

# Spring Independent School District

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



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM, APRIL 17, 2018

BOARD ROOM

GORDON M. ANDERSON LEADERSHIP CENTER  
16717 ELLA BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77090

## MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

President Rhonda Newhouse called the Work Session of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 7:01 PM on April 17, 2018, 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, Assistant Secretary  
Dr. Deborah Jensen  
Chris Bell (arrived at 7:52 PM)

### Members Absent:

Winford Adams, Jr.

### Others Present:

Rodney Watson, Superintendent of Schools  
Victor Mitchell, Chief of Police  
Julie Hill, Chief of Staff  
Lupita Hinojosa, Chief of School Leadership and Student Support Services  
Lauren Topek, Chief of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  
Mark Miranda, Chief Operations Officer  
Deeone McKeithan, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Ann Westbrooks, Chief Financial Officer  
Tiffany Dunne-Oldfield, Chief Communications Officer  
Jeremy Binkley, Legal Officer  
Jason Sheffer, Director of Board Services

### II. Flag Pledges

The Presentation of the Colors and pledges of allegiance were be led by the Dekaney Wildcat NJROTC Battalion and will include Cameron Smith, Kurt Koulavongsa, Marco Cuenca, Erik Lopez, and Lucius Orrellanes.

### III. Moment of Silence

President Newhouse called for a for a moment of silence and announced, "Our former first lady, whom we love and admire, from Houston, Texas, has passed away this afternoon,"

asking attendees to remember the first lady and her family.

#### **IV. Opening Remarks**

##### **A. Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Rodney Watson announced that every elementary school in the District is hosting a Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Roundup during the week and encouraged those interested to register at their elementary school.

Next, Dr. Watson expressed his appreciation to the Spring ISD Education Foundation for the "phenomenal time" spent on Monday at the annual golf tournament and fundraiser and thanked the Spring ISD Education Foundation for continually finding ways to support our students with scholarships.

Next, Dr. Watson reminded everyone of the Spring ISD Fun Run and Wellness Fair occurring on May 12, 2018 at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School and Old Town Spring.

During Dr. Watson's monthly update about student attendance, he emphasized the importance of consistency and the importance that our students are at school every day. He noted that Spring ISD has many structures in place to help students comply with attendance requirements including Friday night and Saturday school.

In conclusion, Dr. Watson talked about recently attending the National School Board Association conference with Board Members and noted how it is always good to hear what other school districts are doing to really push the work of not only school improvement, but innovation as well.

##### **B. Board of Trustees**

President Newhouse invited the Trustees to make remarks.

Trustee Davis announced that he would be making presentations at both Summer Leadership Institutes scheduled for this summer, one in San Antonio and the other in Fort Worth. As a result of Trustee Davis' commitment to present at both events, Spring ISD will receive two complimentary registrations for the Summer Leadership Institute. The annual training conferences, offered by the Texas Association of School Boards, are designed to offer new and experienced school board trustees the information they need to successfully lead and advocate for their students and their communities.

Trustee Gonzales invited everyone to attend the Spring Livestock Show and Fair scheduled for April 26-28 at the Nagy Pavilion. She noted that FFA and 4-H students would be showing their livestock, and photography and homemade projects entered by the FCCLA students would be on display.

Trustee Durant discussed the Board's attendance of the National School Board Association conference and noted how it provides the Trustees the opportunity to meet continuing education requirements, learn new and innovative practices and also stay day up-to-date on legislation and current affairs.

Trustee Jensen commented on the number of students in the audience who were there to be recognized for their achievements and noted what a fun time of year this is, because the agenda is packed with all kinds of awards and recognitions. Trustee Jensen then shared a recent experience at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School where she had an opportunity to view the student Capstone presentations and noted how

interesting and amazing they were. She recalled seeing a student, Tra'Jain Moore, receiving a \$5,000 scholarship from Planet Ford and thanked Planet Ford for their support.

President Newhouse said she also had an opportunity to attend the student Capstone presentations at Carl Wunsche Sr. High School and was amazed by the awesome job the students had done.

## **V. Recognitions**

### **A. Spotlight**

The Board recognized the Spring ISD students who won awards at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Contest. More than 500 students from all Spring ISD schools participated in the contest. After an initial round of judging at the district level, Spring ISD submitted 25 pieces of high school art, five pieces of middle school art and five pieces of elementary art to be judged by Rodeo Art representatives at NRG Center. Twelve of our 35 regional qualifying artwork selections won awards. Special Merit award recipients were Cristal Mendoza, Dekaney High School; and Brittney Artola, Fernanda Herrera and Oralía Cantu, all from Westfield High School. Hannah Nguyen, Reynolds Elementary School, won a gold ribbon award. Three students received a gold medal award: Qasim (Aseem) Abdus-Samad, Claughton Middle School; Lauryn Bledsoe, Westfield High School, and An Nguyen, Spring High School. The Best of Show winners were Jahir Salgado, Meyer Elementary School; Cassandra Paredes, Dueitt Middle School; and Kherryn Lapuz, Dekaney High School.

