

Brackett Independent School District
Board Minutes of Monthly Meeting
July 10, 2006

Members Present - Mark Frerich, John Paul Schuster, Tony Ashley, Jeffrey Duncan,

Members Absent - Sara Terrazas, Ronnie Hobbs, Henry Lutz

Administrators Present - Paula Renken, Alma Gutierrez, Frank Taylor

Guests - April Blake, Laurel Plunk, Candi Voyles, Hector Jimenez, Patrick Edgar, Marla Madrid, B. Schroeder, Pam Melancon, Susan Esparza

Students: Gabby Schroeder, Kelsey Bruce, Rachael Nash, Bryan Calk

1. CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH QUORUM

Tony Ashley, Vice-President, called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

A. MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE

Following a moment of silence, John Paul Schuster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No guests present for public forum participation.

3. H.O.B.Y. PROGRAM

Student Gabby Schroeder shared highlights from her attendance at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Camp. Students were given challenges that required creativity to solve, participated in discussion panels, and projects related to goal setting. Gabby stated she hopes to be a Junior Counselor next summer. Students were selected by submitting a written essay on "What a Leader Is."

4. CHALLENGER PROGRAM

Teacher B Schroeder presented the board with a follow-up on the Challenger Program. Sixth graders who participated paid their own way last year, this year the program was fortunate to be funded by the school district. Thanks to the board, Mrs. Schroeder stated the 7th graders who participated this year were able to complete two missions for \$800.00. Missions require Science, Math, and teamwork, while advancing to make the missions harder to do each time. Superintendent Paula Renken also attended and got to watch the students at work. Several students shared their experiences. This was Kelsey Bruce's second time to go on a mission to Mars. Her role in the mission was navigation. Rachel Nash was new this year. Her role during the mission was communications data. Bryan Calk stated it was the "ultimate field trip." Mrs. Schroeder concluded the presentation with a "Mission to Mars" power point produced by student Travis Tichnell. Last year students were selected based on behavior and four did not go.

This year students were selected on grades, 75% and up, and ten did not get to go. Next year, the selection criteria will increase. To save on cost, Mrs. Schroeder lined up her own activities. Missions are geared for a minimum of 18 and up to 34 students at a time. The board thanked Mrs. Schroeder and the students for their work. B. Schroeder stated program instructors complimented our students as being very polite, a nice reflection on our district.

5. ESL / BILINGUAL PROGRAM

ESL Teacher/Coordinator Hector Jimenez gave the board a brief overview of the mission statement and ESL program effectiveness demonstrated by measuring and observing students enrolled in the program in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing the English language. The majority of the students entering the program lack vocabulary skills. The instructional program is conducted in English. Included in Mr. Jimenez's annual report; Spring 2006 TAKS, and SDAA scores for grades 3-12. Mr. Jimenez was commended for his thoroughness and attention to detail.

6. MINUTES

Minutes for June 5, 2006 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to approve the minutes for the June 5, 2006, meeting as presented. Jeffrey Duncan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes for June 26, 2006 Public Hearing & Special Meeting

A motion was made by Jeffrey Duncan to approve the minutes for the June 26, 2006, meeting as presented. John Paul Schuster seconded. The motion carried with Tony Ashley and Mark Frerich abstaining.

7. BUSINESS & FINANCE

A. MONTHLY RECAP OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

A recap of revenue and expenditures for the month of June will be ready for the next meeting. Business Manager Marla Madrid is busy closing the month for the auditors who will conduct a preliminary audit on July 20, and return sometime this fall for the actual audit.

B. CHECK RUN

A check to Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulze & Aldridge was included in Board Brief details, but not listed on the check run. Marla will check to see why it was not listed. Pioneer Concepts received payment #2 (\$29,290.51) on the new storage warehouse. The August 1 deadline still stands for completion.

Item #8 KINNEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT FY-2007 BUDGET was moved to the end of the agenda, before the Superintendent's report, to allow Chief Appraiser Bill Haenn time to attend.

