

# Spring Independent School District

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



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WORK SESSION  
6:00 PM, NOVEMBER 7, 2019  
BOARD ROOM  
GORDON M. ANDERSON LEADERSHIP CENTER  
16717 ELLA BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77090**

## **MINUTES**

### **I. Call to Order (6:02 PM)**

President Rhonda Newhouse called the Work Session of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:02 PM on November 7, 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  
Justine Durant  
Dr. Deborah Jensen

#### **Members Absent:**

Winford Adams, Jr., Assistant Secretary  
Chris Bell

#### **Others Present:**

Rodney Watson, Superintendent of Schools  
Ken 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 (6:03 PM)**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the following meetings:

- A. October 2, 2019 Special Called Session
- B. October 3, 2019 Board Work Session
- C. October 8, 2019 Regular Meeting

### **III. Opening Remarks (6:03 PM)**

#### **A. Superintendent of Schools (6:03 PM)**

Superintendent Rodney Watson highlighted the Parent Involvement Day which took place on November 5, 2019 and noted that there were more parents in attendance this year than in previous years. He also reminded the audience of the grand opening celebration of the district's new stadium which will be held on November 12, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Planet Ford Stadium.

#### **B. Board of Trustees (6:05 PM)**

President Newhouse invited the Board of Trustees to make remarks.

Trustee Jensen noted her passion for looking at research and data and in particular Australian researcher John Hattie who has looked at education studies all over the world for more than 30 years and performed data analysis to try to find common themes. She pointed out the relationship between student mobility and student achievement and how mobility can have a negative impact on student achievement.

President Newhouse remarked how she had a wonderful time at Planet Ford Stadium and mentioned that she had the opportunity to speak to parents before and after the recent football games.

Trustee Durant mentioned how the drill team and cheer leaders are so excited to now have their own dressing rooms at the new stadium.

Trustee Davis spoke on how during a recent shopping visit he ran into a Spring ISD custodian who thanked him and the Board for recently voting to give Spring ISD employees a \$1,000 employee supplement.

President Newhouse concluded the remarks by congratulating Trustee Jensen and Trustee Durant for their hard work and accomplishment to be re-elected to the Spring ISD Board of Trustees following the November 5, 2019 Trustee Election.

### **IV. Public Agenda Participation (6:11 PM)**

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

### **V. Presentations (6:12 PM)**

#### **A. Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC) Student Mobility Findings (6:12 PM)**

Patrick Gill, Research Analyst with Houston Education Research Consortium made a presentation to the Board on student mobility findings. The presentation included an overview of student mobility and an analysis of where students are coming from and going to when entering and departing the district.

#### **B. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 and the Independent Auditor's Report (6:40 PM)**

Chief Ann Westbrooks presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 and the Independent Auditor's Report. In compliance with Section 44.008, Texas Education Code, a copy of the Annual Audit Report approved by the Board of Trustees shall be filed by the District within 150 days of the close of the fiscal year.

### **VI. Chief of Staff (7:16 PM)**

#### **A. Second Reading of Proposed Revisions Affecting Board Policy EIC(LOCAL) – ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT – CLASS RANKING (7:16 PM)**

Chief Julie Hill presented the second 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 reporting.

**VII. Chief of School Leadership and Student Support Services (7:25 PM)**

- A. 2019-2020 Child Care Local Match Contribution Agreement with the Gulf Coast Local Workforce Board (7:25 PM)  
Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented information regarding the 2019-2020 Child Care Local Match Contribution Agreement with the Gulf Coast Workforce Board. Each year, Spring ISD pledges \$250,000 in order for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to draw down additional federal funds. Both the local and matched federal funds are used for direct child care services for children of eligible teen parents and staff of Spring ISD and families meeting TWC (Texas Workforce Commission) rules.
- B. Contract with Cypress Fairbanks ISD for use of the Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center for 2020 Spring ISD Graduation Ceremonies (7:30 PM)  
Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented information regarding the contract with Cypress Fairbanks ISD for use of the Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center for 2020 Spring ISD Graduation Ceremonies. The 2020 Spring ISD Graduation Ceremonies will be held at the venue over a two-day period. This contract will accommodate all five Spring ISD High Schools in one location with the same level of services and accommodations.
- C. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Prairie View A&M University and Spring Independent School District to Provide Early Admission and Related Services to Spring ISD Students (7:40 PM)  
Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented information regarding the MOU between Prairie View A&M University and Spring Independent School District. This MOU provides early admission and related services to Spring ISD students.
- D. Facility Use Agreement Between Lone Star College-Greenspoint Campus and Spring Independent School District for Adult Education and Literacy Services (7:43 PM)  
Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented information regarding the Facility Use Agreement between Lone Star College-Greenspoint Campus and Spring Independent School District. This agreement allows 21<sup>st</sup> CCCLC Project S.A.F.E. to host adult education and literacy classes for parents during the 2019-2020 school year at the Lone Star College-Greenspoint Campus.
- E. Affiliation Agreement Between Spring Independent School District and Prairie View A&M University to Support Internships for Licensed Specialists in School Psychology (7:47 PM)  
Chief Lupita Hinojosa presented information regarding the Affiliation Agreement between Spring ISD and Prairie View A&M University. Implementation of IDEA regulations and Board Policy EHBAA(LEGAL) calls for Child Find efforts which include conducting a full individual and initial evaluation before the initial provision of special education and related services as well as re-evaluations at least every three years. Licensed Specialists in School Psychology (LSSPs) serve a vital role in conducting these evaluations, particularly when an emotional disturbance or autism is suspected. LSSPs are becoming increasingly difficult to find. It is hoped that by providing internship opportunities for LSSPs we will be able to attract more LSSPs to Spring ISD.

