



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WORK SESSION  
6:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020  
VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order (6:01 PM)**

President Rhonda Newhouse called the Work Session of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 6:01 PM on September 3, 2020, via video conference 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  
Kelly P. Hodges

**Members Absent:**

**Others Present:**

Rodney Watson, Superintendent of Schools  
Ken Culbreath, Chief of Police  
Julie Hill, Chief of Human Resources and Human Capital Accountability  
Lupita Hinojosa, Chief Innovation and Equity Officer  
Khechara Bradford, Chief Academic Officer  
Mark Miranda, Executive Chief of District Operations  
Ann Westbrook, Chief Financial Officer  
Tiffany Dunne-Oldfield, Chief of Innovation and Communications  
Jeremy Binkley, General Counsel  
Jason Sheffer, Director of Board Services

**II. Minutes from Prior Meetings (6:02 PM)**

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

- A. August 6, 2020 Board Work Session
- B. August 11, 2020 Regular Meeting

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

Superintendent Dr. Rodney Watson began his remarks by thanking principals and teachers, who started school on August 17th. "The work that they are doing is truly unprecedented and the work that they're doing is a lot. And so we do want to thank them."

Dr. Watson then highlighted some of the items that would follow on the agenda including the sharing of the Asynchronous Instructional Plan and an administrative update on 2020-21 School Year.

#### **IV. Presentations (6:09 PM)**

##### **A. Asynchronous Instructional Plan (6:09 PM)**

A presentation was made on the Asynchronous Instructional Plan. The Asynchronous Instructional Plan must be reviewed and approved by TEA in order to continue receiving funding for asynchronous attendance after the end of the grace period which ends at the close of the 3rd six weeks. The plan addresses four key requirements: Instructional Schedule, Material Design, Student Progress and Implementation.

##### **B. Administrative Update on 2020-21 School Year Plan (7:07 PM)**

A presentation was made provide an Administrative Update on the 2020-21 School Year Plan, including supports for Special Education Students.

On Tuesday, August 11, the Spring ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved a resolution to request a waiver from the Texas Education Agency that provides the district the option to extend the start-of-school transition period for an additional four weeks - or until October 16.

As part of their approval, the Board asked that district administration survey parents on their preferences for when campuses should reopen as well as provide an update on the prevalence of COVID-19 in Spring ISD zip codes.

Administration presented to Board with information and updates on the following:

- Current COVID-19 levels in the Spring ISD community;
- Planned return to on-campus, in-person instruction;
- Survey feedback from parents who selected the district's "Safety-First, In-Person" Learning Option;
- New communication processes for ensuring families are well-informed of safety protocols and COVID-19 levels in our area.

#### **V. General Counsel (8:25 PM)**

##### **A. Resolution Regarding School Closures Due to Hurricane Laura (8:25 PM)**

The Board was presented with information regarding the Resolution Regarding School Closures on August 26, 2020 – August 28, 2020 due to Hurricane Laura.

The Resolution authorizes the administration to compensate all employees for days when the District was closed due to the imminent threat of severe weather and dangerous conditions at their regular hourly or daily rate of pay, according to the duty schedule they would have otherwise worked; authorizes the administration to compensate those employees, excluding employees prohibited from receiving additional compensation pursuant to District Policies and Administrative Regulations, who were required to report to duty on August 26, 27, and/or 28, 2020, for the hours actually worked at their regular rate of pay, as well as any overtime earned pursuant to District policy and state and federal law, in addition to the pay all employees will receive; and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to modify the instructional calendar, and seek any and all related waivers from the Texas Commissioner of Education as he deems fit, in the best interest of the school district and the Spring Independent School District community.

##### **B. Resolution for the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to Cancel the 2020 Trustee Election (8:27 PM)**

The Board was presented with information regarding adopting a resolution to cancel the 2020 Trustee Election.

An election to fill Board of Trustee Positions 4 and 5 was scheduled for November 2020. During the candidate declaration period, only one candidate filed documentation to seek election to each position. As each candidate has no opponent to run against, it is not necessary to hold an election to fill the positions. Consequently, election law requires that the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees cancel the election scheduled for November 2020.

Trustee Jensen moved that the Board of Trustees adopt the Resolution for the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to cancel the 2020 Trustee Election. Trustee Hodges seconded the motion and the motion carried with 5 in favor and 2 abstentions. President Rhonda Newhouse and Trustee Winford Adams, Jr. abstained as they were the unopposed candidates for the trustee positions. (Position 4 – Rhonda Newhouse and Position 5 – Winford Adams, Jr.).

C. Modification to Instructional Calendar to Close for Election Day (8:30 PM)

The Board was presented with information regarding a modification to the instructional calendar to close for election day.

Historically, Harris County has utilized school campuses as polling locations on election day. This year is no different, with the county seeking to use 33 Spring ISD campuses as polling locations. Further, with a presidential election on the ballot, we anticipate increased voter turnout.

Campuses are currently planning to utilize large spaces for increased social distancing due to COVID-19. By closing campuses on election day, the district will be able to safely allow use of campuses as polling locations.

D. Notification of Legal Policies Revised by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) in Update 115 (8:33 PM)

The Board was presented with information regarding Legal Policies revised in TASB Update 115.

E. First Reading of TASB Local Update 115 – Proposed Revisions Affecting the Following Board Policies (8:35 PM)

The Board was presented with the first reading of Local Policies revised in TASB Update 115.

