

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HARLINGEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 14, 2008

The Board of Trustees of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Harlingen CISD Administration Building located at 407 N. 77 Sunshine Strip, Harlingen, Texas. George McShan, Board President, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: George McShan, Javier De Leon, Verna Young, Omar Cano, Gerry Fleuriet, Cesar Maldonado and Lyle Garza

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Steve Flores, Art Cavazos, Tricia Morrow, Ramiro Flores, Julio Cavazos, Rosalinda Vargas, Allen Aleshire, Randy Cretors and Sonia Brown

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS: Dr. Steve Flores, Superintendent, was proud to announce that sixteen Harlingen CISD campuses were recognized for outstanding student performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test for the 2007-2008 school year. The Board recognized the following Exemplary and Recognized schools:

- Early College High School – Exemplary
- Bowie Elementary – Exemplary
- Coakley Middle School – Recognized
- Austin Elementary – Recognized
- Bonham Elementary – Recognized
- Crockett Elementary – Recognized
- Dishman Elementary – Recognized
- Jefferson Elementary – Recognized
- Lamar Elementary – Recognized
- Long Elementary – Recognized
- Milam Elementary – Recognized
- Rodriguez Elementary – Recognized
- Stuart Place Elementary – Recognized
- Travis Elementary – Recognized
- Treasure Hills Elementary – Recognized
- Zavala Elementary – Recognized

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS: Alex Gonzalez, Principal at Memorial Middle School, reported that his campus has implemented the Response to Intervention (RTI)/REACH Program. Instructional Facilitator, B. J. Cooley informed the Board that the goal of the RTI/REACH Program is to intervene immediately to help learners who are struggling academically.

Manuel Olivo, Principal at Jefferson Elementary School, stated that Jefferson is an oasis in the middle of a desert. Mr. Olivo reported that everyone on campus is focused on student achievement. Mr. Olivo stated that his staff puts students first, and are dedicated, innovative and always looking at getting better. Mr. Olivo presented a video showing how Jefferson is truly an oasis with their beautiful landscaping and clean campus.

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS:**

Allan Brumley expressed his concerns regarding the District' lack of a Fine Arts/Performing Arts Facility.

Maggie Inglett, TSTA Representative, expressed her concerns of a possible budget deficit that might impact district employees as evidenced in other districts in the state.

**ARCHITECT'S
REPORTS:**

Ramiro Flores reported on the following construction projects: **Means Elementary** – Installation of metal panels continues at clerestory space. Installation of terrazzo continues in cafeteria. Metal stud framing of furrdown at main entry continues. Gypsum board installation continues in Administration area. Painting continues in Corridor B and classroom wall painting continues in Area C. Curved metal roof panels have been installed above the Science Lab and library. Construction of water fountain is near completion at the multi-purpose building. **HHS Tennis Court** – Teni Trak has completed installation of dirt fill and is currently locating underground utilities to prepare for light pole concrete bases. **HHS-South Tennis Court** – Chain link fencing has been installed. Contractor is nearly complete with the installation of the light poles. Tennis court surfacing is scheduled for next week. **HHS** – Construction options for HHS Science Labs were discussed.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the September 9, 2008 Regular Board Meeting as written.
- b. Approval of Proclamations proclaiming 1) National Educational Office Professionals Career Awareness Week – Oct. 13-17, 2008, 2) National School Lunch Week – Oct. 13-17, 2008, 3) Red Ribbon/Good Character Week – Oct. 27-31, 2008, 4) National School Bus Safety Week – Oct. 20-24, 2008, 5) Month of the Young Adolescent – October 2008, and 6) National Hispanic Heritage Month – September 15-October 15, 2008 as presented by Dr. Steve Flores and as recommended by the Administration.
- c. Budget Amendments as presented by Julio Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration
- d. Tax Refunds as presented by Julio Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration.
- e. Award of Proposals as follows: 1) Local Groceries & Miscellaneous Products Shelf/Catalog Bid, 2) Charter Bus Services, 3) Reading/Video Material, 4) TAKS Material Catalog Term Bid, 5) Armored Car Services, 6) Award Jacket and Award Recognitions Line Item Term Bid, 7) Award Jacket and Award Recognition Catalog Term Bid, 8) Athletic HS Boys Track Line Item Term Bid, 9) Athletic HS Boys Track Catalog Term Bid, 10) Athletic HS Girls Track Line Item Term Bid, 11) Athletic HS Girls Track Catalog Term Bid, 12) Athletic MS Boys Track Line Item Term Bid, 13) Athletic MS Boys Track Catalog Term Bid, 14) Athletic MS Girls Track Line Item Term Bid, 15) Athletic MS Girls Track Catalog Term Bid, 16) Athletic HS Boys Soccer Line Item Term Bid, 17) Athletic HS Boys Soccer Catalog Term Bid, 18) Athletic HS Girls Soccer Line Item Term Bid, 19) Athletic HS Girls Soccer Catalog Term Bid, 20) Athletic Baseball Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 21) Athletic Baseball Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 22) Athletic Softball Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 23) Athletic Softball Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 24) Audio Visual Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 25) Audio Visual Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 26) Furniture Line Item Term Bid, 27) Furniture Catalog Term Bid, 28) Fencing Materials Catalog Term Bid, and 29) Portable Building Parts Line Item Term Bid as presented by Tony Gracia and as recommended by the Administration.

Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Proclamations, Budget Amendments, Tax Refunds and Award of Proposals are filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF CRITERIA AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR SCIENCE LABS & PARKING LOT: A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve the criteria and delegation of authority for the Science Labs for Early College High School and Harlingen High School additions and District Operations facilities parking lot improvements as presented by Tony Gracia and as recommended by the Administration. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

APPROVAL OF METHOD FOR PROCURING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT CONTRACTS: A motion was made by Javier De Leon to approve competitive sealed proposals as the method for procuring the Science Labs addition for Early College High School and Harlingen High School, and District Operations facilities parking lot improvements as presented by Tony Gracia and as recommended by the Administration. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF OPTIONS FOR HHS SCIENCE LABS: A motion was made by Verna Young to approve Option 4 for the construction of the Harlingen High School Science Labs. Cesar Maldonado seconded the motion. After discussion, Cesar Maldonado made a motion to amend the original motion to add Option 4 to the options previously approved. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion passed as amended. The original motion as amended was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR UIL TOURNAMENTS TO BE HELD IN RGV: A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve a Resolution for UIL regional tournaments and meets to be held in the Rio Grande Valley as presented by Randy Cretors and as recommended by the Administration. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(A copy of the Resolution is filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF DIST. IMP. PLAN/ CAMPUS PLANS: A motion was made by Verna Young to approve the District Improvement Plan and Campus Plans as presented by Tricia Morrow and Art Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration. Gerry Fleuriet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CLASS SIZE WAIVER: A motion was made by Verna Young to approve the class size waiver request and current compliance plan to be submitted to the Texas Education Agency State Waiver Unit as presented by Tricia Morrow and as recommended by the Administration. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Copy of Class Size Waiver is filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF OPERATING TRANSFER: A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve an operating transfer from the General Fund to the Construction Fund in the amount of \$5,500,000 to finish the construction projects for the 2008-2009 school year. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- ENERGY CONSERVATION AND ENERGY PLAN:** Art Cavazos presented a report regarding the District's proposed Energy Conservation and Efficiency Plan. Mr. Cavazos provided a timeline and a list of committee members for the Board's review. Mr. Cavazos stated that the purpose of the Energy Conservation and Efficiency Plan is to assist in developing a plan for conservation and efficiency in the areas of electricity, water and fuel.
- UPDATE ON ELECTRICITY CONTRACT:** Julio Cavazos provided an update on the District's electricity contract. Mr. Cavazos stated that the District's current retail energy provider is GEXA ENERGY. The District's contract with them will expire on December 31, 2008. During the September Regular Board Meeting, the superintendent was given the authorization to execute a contract when pricing was most advantageous to the District. This week the District received a quote from GEXA ENERGY for \$.0799 per KWH. The Administration felt it would be advantageous to lock in at this rate. The District has extended the contract for an additional 18 months beginning November, 2008.
- MONTHLY TAX COLLECTION INFORMATION:** Julio Cavazos provided Monthly Tax Collection Information for the Board's review. **(Monthly Tax Collection Information is filed with these minutes.)**
- MONTHLY FINANCIALS REPORT:** Julio Cavazos provided a Monthly Financials Report for the Board's review. **(Monthly Financials Report is filed with these minutes.)**
- INTERNAL AUDITOR QUARTERLY REPORT:** Julio Cavazos provided an Internal Auditor Quarterly Report on behalf of Mrs. Nellie Ledesma. The report included information on the Special Activity Fund Audit at Gutierrez Middle School, Test of Physical Inventories as of August 31, 2008 for the Maintenance, Custodial, Transportation and Child Nutrition Departments, and Test of Bid Files for FY 2007-2008. **(Internal Auditor Quarterly Report is filed with these minutes.)**
- EXECUTIVE SESSION:** **Presiding Officer George McShan called for an Executive Session at 10:03 p.m. in accordance with Sections 551071, 551.072, 551.074 and 551.082, The Texas Open Government Code (The Texas Open Meetings Act) to discuss:**
- a. **Discuss Employment of Teachers and Other Professional Staff**
 - b. **Discuss Personnel Matters**
- OPEN SESSION:** **The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 10:30 p.m.**
- EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL STAFF:** A motion was made by Lyle Garza to approve the employment of the following teachers and professional staff for the 2008-2009 school year: Vanessa Bejaran, Esmeralda Cantu, Berit Carrasco, Justin L. Evans, Juanita Guetzow, Debra Hernandez, Norma Moore, Maria G. Muniz, Imelda Obregon, Sarah Stenseng, Lucia Swartz, Fernando Vasquez and Elizabeth Vega. Gerry Fleuriet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- CONSIDER PERSONNEL MATTERS:** No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

READ AND APPROVED:

PRESIDING OFFICER

DATE