**VIII. Chief Financial Officer (7:49 PM)**

- A. 2019-2020 First Budget Review (7:49 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrook presented information regarding the 2019-2020 First Budget

Review. In accordance with Board Policy CD(LOCAL), this review reflects amendments to the adopted budget. Section 44.006 of the Texas Education Code also mandates that public funds may not be expended in any manner other than as specified in the adopted budget, as properly amended.

- B. Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-005 – Group Travel Services (7:58 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrook presented information regarding Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-005 – Group Travel Services. The Spring Independent School District requested competitive sealed proposals for the purpose of identifying vendors to supply group travel services to support the needs of the District.
- C. Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-006 – Fire Sprinkler Inspections, Parts, and Services (7:59 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrook presented information regarding Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-006 – Fire Sprinkler Inspections, Parts, and Services. The Spring Independent School District requested competitive sealed proposals for the purpose of identifying vendors to provide fire sprinkler inspections, parts, and services to support the needs of the District.
- D. Taxpayer Refunds (8:00 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrook presented the Board with a report of taxpayer refunds exceeding \$500.
- E. Report of Cooperative Purchases Exceeding \$50,000 (8:02 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrook 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
09/18/2019	Northwest Evaluation Association	Performance Evaluator Assessment	\$ 322,391
09/24/2019	Dell Computer Corporation	Laptops, HDMI cables and briefcase for Workforce Development	\$ 148,525
10/08/2019	Hunton Trane Services	Services for chiller at Dekaney High School**	\$ 69,633
10/09/2019	GT Distributors Inc.	Police equipment and supplies	\$ 51,905
10/09/2019	Micro Integration & Programming	To provide backup power outage protection for the Police Department**	\$ 61,112
10/09/2019	Micro Integration & Programming	Additional Tele Communicator racks and refresher for Uninterruptible Power Supplies**	\$ 75,028
10/09/2019	Hunton Trane Services	Cooling tower fill replacement for Dekaney High School**	\$ 107,024
10/10/2019	Galls LLC	Police uniforms	\$ 70,523

\* Blanket Purchase Order for anticipated annual spend.

\*\*Bond Related Expenditures

**IX. Closed Session (8:07 PM)**

President Newhouse recessed the open session at 8:07 PM for the purpose of entering into closed session pursuant to the following provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

- 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 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property
  - 1. The Board will deliberate whether to grant to Harris County a proposed 30 foot wide sidewalk easement along Bammel Road at Carolee Booker Elementary School.
- C. 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
  - 6. The Board will deliberate on the proposed Resignation and Release Agreement in the Termination Appeal styled Jonathan Lee v. Spring ISD, Docket No. 007-LH-09-2019
- D. Under Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices

**X. Action on Closed Session Items (9:22 PM)**

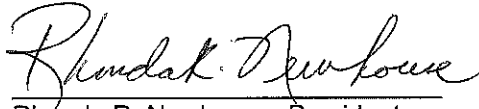
President Newhouse reconvened the open session at 9:22 PM.

- A. Trustee Durant moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to terminate the contracts of Channan Burns, Veasna Chhim, Latasha Rose, and Kimberly Blazek upon finding that the employees failed to perform their contracts without good cause, and authorize the Superintendent or designee to notify the employees of the proposed termination pursuant to Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. Trustee Durant further moved that the Board authorize the Superintendent or designee to notify the State Board for Educator Certification that the employees failed to perform their contracts without good cause, and of the action taken by the Board. Trustee Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Trustee Jensen moved that the Board render a final order to terminate the contract of Cathy Rohde and authorize the Superintendent or designee to notify the employee of the action taken by the Board. Trustee Gonzales seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- C. Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board approve the resignation and release agreement in the termination appeal styled Jonathon Lee v. Spring ISD. Trustee Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- D. Trustee Jensen moved that the Board approve granting Harris County a 30 foot wide easement along Bammel Road at Carolee Booker Elementary School and authorize the

Superintendent to sign all necessary documents. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**XI. Adjournment (9:27 PM)**

On a motion by Trustee Gonzales, seconded by Trustee Durant, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:27 PM.



Rhonda R. Newhouse, President



Donald Davis, Secretary