

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
HARLINGEN CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

The Board of Trustees of the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 9, 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, Rosalinda Vargas, Allen Aleshire, Randy Cretors and Sonia Brown

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS: The Board of Trustees recognized Gracie Gutierrez, Principal at Vernon Middle School, for having been selected as the Texas Association of Secondary School Principal – Region One Principal of the Year. The goal of this program is to recognize exemplary performance among campus level administrators in Texas.

Bonham Elementary School and Bowie Elementary School were honored by the Board for having been selected as TBEC Honor Roll Schools for 2008. The TBEC Honor Roll is the most prestigious award for sustained academic excellence in Texas. It recognizes schools that have demonstrated three years of consistent, high performance in all subjects compared to other schools serving similar student populations.

Allen Aleshire reported that Harlingen CISD had won best in category for 6 categories in the annual Valley Morning Star's Reader's Choice Awards. Richard Guerrero, Valley Morning Star Advertising Director, presented certificates to the following Harlingen CISD winners: Harlingen High School – Best High School, Vernon Middle School – Best Middle School, Gracie Gutierrez – Best Principal, Sylvia De Leon – Best Receptionist, Hector Zamora – Best Golf Instructor, and HCISD Web Site – PIO – Best Local Web Site.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS: Veronica Kortan, Principal at Early College High School, reported that their school's motto is "Building Leaders of Tomorrow." Mrs. Kortan was proud to announce that ECHS is an "exemplary" campus. Mrs. Kortan presented a PowerPoint presentation on their legacy year. Mrs. Kortan stated that college readiness is what ECHS is all about. The theme of the school is "Making a world of difference for the community in Harlingen." Mrs. Kortan stated that an impressive 913 college credits were earned by her students last year.

Guadalupe Nava, Principal at HHS-South, introduced Major David Casebeer, AFJROTC instructor, who provided historical information about the JROTC program. A PowerPoint presentation was presented by the following students: Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Kratzer, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Martinez, Cadet Major Garcia, Cadet Major Salinas and Cadet Colonel Stahl. The mission of AFJROTC is to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. The primary unit objective is to help their community in any way, shape or form.

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS:**

Robert Carreon, Teach for America Executive Director of the Rio Grande Valley, appeared before the Board to express his appreciation for their commitment to the Teach For America Program.

**ARCHITECT'S
REPORT:**

Ramiro Flores reported on the following construction projects: **Means Elementary** – Contractor is progressing and is still on schedule for completion set for mid-November 2008. Installation of rigid insulation board has begun in the clerestory area. Temporary glazing has been installed in some areas to the administration area. Installation of terrazzo and glazing continues throughout the building. Multipurpose Building overhead doors and hollow metal exterior doors have been installed. Exterior door in the library has been installed. **HHS Band Hall** - Project has been completed. District is waiting for all close-out documents. **HHS Tennis Court** – Site has been excavated and Teni Trak projects completion of dirt fill for next week. The contractor will proceed with installation of conduit. **HHS-South Tennis Court** – Concrete slab has been poured and fence posts are in place. Installation of chain link fence will continue throughout next week. Light poles are scheduled for delivery at the end of this week. **Science Labs at ECHS** – Plans are in progress. **HHS Science Lab** – Three options were presented to the Facilities Committee and will be brought to the Board for their approval. As part of the Architect's report, Mr. Ramiro Flores presented a handout entitled "Revisit – Future Needs of the District." Baseball and softball fields at both high schools were also discussed.

**APPROVAL OF
SCOPE OF WORK
FOR BASEBALL/
SOFTBALL
FIELDS:**

A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to approve the scope of work for baseball/softball fields as presented by Ramiro Flores and as recommended by the Administration. Gerry Fleuriet seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
SCOPE OF WORK
FOR SCIENCE
LABS AT HHS:**

A motion was made by Javier De Leon to approve Option 3 for the scope of work for science labs at Harlingen High School as presented by Ramiro Flores and as recommended by the Administration. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Verna Young to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the August 12, 2008 Regular Board Meeting, August 27, 2008 Public Hearing and August 27, 2008 Special Board Meeting as written.
- b. Approval of Proclamation proclaiming National 4-H Week and Fire Prevention Week as October 5-11, 2008 as presented by Dr. Steve Flores and as recommended by the Administration.
- c. Tax Refunds as presented by Julio Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration.
- d. Budget Amendments as presented by Julio Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration
- e. Award of Proposals as follows: 1) Ceiling & Floor Tile Material & Building Supplies Line Item Term Bid, 2) Ceiling & Floor Tile Material & Building Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 3) Lawn, Fertilizer & Conditioning Supplies Line Items Term Bids, 4) Lawn, Fertilizer & Conditioning Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 5) Paint/Coating Supplies Line item Term Bid, 6) Painting/Coating Supplies Catalog Term Bid, 7) Computer and Printer Supplies Catalog Term

Bid, and 8) Office Supplies Catalog Term Bid as presented by Tony Gracia and as recommended by the Administration.

