

Spring Independent School District

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION 6:00 PM, MAY 7, 2020 VIDEO CONFERENCE

MINUTES

I. Call to Order (6:03 PM)

President Rhonda Newhouse called the video conference Work Session of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:03 PM on May 7, 2020, in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Members Present:

Rhonda Newhouse, President
Dr. Deborah Jensen, Vice President
Donald Davis, Secretary
Winford Adams, Jr., Assistant Secretary
Justine Durant
Jana Gonzales (left meeting at 9:07 PM)
Kelly P. Hodges

Members Absent:

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 (6:04 PM)

The Board reviewed the minutes from the prior month's meetings.

- A. April 9, 2020 Board Work Session
- B. April 14, 2020 Regular Meeting
- C. April 30, 2020 Special Called Session

III. Opening Remarks (6:05 PM)

Dr. Rodney Watson began his remarks by highlighting items that would follow on the agenda including an update on events that happened since the District closure. He recognized teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week and thanked them for their hard work to ensure continuity of learning during this time.

Next, Dr. Watson asked the Board and Cabinet to join him in a moment of silence to celebrate the life of principal Justin Jones of Link Elementary School. "He was a true leader", said Dr. Watson.

IV. Presentations (6:07 PM)

A. Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2020 (6:07 PM)

Chief Westbrook introduced Clarence Grier, Managing Director with RBC Capital Markets, LLC. Mr. Grier presented the Board with information regarding the Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2020. The presentation included an outstanding debt summary, preliminary refunding analysis, and preliminary timetable.

Barron Wallace, the District's bond counsel with Bracewell LLP was available to answer any questions from the Board.

B. 2020-2021 Budget Discussion (6:20 PM)

Chief Westbrook led a preliminary discussion regarding the development of the 2020-2021 budget. The presentation included a review of the Board's budget priorities, discussion, and a review of next steps in the budget process.

C. COVID-19 Board Update (7:03 PM)

Chief Miranda and Chief Bradford made a presentation to provide the Board an overview of the work underway in Spring ISD to support students, staff and families since the COVID-19 school closure period began on Monday, March 16. The presentation included a COVID-19 school closure period overview, information on student and family supports, an update on Empowered Learning - At Home 2.0, a Pre-K through Grade 12 update, a Class of 2020 update, and information on student grading during the closure period.

D. Richey Academy Update (8:33 PM)

Chief Hinojosa provided the Board with an update on the District's DAEP program, Richey Academy. The 1995 Texas Safe Schools Act requires all Texas public school districts provide disciplinary alternative education programs (DAEPs) as an alternative education setting for students temporarily removed for disciplinary purposes from their regular instructional settings.

Spring ISD's Richey Academy serves middle and high school students who commit disciplinary offenses requiring alternative education program placement. It is designed to help students stay on track academically while simultaneously improving their social skills, decision-making skills, and overall behavior. Richey Academy implements a restorative discipline approach used to teach students to take accountability for inappropriate behavior and to appropriately resolve conflicts that occur both in and out of school.

V. Chief of School Leadership and Student Support Services (8:57 PM)

A. Renewal of CYS (Community Youth Services) Workers Contract (8:57 PM)

The Board considered approving the renewal of the contract for the Harris County Community Youth Services. The contract continues to provide specialized services to students and families through seven Youth Service Specialists (YSS) workers in Spring ISD that are currently not available through District programming. These services include:

- Individual and Family
- Group Therapy
- Access to the Youth and Family
- Resource Services (assessments, psychological testing, CRCG, referrals to psychiatric services)

- CYS Parent/Teen Survival Course (bilingual)
- Services to Runaway & Homeless Youth
- Psychological Testing
- Emergency Shelter Care at Kinder Emergency Shelter

B. Memorandum of Understanding with Harris County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) (8:59 PM)

The Board considered approving the Memorandum of Understanding with Harris County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) for the 2020-2021 academic year. Spring ISD is proposing to enter into contract with Harris County Juvenile Board (HCJB) to reserve four discretionary spaces for placement of students in the JJAEP who may be expelled from school for certain offenses or who are ordered to attend the JJAEP by a juvenile court.

Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code requires that the HCJB establish and operate a JJAEP for youth who are expelled from the school for the offenses described in Section 37.007 (a), (d) and Chapter 54 for the Texas Family Code provides that the juvenile court, at a child's disposition hearing, may order that the child attend the JJAEP.

