

# Spring Independent School District

16717 Ella Blvd. • Houston, Texas 77090 • Tel. 281.891.6000



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WORK SESSION  
6:00 PM, OCTOBER 3, 2019  
BOARD ROOM  
GORDON M. ANDERSON LEADERSHIP CENTER  
16717 ELLA BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77090**

## **MINUTES**

### **I. Call to Order (6:06 PM)**

President Rhonda Newhouse called the Work Session of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:06 PM on October 3, 2019, in the Board Room of the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Boulevard, Houston, Texas, in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

### **Members Present:**

Rhonda Newhouse, President  
Jana Gonzales, Vice President  
Donald Davis, Secretary  
Winford Adams, Jr., Assistant Secretary  
Justine Durant  
Dr. Deborah Jensen  
Chris Bell (arrived at 6:07 PM)

### **Members Absent:**

### **Others Present:**

Rodney Watson, Superintendent of Schools  
Kenneth Culbreath, Chief of Police  
Julie Hill, Chief of Staff  
Lupita Hinojosa, Chief of School Leadership and Student Support Services  
Khechara Bradford, Chief of Curriculum and Instruction  
Mark Miranda, Chief Operations Officer  
Deeone McKeithan, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Ann Westbrook, Chief Financial Officer  
Tiffany Dunne-Oldfield, Chief Communications Officer  
Jeremy Binkley, General Counsel  
Jason Sheffer, Director of Board Services

### **II. Minutes from Prior Meetings (6:07 PM)**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the following meetings:

- A. September 5, 2019 Board Work Session
- B. September 10, 2019 Regular Meeting

### **III. Opening Remarks (6:08 PM)**

- A. Superintendent of Schools  
Superintendent Rodney Watson highlighted the presentations that would follow on the agenda

including a presentation from the Holdsworth Center, a presentation on the 2019-2020 Targeted Improvement Plans, and a presentation related to one-time expenditures.

**IV. Public Agenda Participation (6:09 PM)**

Members of the public did not register to speak to the Board.

**V. Board Governance Committee (6:10 PM)**

**A. Board Governance Committee Update (6:10 PM)**

Justine Durant, Trustee and Board Governance Committee Lead, announced that the Board has been working on their Lone Star Governance model and specifically the Spring ISD Board Governance Framework.

Winford Adams, Jr., Trustee and Board Governance Committee Member, presented an overview of the Board's proposed Constraints for the Board which state that in attaining the Board's student outcome goals, the Spring Independent School District Board shall comply with the following:

1. Trustees shall not make modifications to, additions to, or subtractions from Board Policy AE(LOCAL), Board goals, or Superintendent goals more than once per year.
2. Trustees shall not, collectively or individually, perform or appear to perform any of the roles delegated to the Superintendent.
3. Trustees shall not, collectively or individually, violate Board Policy.
4. Trustees shall not communicate the substance of any discussion held in closed session or any information learned only as a result of discussion in closed session, to any person who would not have been authorized to attend the closed session in which the discussion occurred.
5. Trustees shall direct all staff, parent, and/or stakeholder grievances to the appropriate grievance policy.

President Rhonda Newhouse announced that as part of the Board's Lone Star Governance work, the Board has been tracking the amount of time spent on student achievement vs. operational items. The goal is to ensure that the Board is monitoring time spent to improve student achievement throughout the year.

**Lone Star Governance  
Time Usage Report**

Date of Meeting	Length of Meeting	Time on Academic Topics/Discussions	Time on Operational Topics/Discussions
June 6, 2019	3 hours, 14 minutes	1 hour, 12 minutes	2 hours, 2 minutes
June 11, 2019	3 hours, 35 minutes	0 hours, 6 minutes	3 hours, 29 minutes
August 8, 2019	1 hour, 32 minutes	0 hours, 26 minutes	1 hour, 6 minutes
August 13, 2019	2 hours, 20 minutes	0 hours, 3 minutes	2 hours, 17 minutes
September 5, 2019	2 hours, 16 minutes	1 hour, 41 minutes	0 hours, 35 minutes
September 10, 2019	1 hour, 53 minutes	0 hours, 2 minutes	1 hour, 51 minutes

## **VI. Presentations (6:34 PM)**

### **A. Holdsworth Center Overview (6:34 PM)**

Katie Jaron and Shanthi Radhakrishnan of the Holdsworth Center, provided the Board with a Holdsworth Center overview. The presentation covered the Holdsworth Center objectives, mission, program timeline, and their work with Spring ISD.