1. BF(LOCAL) – BOARD POLICIES
2. DED(LOCAL) – COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS – VACATIONS AND HOLIDAYS
3. DIA(LOCAL) – EMPLOYEE WELFARE – FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION
4. DMD(LOCAL) – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS AND VISITATIONS
5. EI(LOCAL) – ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
6. FB(LOCAL) – EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
7. FD(LOCAL) – ADMISSIONS
8. FEB(LOCAL) – ATTENDANCE – ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING
9. FFG(LOCAL) – STUDENT WELFARE – CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- 10. FFH(LOCAL) – STUDENT WELFARE – FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSENT, AND RETALIATION
- 11. FMF(LOCAL) – STUDENT ACTIVITIES – CONTESTS AND COMPETITIONS
- 12. FNG(LOCAL) – STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – STUDENT AND PARENT COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES
- 13. GF(LOCAL) – PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

**VI. Chief Innovation and Equity Officer (9:00 PM)**

- A. Interlocal Agreement Between Lone Star College System - North Harris and Spring Independent School District (9:00 PM)  
The Board was presented with information regarding the proposed Interlocal Agreement with Lone Star College System - North Harris.

The purpose of this Interlocal Agreement is to outline the collaboration of Spring ISD and Lone Star College System – North Harris in creating and operating the Spring Early College Academy.

**VII. Chief Financial Officer (9:01 PM)**

- A. Taxpayer Refunds (9:01 PM)  
Chief Ann Westbrooks presented the Board with a report of taxpayer refunds exceeding \$500.
- B. Report of Cooperative Purchases Exceeding \$50,000 (9:02 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
07/20/2020	WatchGuard Video	Body cameras, devices licenses, parts, training, warranty, etc.**	\$ 209,000
07/21/2020	Glazier Foods Company	3-compartment plates	\$ 85,320
07/21/2020	Frontline Education	English Language Learners and Language Proficiency Assessment Committee site license	\$ 89,123
07/21/2020	Unify Energy Solutions LLC	HVAC monitoring systems service agreement for Westfield High School, Westfield High School Field House, Virtual, SLA, TeachUp, Planet Ford Stadium and Police Command Center	\$ 63,450
07/23/2020	Frontline Placement Technologies	Absence and Substitute Management System license renewal	\$ 70,147
07/27/2020	Sandra Mercuri Educational Consultants	Summer Dual Language Academy, Model Lesson Analysis, Targeted Lesson Planning and Coaching, Dual Language Curriculum Enhancement and Dual Language Practices	\$ 87,500
07/28/2020	GTS Technology Solutions, Inc.	Staff Augmentation – Level 1 Technician	\$ 76,800
08/03/2020	Hunton Trane Services	Mechanical Select Maintenance for various campuses and Planet Ford Stadium Chillers and BAS scheduled maintenance	\$ 112,460

08/03/2020	Glazier Foods Company	Container lids, bowls and compartment containers	\$ 66,651
08/05/2020	T-Mobile USA, Inc.	1,000 Mobile Hotspots for Students	\$ 111,000
08/10/2020	Libra-Tech Corporation	Allied Plastic Acrylic Screen and Allied Plastic Supply 3' Holder w/Adhesive – Districtwide	\$ 200,375
08/11/2020	All in Learning	Cloud-Based Platform of Formative Assessment Interactives	\$ 147,699
08/13/2020	Engage2Learn	Support Readiness Trainings for Teachers, Instructional Coaches and Leadership Team Support	\$ 89,972
08/13/2020	Yellowstone Landscape Central	Landscape maintenance – Districtwide*	\$ 122,600

\* Blanket Purchase Order for anticipated annual spend.

\*\*Bond Related Expenditures

**C. Certification of Anticipated Collection Rate for Spring Independent School District (9:03 PM)**

The Board was presented with the Certification of Anticipated Collection Rate for the Spring Independent School District for the 2020 taxable year. Section 26.04 of the Property Code requires certification of anticipated rate to the units governing body. This anticipated collection rate will be utilized in the calculation of the debt service portion of the rollback tax for the 2020 taxable year.

**D. Interlocal Agreement Between Spring Independent School District and Klein Independent School District for Records Storage (9:07 PM)**

The Board was presented with information regarding the Interlocal Agreement for Records Storage Services to be provided by Spring ISD to Klein ISD. This interlocal agreement allows Spring ISD to be a record retention facility by providing storage for Klein ISD's records in the District's Distribution Center.

**E. Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Regarding Project Connectivity (9:12 PM)**

The Board was presented with information regarding the Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Regarding Project Connectivity.

Spring ISD partnered with Region IV to purchase student devices through Project Connectivity, which provided matching federal funds to reduce the district's overall cost. County and local governments were recently authorized to contribute a portion of CARES Act funding received by such entities to local school systems to further offset the cost of devices for students.

**VIII. Closed Session (9:14 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

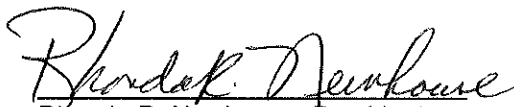
D. Under Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices

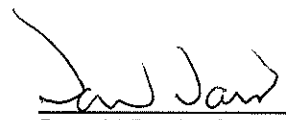
**IX. Action on Closed Session Items (9:14 PM)**

The Board took no action.

**X. Adjournment (9:15 PM)**

On a motion by Trustee Durant, seconded by Trustee Adams, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

  
Rhonda R. Newhouse, Resident

  
Donald Davis, Secretary