C. Multi-Year (2020-2023) Edgenuity Contract Renewal (9:02 PM)

The Board considered approving the renewal of a multi-year (2020-2023) contract with Edgenuity. Spring ISD is proposing to continue its contract with Edgenuity, Inc., to provide credit recovery course opportunities for high school students with at least 6 credits. In addition, the contract with Edgenuity, Inc., will provide supplemental test preparation courses (STAAR/EOC, SAT, ACT, TSI, and GED) for all secondary campuses.

D. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AVANCE-Houston, Inc. and Spring Independent School District (Bammel, Eickenroht and Lewis Elementary Schools) (9:04 PM)

The Board considered approving the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between AVANCE-Houston, Inc. and Spring Independent School District. This MOU outlines the terms and conditions by which AVANCE-Houston, Inc. and Spring ISD will collaborate to provide comprehensive services for four-year-old Head Start eligible children. Head Start is a federally-funded program designed to meet the needs of the children from low-income families by providing a comprehensive developmentally appropriate program.

AVANCE-Houston, Inc. will provide Head Start services for eligible children, including the children transitioning to Spring ISD. The collaboration and operation of this program will be in accordance with Texas Pre-kindergarten Guidelines, the Spring ISD Pre-kindergarten Framework, Head Start Performance Standards, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including federal guidelines consistent with the Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and modifications thereof, all applicable state and federal laws additionally outlined herein, including but not limited to the Texas Health and Safety Code, Education Code, and Family Code.

E. Acceptance of Grant Funds From the Texas Education Agency (TEA) (9:06 PM)

The Board considered accepting the proposed amendment of additional grant funds of \$191,061 from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The Texas Education Agency provided an opportunity for grantees to receive additional funds to allocate as needed for program improvement and sustainability.

The schools involved are:

- Bammel, Eickenroht, Hoyland, Major, Ponderosa, and Salyers Elementary Schools
- Bailey, Claughton, and Wells Middle Schools
- Dekaney and Westfield High Schools.

In accordance with Board Policy, all grant funds in aggregate of \$10,000 or more must be approved by the Spring Independent School District's Board of Trustees.

F. Services Agreement Between The University of Texas at Austin and Spring Independent School District (9:08 PM)

The Board considered approving the agreement between The University of Texas at Austin (Cockrell School of Engineering) and Spring ISD for Carl Wunsche High School engineering students. Carl Wunsche engineering students from 9th through 12th grade will be exposed to innovative and comprehensive year-long high school engineering design curriculum.

G. AVID (Advanced Via Individual Determination) Annual Contract Renewal (9:10 PM)

The Board considered approving the annual renewal of the AVID contract. AVID helps students who will be the first in their families to attend college and are from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education. AVID Secondary equips teachers and schools with what they need to help these students succeed on a path to college and career success. To address this need, AVID has developed the AVID Elective course. For one period a day, students receive the additional academic, social, and emotional support that will help them succeed in their school's most rigorous courses.

VI. Chief Operations Officer (9:16 PM)

A. Safety and Security Bid Package G, 7th Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) (9:16 PM)

The Board considered approving the Safety and Security Bid Package G, 7th Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) in the amount of \$1,444,740. The 7th Guaranteed Maximum Price covers safety and security updates for access control, intrusion alarms, required door knob changes to handles and replacement cameras where required at all remaining campuses.

B. Summer 2020 Projects, First Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) (9:18 PM)

The Board considered approving the Summer 2020 Projects Initial (GMP) in the amount of \$6,067,360. The initial Guaranteed Maximum Price includes allowances for the contractor to begin work at the Spring High School Natatorium, Salyers Elementary School landscape re-grading/flood mitigation, Bammel Middle School PreK-8 Phase 1 and the Anderson Leadership Center 2nd Floor Curriculum and Instruction office functionality remodel. These allowances let work start and continue until the 2nd GMP can be brought to the Board in June.

C. Facilities Use Interlocal Agreement (Amendment 7) Between Lone Star College System (LSCS) and Spring Independent School District for LSCS' Transportation Institute (9:19 PM)

The Board considered approving Amendment 7 of the Facilities Use Interlocal Agreement between Lone Star College System (LSCS) and Spring ISD for LSCS' Transportation Institute. The District agreed with LSCS to allow access to buildings and parking lots at the Old Transportation facility on Hardy Road for LSCS' Transportation Institute. The original agreement previously approved by the Board, and later amended, is up for a short renewal due to delays caused by COVID-19.