9. LOCAL BOARD POLICY UPDATE 78, FIRST READING

The board conducted a first reading of local policy Update 78. Paula Renken stated the policies are straightforward. Legislative changes include a new school year start for 2007-2008 and holding board elections in conjunction with the city. A second reading/adoption of Update 78 will be conducted in August.

10. T.P.R.I. RESULTS

Principal Alma Gutierrez, along with teachers Candice Voyles, April Blake, and Laurel Plunk, provided a power point highlighting T.P.R.I. results. The Texas Primary Reading Inventory is

given only to Kinder-2nd grade, three times a year, and is used as a gauge to find out where they are academically. First graders were given nine tasks to determine phonemic awareness and graphonemic knowledge in Reading. Their scores for Reading comprehension rose from 11% to 57% in five of five stories. Second graders were also tested to determine graphonemic knowledge, scoring 17% (instructional) at the beginning of the year in Reading accuracy, to 91% (independent) at the end of the year. Reading comprehension saw a rise with 5 of 5 stories at 20% the beginning of the year to 5 of 5 at 70% the end of the year. Information gathered from testing is used not only to find out where a student is at but also to find out who is at-risk. This information is shared with parents.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: SUMMER CAMPUS PROJECTS / SUMMER SCHOOL REPORT

Jones Elementary/Intermediate (Alma Gutierrez)

Summer school went well. Forty-six students were team-taught. TAKS was administered June 28 & 29, with results pending. Teachers are going to workshops this month. Painting is going on in the hallways and classrooms. The main building will be closed next week for stripping and waxing. Ms. Gutierrez is working with the city for a crosswalk in the back. Leigh Volcsko has offered to post back to school information, dress code, etc., on page three of the Brackett News. Back to School Night will be held the Thursday before school starts.

Junior High/High School (Frank Taylor)

Fourteen high school students attended summer school with 12 receiving a total of 17 credits. Maintenance in all buildings is ongoing. Custodians are starting to wax. Had schedule changes last minute. Mr. Taylor stated he is still looking for teachers for Math and English. Other districts are in the same position, lots of jobs, few applicants. Most are going to larger schools with better pay. Frank Taylor was commended for passing the Superintendent certification test.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Summer Projects & Construction

- Will open bids for phone system on Wednesday, July 12th at 2:00 p.m.
- Received a phone call from Mrs. Dooley regarding 5 lots behind the new high school. She is willing to sell them to the school.
- Letters were sent out on the lots at the football stadium. Received only one answer back, and they are not willing to sell since they use the lot to access their property.
- The old house on the adjacent lot is on skids and in the process of being torn down.
- Received an estimate of \$58,000.00 to asphalt the parking lot across the street by the tennis courts. Rise in prices due to fuel costs. To do just the existing lot would cost an estimate of \$35,000.00. Either way we would need to go out for bid since both estimates are over \$25,000.00. An estimate of \$20,000.00 was given to fix a 10,000 sq. ft. area (12 parking spots) behind the new high school that floods. If we decide not to asphalt the parking lot across the street, would need to at least move or reposition the stops, then put down caliche like the existing lot.
- Frank Taylor will meet with Junior High teachers tomorrow to discuss the incentive pay program.

In Mr. Haenn's absence, Item #8 was cancelled. The information to be discussed is information only in regard to the KC budget, a courtesy since our district has representatives that serve on the Appraisal District Board. Paula Renken noted the district's portion is going down.

A short break was called for at 7:30 p.m., with the board convening into a closed session at 7:42p.m. pursuant to Gov't Code 551.074, Personnel.

**13. *PERSONNEL, PURSUANT TO GOV'T CODE 551.074
A. CONSIDER LETTER OF RESIGNATION/RECOMMENDATION(S)/HIRE**

The board reconvened into open session at 8:53 p.m., and took the following action:

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to accept a letter of resignation from Elementary Teacher Sherry Montei. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to hire Elementary Teacher Aracelie Wiebush. Jeffrey Duncan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Paul Schuster to hire Intermediate Teacher Amanda Edgar. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Duncan to hire Intermediate Teacher John McKaskle. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

14. PUBLIC FORUM

No guests present for public forum.

With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry Lutz, Board President

Sara Terrazas, Secretary

Date

Date