

## 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, December 13, 2021 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Smithville ISD Administrative Building, PO Box 479, 901 N.E. 6th Street, Smithville, Texas 78957.

**Members present:** Alan Hemphill, Mike Davis, Jr., Grant Gutierrez, Chris Hinnant, Candice Parsons, Nancy Towry

**Members absent:** Howard Burns, Jr.

**Others present:** Ana Murray, Ryan Fowler, Michael Caudill, Whitney Brown, Tucker Copeland, Amanda Gommert, Cory Kadleek, Grant Fowler, Mason Fowler, Luke Fowler, Fran Hunter, Leah Saunders, Charles Hodge, Sara Curtis, Haley Nunn, Alicia Nunn, Arlene Davenport, Deana Seidel, Lisa Wood, Kim Roach, Zack Harris, Justin Bezner, Bethany Cooper Collins, Kevi Duty, Julian Villalobos, Jose Villalobos, Kayle Villalobos, Britney Stout, Ashley Gartman, Margarita Igoe, Raul Reveles, Randy Chandler, Anderson Chandler, Cheryl Burns, Denise Behrens

**Call to Order** – The Board President called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Roll Call** – The Board President called the roll of members. Mr. Burns was absent.

**Student Led Pledge of Allegiance** – Students who are currently top point earners from the House of Compassion at Smithville Elementary lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those students were: Bexley Berger, Lucero Gonzalez Pargas, Willy Thomas, Andrea Reveles, Julian Villalobos, Rebekah Prihoda, Bentley Pye, Grant Fowler, and Taylor Anderson Lovings.

**Public Hearing** – As a mandate of the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislative session, districts must hold a public hearing to report the rating received by the district based upon financial performance in relation to the FIRST rating standards. Chief Financial Officer Jean Ann McCarthy presented the F.I.R.S.T. ratings.

**Recognition of Smithville Education Foundation Innovative Teaching Grant Recipients -**

The mission of the Smithville Education Foundation (SEF) is to support the Smithville Independent School District by working together with our community to serve as a catalyst for generating and distributing resources to inspire students to excel. Applicants must be faculty in the Smithville Independent School District. Projects must support campus and/or district goals and must support the SEF mission. Most of the grants awarded were between \$500 and \$900. The following recipients of the grant were recognized by the Board: Ryan Fowler, Sara Curtis, Haley Nunn, Lisa Prihoda, Arlene Davenport, Tessa Otten, Charles Hodge, and Bethany Cooper Walker. Raylynn Fillman was awarded a grant but was not present at the meeting.

**Public Communications** – Justin Bezner requested that the minutes from the December 6, 2021 board workshop reflect specific topics discussed.

**Consent Agenda** – Candice Parsons moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1 through 9 as presented. With a second from Nancy Towry, the vote passed 6-0.

1. Minutes
2. Financial Statements
3. Investment Report
4. State Aid Comparison - Budgeted vs. Earned
5. Earned vs. TEA Payments
6. Tax Collection Report
7. Budget Amendments
8. Investment Policy Review
9. Review Approved Providers of Investment Training

**Financial Report** – The Chief Financial Officer, Jean Ann McCarthy, reviewed the financial disbursements for the previous month with the Board of Trustees. No action was required.

The following item was moved up in the agenda:

**Review and Approve 2020-2021 District Financial Audit** – As required by the Texas Education Agency, an annual audit of financial information is conducted to assure that all legal requirements are being met and sound fiscal responsibility is maintained. The audit was conducted by Armstrong, Vaughn and Assoc, P.C. Kim Roach, who is a Principal with Armstrong, presented the audit. Included in the board packet was the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Exhibit C-2 and the Governance Letter for the Board's review. Candice Parsons moved to approve the 2020-2021 district financial audit as presented. Mike Davis, Jr. seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

**Superintendent's Report** – The Superintendent shared the following information with the Board of Trustees:

- District enrollment is currently at 1788 students.
- There will be a vaccine clinic held at Brown Primary on Thursday, December 16th from 4pm to 7pm. The Covid-19 vaccine will be offered to individuals ages 5 and up.
- Giddings ISD has invited the Board of Trustees and superintendent to participate in Evaluation and Improving Student Outcomes (EISO) Board Training on January 24, 2022. Dr. Millie Klein will be presenting the mandatory training, and dinner will be included. This course fulfills the requirement that each board member participate in a facilitated EISO training every 2 years.
- Mrs. Burns attended the TARS/TAMS Legislative Conference in Austin this past Thursday and Friday.
- The first grade will perform a holiday program in the Main Cafeteria tomorrow at 2pm.
- The Smithville Junior High Band Concert will be held tomorrow evening at the junior high school beginning at 5:30pm.
- On Wednesday at 4pm, Charles Hodge IV will sign a scholarship letter of intent to play football at Tulsa University beginning the 2022-2023 school year.
- The Tiger Insider is at your seats.
- Please refer to the Smithville ISD website for the latest news and resources.

**SISD Instructional/Curriculum Program Highlight** – Deana Seidel and Lisa Wood, math teachers at Smithville High School, shared highlights from the SHS Math Department.

**COVID-19 Update** – Mrs. Burns presented an update on COVID-19 as it pertains to instruction and mitigation plans for the district.

**Tentative January Items** – Tentative items to be included on the January agenda are:

- a. Public Hearing - Texas Academic Performance Report
- b. Board Recognitions
- c. Financial Report
- d. Superintendent's Report
- e. COVID-19 Report
- f. Call for Regular School Board Election, May 7, 2022
- g. Consider Approval of Election Services Contract with Bastrop County and Joint Election Contract with City of Smithville
- h. Consider Approval of Joint Election Agreement with the City of Smithville
- i. Approval of Internet Services RFP's
- j. Personnel
- k. Superintendent's Evaluation/Contract Renewal

**Resignations of Certified Personnel** – There were no resignations to report.

**Employment of Certified Personnel** – There were no recommendations for employment at this time.

Closed session – The Board moved to closed session at 6:56 p.m. and returned at 8:00 p.m. with no official action taken.

**Superintendent's Self-Evaluation Submission to the Board of Trustees and Distribution of Evaluation Materials** – This item was conducted in closed session.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.