VII. Chief of Police (9:20 PM)

A. 2019 Spring ISD Police Department Racial Profiling Report (9:20 PM)

As required by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures Art 2.132, Chief Culbreath presented the Board with the Spring ISD Police Department's annual Racial Profiling Report. The 2019 Racial Profiling Report is a collection of data relating to motor vehicle stops made by the Spring ISD Police Department. The data captured reflects the race or ethnicity of the individual detained and whether the officer knew the race or ethnicity prior to the motor vehicle stop.

VIII. Chief Financial Officer (9:21 PM)

A. List of Investment Brokers/Dealers (9:21 PM)

The Board considered approving the list of investment brokers/dealers as presented. The Public Funds Investment Act, Texas Government Code section 2256.025, states that the Board shall annually revise or adopt a list of qualified brokers/dealers that are authorized to engage in investment transactions with the District.

B. Interlocal Agreement with Region 5 Education Service Center (9:23 PM)

The Board considered approving an Interlocal Agreement with Region 5 Education Service Center. The agreement is to provide funds to Spring ISD to pay extra-duty stipends to the district mentors/participants assigned to the following trainings: Special Education, Educator Certification and Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

C. Request for Proposal (RFP) #15-001 – Custodial Supplies (9:25 PM)

The Board considered allowing an additional renewal term, up to one year, for the previously awarded custodial supplies contracts. Due to impacts caused by COVID-19, the Spring Independent School District administration determined the current circumstances could negatively impact a successful bid process. The administration requests approval to negotiate a contract renewal with the current contracted custodial supply vendors for the continued support of the District.

D. Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-011 – Before and After School Child Care and Enrichment Services (9:26 PM)

The Board considered awarding the contracts for Before and After School Child Care and Enrichment Services to the providers recommended by the administration. The Spring Independent School District requested competitive sealed proposals to identify a pool of qualified vendors to provide Before and After School Care within elementary schools.

E. Request for Proposal (RFP) # 20-014 – Special Education Contracted Services (9:28 PM)

The Board considered awarding the contract for Special Education Contracted Services to the providers recommended by the administration. The Spring Independent School District requested competitive sealed proposals for the purpose of identifying vendors to provide Special Education Contracted Services to support the needs of the District.

F. Taxpayer Refunds (9:29 PM)

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

G. Report of Cooperative Purchases Exceeding \$50,000 (9:30 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
4/3/2020	Floors 2 Adore	T-Building relocation and renovations at Reynolds Elementary School**	\$ 171,449
4/6/2020	ClassLink Inc.	Rosters Hosting renewal license and maintenance	\$ 97,870
4/6/2020	School Specialty Inc.	Pre-K furniture for elementary campuses and Pre-K and Kindergarten furniture for Bammel Middle School**	\$ 399,379
4/9/2020	Floors 2 Adore	Gym floor replacement at Reynolds Elementary School**	\$ 58,489
4/9/2020	Raptor Technologies Inc.	Emergency Management Software for drills, active incident response, parent-student reunification, etc. - District-Wide	\$ 58,560
04/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc.	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Dueitt Middle School	\$ 128,769
4/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc.	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Wells Middle School	\$ 150,231
4/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc.	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Bailey Middle School	\$ 157,384
4/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc.	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Claughton Middle School	\$ 207,461
4/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc.	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Bammel Middle School	\$ 214,615
4/14/2020	Educator's Depot Inc	Student classroom furniture and removal and relocation of existing furniture for Twin Creeks Middle School	\$ 193,154

* Blanket Purchase Order for anticipated annual spend.

**Bond Related Expenditures

IX. Closed Session (9:33 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 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property

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 and goals
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, recommendations for the proposed nonrenewal of employees on term contracts, recommendations for termination at the end of the year for employees on probationary contracts, and final orders for employees on term and probationary contracts previously proposed for termination and/or nonrenewal

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 (9:34 PM)

The Board took no action.

XI. Adjournment (9:34 PM)

On a motion by Trustee Adams, seconded by Trustee Jensen, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 PM. The vote was 6 for and 1 absent (Trustee Gonzales).


Rhonda R. Newhouse, President


Donald Davis, Secretary