In addition, the Board recognized Jaime Guadarrama from Dekaney High School. He received a Gold Medal and advanced to the auction where his artwork, titled Tribal Chief, sold for \$20,000.

### **B. Spotlight**

The Board recognized the District winners of the Spring ISD 4th Grade Writing Conferences. In March, the District held its first ever 4th Grade Writing Conference at Hoyland and Marshall elementary schools as part of an effort to help scholars better prepare for the 4th grade STAAR test as well as develop skills and strategies that assist writers in becoming proficient authors. Scholars used their artistic experience through arts integration to free write, a process described in Juan Felipe Herrera's book, "Jabber Walking." The two top scholars from each campus were crowned "True Jabber-Walkers" because they combined the break-out conference STAAR test skills they were taught with the skills taught in Juan Felipe Herrera's book. The Board recognized the winners from Marshall Elementary, Kai'tiera Arceneaux and Brenden Rico, and the winners from Hoyland Elementary, Johan Santana and Sirena McGlowen. Besides being presented with a medal, the students each received a writer's toolkit, complete with pencils, highlighters, a journal and books.

### **C. Spotlight**

The Board recognized the 3rd Annual Spring ISD Elementary and Middle School Spanish Spelling Bee winners. Six students were recognized for winning the District Spanish Language Spelling Bee held earlier this month at the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center. Fourth and fifth grade students competed at the elementary level while sixth, seventh and eighth graders competed at the middle school level for the opportunity to advance to the 8th Annual, 2018 National Spanish Spelling Bee on July 15-17 in San Antonio. The elementary winners were Orlando Santamaria, First, Ponderosa Elementary; Amy Valladares, Second, Clark Intermediate and Raudel A. Delgado Merino, Third, Beneke Elementary. At the secondary level, the winners were

Joshua A. Duque, First, Roberson Middle School; Emiliano Torres, Second, Wells Middle School and Shirley G. Luque, Third, Claughton Middle School.

D. Spotlight

The Board recognized the Texas French Symposium: "Les Années Folles" Spring High School participants. The students participated in the *Texas French Symposium* that was held at The Woodlands High School in Conroe ISD on March 8. The event drew high school students from across the state competing in different categories related to the French language such as prose, poetry, sight reading and guided speaking, art, and grammar. In addition, every student had to take a written exam. The District brought a team of eight students from Spring High School under the direction of Adrian Rodriguez-Camirillo, who was recently named as the 2018 Secondary Rookie Teacher of the Year. The Board got an opportunity to learn about the team's achievement and hear in French and English from Daniel Martell, who placed as a semi-finalist in the categories of prose, poetry and sight-reading. The other students on the team and their accomplishments were: Nathalie Delgado, semi-finalist in prose and poetry; Brian Addington, semi-finalist in prose, sight-reading and tied for 5th place in the civilization test; Samantha Aguilar, semi-finalist in poetry, sight-reading and tied for 5th place in the civilization test; Zoe Taylor, semi-finalist in prose and sixth place in the civilization test; Frida Rivera, semi-finalist in guided speaking, sight-reading and second place in the civilization test. Students Alondra Morales and Ezaria Dillard, each received participation certificates.

E. Spotlight

The Board recognized the 4th and 5th grade District winners of the Spring ISD Oratory Contest. Trustees got the opportunity to hear some of the winning speeches from the District's Celebrating Diversity Oratory Content held April 5 at McNabb Elementary. The competition had students address the question "How can we start to eliminate prejudice and inequality in society and start treating everyone with dignity and respect?" Coordinated by campus Literacy Specialists, individual schools held their own contests leading up to the district event, with the winning speeches from each campus' fourth and fifth grade eligible to compete at the district level. The first place winner in the fourth grade division was Elizabeth Carpenter of Ponderosa Elementary. The first place winner of the fifth grade division was Nailah Mensah of Reynolds Elementary.

F. Spotlight

The Board recognized the District winners of the She Persisted essay and project contest. The Grand Prize winners were recognized by the Trustees for their work to celebrate notable women leaders and educators. The theme of the contest was based on the book "She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World" by author and former First Daughter Chelsea Clinton. The contest was in celebration of Women's History Month and was a collaboration among the Literacy, Social Studies and Advanced Academics teams. More than 300 students submitted projects for judging. Scholars had to choose a woman in history who accomplished something amazing in spite of difficulties. The scholars first had a campus-based competition, then those winners competed against other campus winners in the District competition. The three grand prize winners recognized were Zharaya Walker of Anderson Elementary, Isabel Rincon of Roberson Middle and Jasmin Dominguez of Wunsche High School who spoke about her decision to draw the mother of Spring ISD employee, Patric Francis as a way to repay him for all he does for the students at Wunsche. The students and Trustees saw a personalized video from Chelsea Clinton congratulating the winners for their achievement.

G. Points of Pride

The Board recognized the Spring ISD Procurement Department for receiving a Texas

Association of School Business Officials Elite Award of Merit. The Procurement Department was one of only two districts to receive the Elite Award of Merit for Purchasing Operations at the annual conference awards luncheon of the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) on March 2. Spring ISD was recognized in the large district staff category. In total, TASBO recognized 30 school districts for following best practices in the area of purchasing operations at the event.

