

# Minutes of Regular Board Meeting on April 27, 2015

## The Board of Trustees West Orange-Cove CISD

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A Regular of the Board of Trustees of West Orange-Cove CISD was held Monday, April 27, 2015, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 902 W. Park Ave. Orange, Texas 77630.

### **I. Routine Business**

- A. Call To Order – Pete Amy
- B. Invocation- Pete Amy
- C. Pledge of Allegiance – All
- D. Certification of Notice – Pete Amy

Board Members Present: Pete Amy, Eric Mitchell, Ruth Hancock, Rev. Hardy O’Neal, Sarah Jefferson Simon, & Nathaniel Colbert

Board Members Absent: Bryan Thomas Muhammad

Board Attorney Present: George Barron

### **II. Audience with Patrons (limited to 5 minutes per patron)**

Persons wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting reserved for that purpose were required to sign up as they arrive and to indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

None

### **III. Superintendent's Report**

#### **Student & Staff Recognitions:**

- 1. West Orange-Stark High School Career Center Precision Machine students represented our District well at the State Contest, recently.**

**Mr. Carlo Pauline a WOCCISD instructor for 34 years thanked the WOCCISD Board, Superintendent and Administrators for recognizing these students’ accomplishments and allowing these students to compete. The students are thankful that WOCCISD funds this class because it has helped so many of them get launched into good careers. Mr. Paulino also thanked the Board for allowing him to teach these students a skill/craft**

and it's a great pleasure to watch students grow and leave this class to get a job in industry and help build this great Nation. Students earned Blue ribbons on State Project Exhibits; as well as Best of Show and they are as follows:

- Colby Hudson
- Michael Vines
- Jared Hodge
- Emanuel Balderas
- Kade Wheat (Bridge City)
- Alex Bridwell

**2. Dr. Silvia Martinez introduced our WOCCISD journalism teacher Meri Elen Jacobs as the Wayne A. Reaud award winner.**

- Mrs. Jacobs has been with the District for 15 years; and an educator for a total of 22 years
- Currently teaches Journalism and Teen Leadership at WO-S High School
- She also is the WOSHS:
  - UIL Coordinator
  - UIL Journalism Coach
  - Assistant Cheer Sponsor
  - Key Club Advisor
  - Yearbook and Newspaper Advisor
  - Member of the Campus Improvement Leadership Team Member
- She consistently produces award winning yearbook publications
- Additionally, her students always represent the District at a high level in UIL Academic Meets,
  - At District, the WO-S Journalism Team has won the Overall Team Award for the last 9 out of 10 years
  - Yearly, they advance to Regional and State Contests
  - Since 2007, her students have won medals in 7 State Academic Journalism competitions, including a State Championship in Headline Writing last year
    - *(This weekend, another WO-S Headline Writer qualified for State as well).*
- She exemplifies her favorite quote from Forest E. Witcraft:
  - "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove...but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."
- You will see her at the majority of WO-S High School events supporting our children.
- We are proud she is a Mustang.

**Official presentation of the Wayne A. Reaud award and the accompanying \$10,000 cash prize will occur May 5 in Beaumont.**

#### **IV. Action Items:**

##### **A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:**

###### 1. Budget Amendments (Melinda James)

Ruth Hancock motioned to approve the budget amendments as presented.  
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

#### **V. Finance (Melinda James)**

##### **A. Information/Discussion Items:**

###### 1. Financial Statements

- a. General Operating Funds
- b. Student Nutrition Fund
- c. Debt Service
- d. Check Register
- e. Tax Collection
  - (1) Tax Collection 2014
  - (2) Tax Collection 2015
- f. Investment Report
- g. Head Start

##### **B. Action Items:**

###### 1. Consider Approval of Homestead Exemption (Melinda James)

Nathaniel Colbert motioned to approve the 20% Homestead Exemption  
Ruth Hancock seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

###### 2. Consider Approval of Investment Policies (Melinda James)

Sarah Jefferson Simon motioned to approve the Investment Policies as presented  
Ruth Hancock seconded the motion  
Motion Passes unanimously

###### 3. Consider Approval of Adding Rickie R. Harris as the Signing Authority at the following Financial Institutions: First Public, First Financial, BNY Mellon, & Morgan Stanley (Melinda James)

Sarah Jefferson Simon motioned to approve adding Rickie R. Harris as the signing authority at the following financial institutions: First Public, First Financial, BNY Mellon, & Morgan Stanley  
Nathaniel Colbert seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

4. Consider Approval of Board Resolution Extending Depository Contract (Melinda James)

Ruth Hancock motioned to approve the board resolution extending the depository contract with First Financial.  
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

**VI. Instruction**

**A. Action Items:**

1. Consider Approval of 2015/2016 Head Start Grant - (Sherry Hardin)

Nathaniel Colbert motioned to approve the 2015/2016 Head Start Grant as presented  
Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

Board convened to closed session at 6:21 p.m.  
Board reconvened to open session at 7:10 p.m.

VII. The open session of the meeting will adjourn. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in closed session for the following purposes.

A. Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's Attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.(Tex.Govt.Code 551.071)

1. Consider legal advice regarding renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.
2. Consider legal advice regarding Special Education Case Docket Number 132-SE-0115

B. Teachers and Administrators (Tex.Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Discussion of Selection/Employment
2. Reassignment and Resignations
3. Discussion of Evaluation
4. Discipline
5. Duties
6. Discussion of Termination

7. Consider renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.
  - C. Discussion of Discipline of Students (Tex.Govt. Code 551.082)
  - D. Discuss other matters as authorized by (Tex.Govt.Code 551.071-551.084)
  - E. Paraprofessional, Support Staff, and Personnel (Tex. Govt. Code 551.074)
- VIII. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on items discussed in closed session and open session items.

**IX. Action Item:**

- A. Consider Possible Action on the Settlement Agreement Regarding Special Education Case Docket Number 132-SE-0115

Ruth Hancock motioned to accept the settlement agreement regarding the Special Education Case Docket Number 132-SE-0115  
Rev. Hardy O'Neal seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

**X. Personnel (Anitrea Goodwin)**

**A. Information Item:**

1. Resignations

**B. Action Item:**

1. Approval of Contractual Staff

- A. Approval of Contractual Staff: New Hire

Ruth Hancock motioned to approve the new hire contract as presented  
Nathaniel Colbert seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

- B. Approval of Contractual Staff for 2015/2016

- Pages 1-15 as corrected  
Ruth Hancock motioned to approve the contractual staff for 2015/2016 on pages 1-15 as corrected  
Rev. Hardy O'Neal seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously
- Page 16 as corrected  
Ruth Hancock motioned to approve the contractual staff for 2015/16 on page 16 as corrected  
Nathaniel Colbert seconded the motion  
Motion passes 4/2 (with Eric Mitchell & Sarah Jefferson Simon abstaining)

2. Approval of Substitute List

Nathaniel Colbert motioned to approve the substitute list as presented  
Sarah Jefferson Simon seconded the motion  
Motion passes unanimously

XI. Adjourn: 7:15 p.m.