

# **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

## **The Board of Trustees Palestine ISD**

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**A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Palestine ISD was held Thursday, January 24, 2019, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Palestine ISD Administrative Offices Board Room, 1007 East Park Avenue, Palestine, Texas 75801.**

**President Tutt called the meeting to order, announced that a quorum was present, that the meeting was duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and in the manner required by law.**

**A motion was made by Trustee Schwab, seconded by Trustee Herrington, and unanimously approved by the Board that the Board convene in closed session at 6:02 PM in accordance with the Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.001, Texas Revised Statutes. Motion carried 6-0.**

**Members present: Dyna Tutt, President  
Kurt Herrington, Secretary  
Davi Killion Ingram  
Jeffrey Schwab  
Brandon Sheeley  
Stanley Sokolowski**

**Members absent: Michael Bennett, Vice President**

**Others present: Jason Marshall, Superintendent  
Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of  
Human Resources  
Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of  
Instructional Services/Director of College and  
Career Readiness  
David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer  
Mark Schrader, Director of Technology  
Lisa Edge, Recording Secretary**

**The Board of Trustees convened in open session at 7:07 PM. President Tutt stated that no action was taken in closed session.**

**Visitors present: Ann Sokolowski, Reagan Sokolowski, Hayden Sokolowski, Salma Ruiz, Ethan Savarese, Morgan Robinson, Abby Jeffus, Esther Jeffus, Noah Alexander, Marilyn Moore, Kathleen Brown, Larissa Loveless, Sharon Reed, Dr. William Stewart, Joseph Mason, Shannon Clakley, Dee Dietz, Barbara Dutton, Grace Mancilla, and J.W. Lambright.**

Noah Alexander, PHS student and member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes gave the invocation.

Grace Mancilla, Southside Elementary principal, introduced and recognized Southside students who have exhibited good character traits and responsibility during the school year. The students led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

**Spotlight - Junior Rotarians of the Month**

Salma Ruiz and Ethan Savarese were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of January.

**Spotlight - Students of the Month**

Esther Jeffus and Hayden Sokolowski were recognized for being named PHS Students of the Month for January.

**Spotlight – School Board Appreciation**

In observance of School Board Appreciation Month, Superintendent Marshall thanked the Board for their service and dedication to students and staff. Each campus presented Board members with gifts that were handmade by students. Board President Dyna Tutt, complimented principals and administrators for working as a team which helps make it easier for the Board of Trustees to do their job.

**Public Comment**

There were no requests for public comment.

**Financial Report**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a brief financial report noting that tax collections were on target for that point in the school year, and that the district was conducting a review of investments to see if better interest rates were available.

**Financial Audit**

J.W. Lambright of Smith, Lambright & Associates, presented the PISD Financial Audit for the year ending August 31, 2018. Upon the recommendation of David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer; a motion was made by Trustee Sokolowski, seconded by Trustee Herrington to accept findings of the Financial Audit findings as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

**Consent Items**

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Jason Marshall; a motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Herrington to approve the following consent items as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2018
- Bills paid for December, 2018
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

**\$450.00 from Palestine Realty to supplement PHS boys basketball program/tournament.**

- **TexPool Resolution and Participation Agreement**
- **2018-2019 District Improvement Plan**
- **2018-2019 Campus Improvement Plans**
- **2019-2020 Cheerleading Constitution**
- **2019-2020 Drill Team Constitution**

#### **Public Hearing: 2017-2018 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)**

**Board President, Dyna Tutt, called Public Hearing to order, announced that a quorum was present, that the hearing was duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and in the manner required by law.**

**Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, presented the seven sections of the 2017-2018 PISD Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). Mr. Kiser informed that the district received an overall accountability rating of B on an A-F scale, and that the district met requirements for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Test. Mr. Kiser also reported that the districtwide Special Education determination status was “Needs Intervention” and that a Targeted Improvement Plan had been submitted and approved by TEA. PHS, PJHS, and A.M. Story Intermediate, all received “Met Standard” accountability ratings. Southside Elementary, Northside Primary, and Washington Early Childhood Center all received “Improvement Required” accountability ratings and that a Targeted Improvement Plan had been submitted and approved by TEA. Northside and Washington are included in the “Improvement Required” ratings because they are feeder campuses and identified by TEA as paired campuses in the rating system.**

**President Tutt offered an opportunity for questions or comments regarding the TAPR Report. There were no questions or concerns from the audience or board members and there being no further discussion of the TAPR, the public hearing was adjourned.**

#### **2019-2020 District Calendar: First Read**

**Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, presented three calendar options that were currently being reviewed by the calendar committee and District Action Team. The final recommendation for the 2019-2020 school calendar will be presented for approval at the February regular school board meeting.**

#### **School Safety Update**

**Dr. William Stewart, PISD Director of School Safety, presented the following information regarding school safety:**

- **PISD representative recently participated in Texas Pipeline Safety Training.**
- **PISD in process of updating safety and security agreements.**
- **PISD Maintenance Department in process of completing work items recommended in the safety audit report.**
- **Students receiving training on how to properly interact with law enforcement as required by Senate Bill 30.**
- **Evaluation and consideration given to safety options available, some of which include; ways to make campus vestibules more secure, door sensors that would**

alarm when doors are left open, and modified window film to increase bullet penetration time.

#### **Adoption of 2019 Legislative Platform**

Superintendent Marshall informed Board members that during the fall of 2018, Anderson County public school districts had joined together to create a legislative platform based on priority needs of the school districts. The school districts agreed to present the legislative platform to the Board of Trustees of each school district for adoption. Following Board adoption, the legislative platform would then be sent to elected officials to inform them of the needs of Anderson County schools to hopefully have a positive impact on the outcome of the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session.

Upon the recommendation of Jason Marshall, Superintendent; a motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Schwab to adopt a resolution in support of the Anderson County School Districts' joint legislative platform as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **Superintendent Evaluation & Contract**

A motion was made by Trustee Sheeley, seconded by Trustee Herrington to approve the 2018 Superintendent's evaluation that was previously completed and shared with the Superintendent in closed meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Schwab, seconded by Trustee Herrington to extend Superintendent Jason Marshall's contract one year to include the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **Personnel**

There were no recommendations for hiring of personnel.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported the following:

- District student enrollment as of January 24, 2019: 3,384
- May 2019 Election Information
  - Date of Election May 4, 2019, 7 am – 7 pm
  - Board Places up for Election Places 3, 4, 5 (all 3 years)
  - Candidate Application Period January 16, 2019 – February 15, 2019
- Superintendent and group of four (4) administrators would be attending TASA Midwinter Conference January 27-30, 2019
- Calendar of upcoming events given to board members

Board President Tutt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

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Dyna Tutt, President

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Kurt Herrington, Secretary