### **B. 2019-2020 Targeted Improvement Plans (6:57 PM)**

Dr. Jennifer Cobb, Assistant Superintendent for Research, Accountability and Testing, introduced the 2019-2020 Targeted Improvement Plans for Spring Independent School District submitted by Eickenroht and Major Elementary Schools and Bailey, Bammel, Claughton, Dueitt and Wells Middle Schools.

Dawn Oliver, Executive Director for School Improvement, presented information on the 2018-2019 accountability results and the state requirements and timelines.

Shundra Brown, Principal of Bailey Middle School, reflected on effective schools framework processes and opportunities for community and Trustee engagement.

President Newhouse recessed the meeting for a short break at 7:39 PM. (7:39 PM)

President Newhouse resumed the meeting at 8:01 PM.

### **C. One-Time Revenue and Expenditures (8:01 PM)**

Chief Ann Westbrook presented the Board with information regarding one-time cost expenditures. The District received one-time funds after the end of the 2018-2019 fiscal year due to property value audits, School Health and Related Services (SHARS) payments and Senate Bill 500. These non-recurring funds allow the district to address certain needs through one-time expenditures.

## **VII. Chief of Staff (9:06 PM)**

### **A. Resolution to Pay District Employees for Workdays Missed as a Result of Spring Independent School District's Closure Due to Tropical Storm Imelda (9:06 PM)**

Chief Julie Hill presented the Board with information regarding a resolution to pay district employees for workdays missed as a result of Spring Independent School District's closure due to Tropical Storm Imelda. The purpose of this resolution is to compensate district staff for the recent district closure on September 20, 2019, which was a result of severe weather including heavy rain, regional flooding, and unsafe travel conditions. The resolution also allows for compensation to those employees who reported to work on Thursday, September 19, but were required to leave early to care for children, family members, property, etc. as a result of weather conditions.

Trustee Jensen moved that the Board adopt the resolution to pay district employees for workdays missed as a result of Spring Independent School District's closure due to Tropical Storm Imelda.

Trustee Adams seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### **B. Acceptance of Grant Funds – Region 4 Education Service Center 2019-2020 School Support Grant (9:09 PM)**

Chief Julie Hill presented the Board with information regarding accepting the Region 4 Education Service Center 2019-2020 School Support Grant in the amount of \$38,379.11. The grant funds must be used for Region 4 ESC training, products, or services. Expenditures may include training materials, customized contracts, conference registrations, products, or other services from Region 4.

C. Second Reading of TASB Proposed Revisions Affecting Board Policy BBE(LOCAL) – BOARD MEMBERS – AUTHORITY (9:10 PM)

Chief Julie Hill presented the second reading of Board Policy BBE(LOCAL). This board policy provision was provided by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) as part of Update 113. A recommended revision to this policy addressing board member access to information clarifies that when a board member is provided access to records or reports that are confidential or not subject to public disclosure, district staff will inform the board member about compliance with the district's applicable information security controls.

D. First Reading of Proposed Revisions Affecting Board Policy EIC(LOCAL) – ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – CLASS RANKING (9:12 PM)

Chief Julie Hill presented the first reading of proposed changes to Board Policy EIC(LOCAL). This proposed policy revision sets forth guidelines for Advanced Placement (AP) Courses and AP Exams in relation to grade weights.

VIII. Chief of School Leadership and Student Support Services (9:21 PM)

A. Interlocal Agreement Between Harris County Department of Education and Spring Independent School District for the 21st Century Grant Program at Bammel Middle School (9:21 PM)

Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented the Board with information regarding the proposed Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Department of Education for the 21st Century Grant Program at Bammel Middle School. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) after school program will serve students who meet at least two of the at-risk indicators. The program will focus on increasing the overall academic performance in the core subjects as measured by formal and informal assessments. Students will participate in:

- Core educational services such as homework help, academic clubs, etc.;
- College and career readiness activities;
- College visits;
- Social and conflict resolution activities; and
- Parent engagement sessions and services.

