducted once every three years. BISD chose to go with an unbiased audit through Region 20. Findings and recommendations are to be used as a tool for improvements. Overall our district is in good shape. The district received 100% for Deliveries. Other top scores include a 94% for Shops and Special Use Rooms, and 92% for School Climate and Culture. Buses and Parking received the lowest score, 59%. Two items to be addressed first are danger signs for high voltage electric panels, and replacing required Steroid Law Notice postings.

9. ELECTION, MAY 12, 2007

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

A. APPOINT ELECTION JUDGE

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to appoint Ricky Alvarado as Election Judge for the May 12, 2007, trustee election. John Paul Schuster seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

B. CANVASS ELECTION RESULTS, SET DATE

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

May 15, 2007 is the first possible day to conduct an official canvass of election ballots received, with May 23rd as the last day. A recommendation was made to move the regular meeting to the 15th. A canvass of election results and swearing in of new members will be the first items on the agenda. Because of this, the regular meeting will start at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to set May 15th for a canvass of election results. John Paul Schuster seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Enrollment, discipline reports, and current events.

Presenter: ALMA GUTIERREZ / FRANK TAYLOR

Jones Elementary/Intermediate (Alma Gutierrez)

Enrollment: 332 Discipline: 12

Refer to written report. Results were received for the first administration of Math TAKS today. Twelve students did not pass. A second administration of Reading will be given this week. Nineteen students will retake the Reading TAKS.

BJH/BHS/BEA (Frank Taylor)

Enrollment: 281 Discipline: 12

Refer to written report. One Act Play advances to Area. UIL regional meet results are in. Accounting is advancing to state, with Laura Swinson in first place.

Special Education

Total in district: 75 Speech only: 15 The numbers continue to go down.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

A. TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK, MAY 6-12, 2007

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

A gift from the Board and Central Office has been ordered. The campuses will be doing their own appreciation for staff.

B. SUPPLEMENTAL PAY TO NONCONTRACT EMPLOYEE

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

Policy DEA [Local] allows supplemental pay to an employee for duties other than those normally assigned. During HoneyBee's absence, Toni Pena took over as Cafeteria Manager for forty days, because of this she will receive a one-time compensation this month.

C. DENTAL PLAN

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

Gracie Mata and Rosa Cantu were acknowledged for getting information on a dental plan for employees. The district will be going with Life Re. An in-service will be held on April 23rd to sign up. The plan will start May 1, 2007. Employees will pay up front, with a two month turn around on reimbursements.

Jones Elementary staff has been awarded a \$50,000.00 excellence grant. They will need to let TEA know if they are going to pursue it by May 1st. Junior High and High School grant monies will be paid out in June.

Signs are up at the track and tennis courts stating no roller skates, skate boards, strollers, etc. Maintenance needs to be done at the tennis courts. John Graves will look at the courts when he comes out again.

12. MEETING TIME

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

After talking with other districts, we are the only district to stop and eat during a meeting. A recommendation was made to eat from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m., for consideration of staff and guests. Board members would eat in the small meeting room in the hall. Policy would need to reflect the 6:30 p.m. meeting time change. Following discussion, board members agreed to wait and hear from absent members, moving this agenda item to the May meeting.

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to table discussion of a meeting time change until next month. Sondra Meil seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A short break was called for at 8:17 p.m., with the board convening into a closed session at 8:40 p.m.

13. *CONSULTATION WITH SUPERINTENDENT
Pursuant to Gov't Code 551.074, Personnel.
Presenter: HENRY LUTZ
14. *SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION - FINALIZE
Pursuant to Gov't Code 551.074, Personnel
Presenter: HENRY LUTZ
15. *PERSONNEL, PURSUANT TO GOV'T CODE 551.074
Pursuant to Gov't Code 551.074, Personnel
Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

The board reconvened into open session at 9:51 p.m., and took the following action:

A motion was made by Henry Lutz to accept a letter of retirement from Stella "Bo" Hagler, effective at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. Sondra Meil seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to accept a certified agenda for February 12, 2007, as presented. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to accept a certified agenda for March 19, 2007, as presented. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

16. OPEN FORUM
Presenter: HENRY LUTZ
No guests were present for open forum participation.
17. ADJOURN
Presenter: HENRY LUTZ
With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Henry Lutz, Board President

Sara Terrazas, Secretary

Date

Date