#### **VI. Consent Agenda**

Trustee Jensen moved that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt all of the items listed on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

##### **A. Review and Approval of Minutes from the Following Meetings:**

1. March 3, 2018 Board Workshop
2. March 8, 2018 Board Work Session
3. March 20, 2018 Regular Board Meeting

##### **B. 2018-2019 Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification**

The Board will consider approving the Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification.

##### **C. Approval of Construction Costs for 420 Lockhaven**

The Board will consider approving the construction costs for 420 Lockhaven.

##### **D. Second Reading of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy CW(LOCAL)**

Chief Julie Hill will present the second reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy CW(LOCAL).

##### **E. First Reading of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy DFBB(LOCAL) –**

**TERM CONTRACTS NONRENEWAL**

Chief Julie Hill will present the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy DFBB(LOCAL).

##### **F. First Reading of TASB Local Update 110 - Proposed Revisions Affecting the Following Board Policies**

Chief Julie Hill will present the first reading of Local Policies revised in TASB Update 110.

1. BBB(LOCAL)
2. BBBA(LOCAL)
3. BBBD(LOCAL)

##### **G. First Reading of TASB Proposed Revisions to Board Policy BBA(LOCAL) – BOARD MEMBERS –ELIGIBILITY/QUALIFICATIONS**

Chief Julie Hill will present the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy BBA(LOCAL).

##### **H. Taxpayer Refunds**

The Board will consider ratifying refunds exceeding \$500.

##### **I. Request for Proposal #18-013 – CMAR- Package "G" Special Program Middle School**

The Board will consider authorizing the superintendent of schools or a designee to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts with the construction manager-at-risk (CMAR) firm for the project and fees listed in the attachment.

##### **J. Request for Proposal #18-014 – CMAR- Package "H" Dekaney High School Ninth Grade Center**

The Board will consider authorizing the superintendent of schools or a designee to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts with the construction manager-at-risk (CMAR) firm for the project and fees listed in the attachment.

**K. Request for Proposal #18-017 – Bottled Drinking Water**

The Board will consider approving the vendor selected to provide Bottled Drinking Water for the District.

**L. Request for Proposal #18-022 – CMAR- Package “E” Wells Middle School and Link Elementary**

The Board will consider authorizing the superintendent of schools or a designee to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts with the construction manager-at-risk (CMAR) firm for the project and fees listed in the attachment.

**M. Request for Proposal #18-023 – CMAR- Package “F” Dueitt and Twin Creeks Middle Schools**

The Board will consider authorizing the superintendent of schools or a designee to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts with the construction manager-at-risk (CMAR) firm for the project and fees listed in the attachment.

**VII. Public Participation**

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

**VIII. Closed Session**

President Newhouse recessed the open session at 8:19 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 consider approval of declaration of surplus property that is no longer necessary for the operation of the District, and authorize the administration to sell the land consisting of 2 Acres of land from the remainder of Tract 6 Spring Independent School District H.C.C.F No 20080480151 pursuant to Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code
- 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 revisions to the Superintendent's contract
  - 3. The Board will deliberate on employees nominated for special recognition
  - 4. The Board will deliberate on a recommendation for the termination and finding of no good cause for an employee's abandonment of contract
  - 5. The Board will deliberate on the issuance of school district teaching permits for noncore career and technology courses
  - 6. 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

7. The Board will deliberate on recommendations for the proposed termination of employees on probationary contracts and nonrenewal of employees on term contracts, effective at the end of the contract period
- 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**

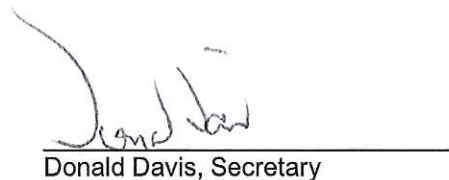
President Newhouse reconvened the open session at 9:28 PM.

- A.. Trustee Bell moved that that the Board declare that the two acres of land from the remainder of Tract 6 Spring Independent School District H.C.C.F No 20080480151 is no longer necessary for the operation of the District, and authorize the Administration to sell the property pursuant to Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to propose the nonrenewal of the term contract of Kay Matheny as presented in closed session and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to provide notice of the Board's action to the impacted employee pursuant to Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- C. Trustee Jensen moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to terminate at the end of the contract term, the probationary contract of Rebecca Ricks, as presented in closed session and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to provide notice of the Board's action to the impacted employee pursuant to Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. Trustee Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- D. Trustee Durant moved that the Board declare the probationary contract of Kendrick Lattimore to be void pursuant to Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code and approve the termination of his employment with Spring ISD effective immediately. Trustee Durant further moved that the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools to notify this employee of the action taken by the Board. Trustee Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- E. Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's Contract as discussed in closed session. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**X. Adjournment**

On a motion by Trustee Jensen, seconded by Trustee Durant, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:32 PM.

  
Rhonda R. Newhouse

  
Donald Davis, Secretary