Trustee Adams asked that this item be removed from the October 8, 2019 Regular Meeting Consent Agenda, due to his employment relationship with Harris County Department of Education.

B. Lone Star College Dual Credit Partnership Between Lone Star College System and Spring ISD (9:13 PM)

Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented the Board with information regarding the Lone Star College Dual Credit Partnership between Lone Star College System and Spring ISD. The purpose of this Lone Star College Dual Credit Partnership is to outline the collaboration for the continuation of the Dual Credit Course Agreement to allow high school students to earn dual course credit for immediate award of high school credit, college credit, and college certificate and/or associate degree credit.

IX. Chief Operations Officer (9:29 PM)

A. Discussion About the Spring High School Swimming Pool (9:29 PM)

Chief Mark Miranda led a discussion about the Spring High School swimming pool and discussed proposed renovations.

B. Westfield High School Ninth Grade Center, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price (9:31 PM)

Chief Mark Miranda presented the Board with information regarding the Westfield High School Ninth Grade Center, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$8,480,044. The 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) includes allowances for thermal and moisture protection, finishes, HVAC installation, material, electrical, electronic safety and security and elevators.

C. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Harris County Public Health (HCPH) and Spring Independent School District (9:32 PM)

Chief Mark Miranda presented the Board with information regarding the MOU between Harris County Public Health Department (HCPH) and Spring Independent School District. During a public health emergency, HCHP will provide Spring ISD employees, contractors, and their immediate families with vaccinations, or other related medical supplies or services.

X. Chief Financial Officer (9:35 PM)

A. Request for Proposal (RFP) #20-004 – Curriculum Consulting Services (9:35 PM)

Chief Ann Westbrooks presented the Board with information regarding Request for Proposal (RFP) #20-004 – Curriculum Consulting Services. The Spring Independent School District requested competitive sealed proposals for the purpose of identifying vendors to provide curriculum consulting services and an entrepreneurial leadership curriculum program to support the needs of the district.

B. Taxpayer Refunds (9:39 PM)

Chief Ann Westbrooks presented the Board with a report of taxpayer refunds exceeding \$500.

C. Report of Cooperative Purchases Exceeding \$50,000 (9:40 PM)

Chief Ann Westbrooks presented the Board with a report consisting of purchases exceeding \$50,000 that were made by the district through one or more authorized purchasing cooperatives.

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
08/19/2019	Liberty Source, LP	The Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI) and Tejas LEE assessment software	\$ 77,370
08/28/2019	Foster Fence Corporation	Fencing for Ponderosa Elementary**	\$ 54,011
09/04/2019	ALC Schools, LLC	Transportation services for homeless students*	\$ 100,000
09/10/2019	GTS Technology Solutions Inc.	Replacement of classroom projectors**	\$ 51,370
09/13/2019	Achieve3000, Inc.	Achieve3000 Pro Differentiated Literacy Solution, software subscription	\$ 82,760
09/13/2019	Edmentum Holdings Inc.	Software license for Edmentum Math and Reading program	\$ 110,861
09/13/2019	Sterling Structures Inc.	CTE renovations for Wunsche High School	\$ 280,000

\* Blanket Purchase Order for anticipated annual spend.

\*\*Bond Related Expenditures

XI. Closed Session (9:42 PM)

There was no closed session.

A. Under Section 551.071 - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized, including any item posted on this agenda

B. Under Section 551.074 - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee

1. The Board will deliberate regarding the Superintendent's evaluation

2. The Board will deliberate on employees nominated for special recognition

3. The Board will deliberate on a recommendation for the termination and finding of no good cause for an employee's abandonment of contract
4. The Board will deliberate on the issuance of school district teaching permits for noncore career and technology courses
5. The Board will deliberate on employee resignations, recommendations to withdraw prior actions taken, recommendations to void employee contracts, recommendations for the proposed termination of employees on probationary and/or term contracts, and final orders for employees on term and probationary contracts previously proposed for termination and/or nonrenewal

C. Under Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices


**XII. Action on Closed Session Items (9:43 PM)**

The Board held no closed session and took no action.

**XIII Adjournment (9:43 PM)**

. On a motion by Trustee Durant, seconded by Trustee Gonzales, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:43 PM.

  
Rhonda R. Newhouse, President

  
Donald Davis, Secretary