- g. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Region IV – Comprehensive Curriculum, Assessment, and Professional Development Online Instructional System (CCAP) as presented by Harlan Howell and Tony Gracia and as recommended by the Administration.

Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(Proclamation, Tax Refunds, Budget Amendments, Award of Proposals, and Interlocal Agreement with Region IV are filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH TSTC UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM:

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve an Interlocal Agreement with TSTC for the Upward Bound Program as presented by Art Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration.. Verna Young seconded the motion. The motion carried with Gerry Fleuriet, Verna Young, Omar Cano, Javier De Leon, and Lyle Garza voting in favor of the motion, and Cesar Maldonado abstaining. **(Interlocal Agreement with TSTC is filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF DATE CYCLE I CHANGES:

A motion was made by Cesar Maldonado to approve changes to the District Awards for Teacher Excellence (DATE), Cycle 1 Grant as presented by Art Cavazos and Connie Saenz and as recommended by the Administration. Javier De Leon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(DATE Cycle I Grant changes are filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TAX RATE:

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve a Resolution to adopt the tax rate as presented by Julio Cavazos and as recommended by the Administration. The Administration based the 2008-2009 budget on a tax rate of \$1.125. The proposed tax rate of \$1.125 would be divided into maintenance and operations rate of \$1.040 and a debt service rate of \$0.085. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **(A copy of the Resolution to adopt the tax rate is filed with these minutes.)**

APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE SUPT. TO EXECUTE BLEND & EXTEND OPTION:

A motion was made by Verna Young to authorize the Superintendent to execute a contract for a Blend and Extend Option with Gexa Energy when pricing is most advantageous to our district as presented by Julio Cavazos and Tony Gracia. Omar Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2008 SPRING ASSESSMENT DATA ANALYSIS:

Harlan Howell, Director of Research and Evaluation, presented a 2008 Spring Assessment Data Analysis. Mr. Howell reported that Bowie Elementary and the Early College High School were rated “exemplary.” Fourteen campuses in Harlingen were “recognized” under the 2007-2008 State Standards. **(2008 Spring Assessment Data Analysis is filed with these minutes.)**

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.)**

**SPECIAL
REVENUE FUNDS
INFORMATION:**

Julio Cavazos provided Special Revenue Funds Information for the Board's review. **(Special Revenue Funds information is filed with these minutes.)**

**QUARTERLY
INVESTMENT
REPORT:**

Julio Cavazos presented a Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending August 31, 2008. Mr. Cavazos reported that all of the District's funds have been invested in legally authorized and adequately secured funds. The objective of the District's investment program has been to match the maturity of the investments with the cash flow needs of the District. The District's investment portfolio indicates that the weighted average maturity of all its investments is one day and that the weighted average yield is 2.38%. Funds are invested as follows: Local Maintenance \$24,460,204.40 (100% in Pools), Food Service \$1,705,234.15 (100% in Pools), Employee Benefits \$966,751.91 (100% in Pools), Workers' Compensation \$1,739,669.97 (100% in Pools), Interest & Sinking \$647,243.07 (100% in Pools), and Capital Projects \$539, 228.17 (100% in Pools). Funds are invested in TexSTAR, MBIA, LoneSTAR and TexPool which have no maturity date. Funds can be invested or withdrawn on a daily basis.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION;**

Presiding Officer George McShan called for an Executive Session at 10:55 p.m. in accordance with Sections 551.071, 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**

OPEN SESSION:

The meeting reconvened into Open Session at 11:11 p.m.

**EMPLOYMENT
OF TEACHERS
& OTHER
PROFESSIONAL
STAFF:**

A motion was made by Gerry Fleuriet to approve the employment of the following teachers and professional staff for the 2008-2009 school year: Meagen Attebery, Gloria Cavazos, Monica Cavazos, Joanne Chwajerskie, Esmeralda Felix, Diana Garcia, Ernestine Garcia, David Gonzalez, Diana Guerra, Amy Harrison, Sharon Hicknell, Alicia Martinez, Jesus Mata, Jr., Monica Ortiz, Cedric Robinson, Cassandra Rodriguez, Jose L. Rodriguez, Oneida C. Saldana, David Sinclair, and Lorena Zamorano. Lyle Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

READ AND APPROVED:

PRESIDING OFFICER

DATE