

Spring Independent School District

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



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
5:00 PM, DECEMBER 11, 2018
BOARD ROOM
GORDON M. ANDERSON LEADERSHIP CENTER
16717 ELLA BOULEVARD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77090**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

President Rhonda Newhouse called the Regular Board Meeting of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees to order at 5:08 PM on December 11, 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
Winford Adams, Jr. (Assistant Secretary elect)

Members Absent:

Chris Bell

Others Present:

Rodney Watson, Superintendent of Schools
Deeone McKeithan, Chief Human Resources Officer
Jeremy Binkley, General Counsel
Jason Sheffer, Director of Board Services

II. Closed Session: Consider, hear, deliberate, and obtain legal advice on Board Policy DGBA Complaint of Lannie Milon, under the following sections of the Texas Government Code:

President Newhouse recessed the open session at 5:09 PM for the purpose of holding a Level III Grievance Hearing brought by Dr. Lannie Milon, Spring ISD employee, in accordance with the following sections of the Texas Government Code:

- A. Section 551.071 - Consultation with Board Attorney regarding all matters as authorized by law
- B. Section 551.074 - To deliberate on the employment, evaluation, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee and to hear a complaint or charge against a public employee, including but not limited to the Chief Human Resources Officer

- C. Section 551.082 - To deliberate on a complaint or charge against a district employee, including but not limited to the Chief Human Resources Officer

III. Consideration, Hearing, and Possible Action on Board Policy DGBA Complaint of Lannie Milon

President Newhouse reconvened the open session at 6:25 PM. Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board deny the grievance of Mr. Milon and uphold the decision of the Level II hearing officer including but not limited to, the finding at Level II that information did not show retaliation against Mr. Milon. Trustee Adams seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

President Newhouse recessed the Regular Meeting at 6:26 PM for a short break until the usual start time of 7:00 PM.

IV. Break Until 7:00 PM

President Newhouse reconvened the Regular Board Meeting of the Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees at 7:04 PM.

Members Present:

Rhonda Newhouse, President
Jana Gonzales, Vice President
Donald Davis, Secretary
Justine Durant, Assistant Secretary
Dr. Deborah Jensen
Chris Bell (arrived at 7:05 PM) (left at 8:54 PM)
Winford Adams, Jr.

Members Absent:

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
Khechara Bradford, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Mark Miranda, Chief Operations Officer
Deeone McKeithan, Chief Human Resources Officer
Ann Westbrooks, Chief Financial Officer
Tiffany Dunne-Oldfield, Chief Communications Officer
Jeremy Binkley, General Counsel
Jason Sheffer, Director of Board Services

V. Flag Pledges

The Presentation of the Colors was led by the Westfield Mustang Army JROTC Battalion and included Arianna Bailey, Martez Lewis, Kolby Grant, Fabiana Cisneros, and Dana Vega.

VI. Moment of Silence

President Newhouse asked the audience to join in a moment of silence.

VII. Opening Remarks

- A. Superintendent of Schools
Superintendent Rodney Watson opened his remarks by inviting everyone to attend the District's annual Winter Wonderland event at Dekaney High School on Friday, December 14th from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. "We're going to have arts and crafts, storytelling,

entertainment and lots of activities for the families of our pre-K through 8th-grade students,” he said. He thanked the Spring ISD Education Foundation for supporting the event and ensuring that every child who attends will take home a wrapped book. “Our goal with this event is to continue to build literacy skills among our students,” he said. “The great thing about Winter Wonderland is that the kids are having so much fun, they don’t even know they’re learning.”

Dr. Watson also thanked all employees who have taken the District’s fourth annual Employee Engagement Survey and encouraged any staff who have not taken it, to do so before the end of the week, when the survey closes. “We’re going to share the results in February and it will help us determine areas of focus for the 2019-20 school year,” he said. On the topic of surveys, he noted that the District’s fourth annual School Quality Survey will open on January 14th. That survey, he noted, will get feedback from all of our families, as well as staff and secondary students. “We’ll share that data with you in May,” he said.

Dr. Watson then noted that staff and student families will be asked for their feedback on two proposed calendar options, which will be posted to the website in January. “I want to note that the options being presented don’t look like a traditional school calendar,” he said. “These proposed calendars are designed to maximize the time students spend in the classroom while ensuring both our students and teachers get much-needed breaks throughout the year.” He encouraged everyone to review the options and let the District know their opinions.

Dr. Watson then offered a brief recap of the fall Gifted and Talented Expo at Carl Wunsch Sr. High School on November 29th, with 200 students and their families turning out. “As you all know, one of our strategic priorities this year is making sure we’re meeting the needs of all of our GT scholars, and this expo is a great way to provide additional enrichment opportunities,” Watson said. He added that the District will host another Expo in the Spring, and concluded by showing a brief video.

Dr. Watson then introduced Dr. Kevin Banks, the new principal of the Spring Leadership Academy, formerly referred to as Middle School #9. The new middle school is slated to open in August 2019 in the facility being vacated by the District’s Spring Early College Academy, which is relocating to the campus of Lone Star College - North Harris. The new specialty school will offer a leadership program and a blended-learning environment. Dr. Banks has been with Spring ISD since 2013, first serving as assistant principal and most recently as the associate principal at Dr. Edward Roberson Middle School. He began his career in education in 2009 at the Contemporary Learning Center High School in Houston ISD. He later transitioned to Aldine ISD where he worked with the Career and Technical Education program at Aldine Middle School and was named Teacher of the Year in 2012-13. He has a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Houston, a master’s degree in Educational Leadership from the University of St. Thomas and his doctorate in K-12 Professional Leadership from the University of Houston.

B. Board of Trustees

President Newhouse invited the Trustees to share remarks.

Trustee Gonzales thanked the District for the number and variety of activities featured on the District’s social media channels, “There are a lot of exciting things going on, from athletics to curriculum to our performing arts, so please, I encourage you guys to

go on social media. I am so proud to be a part of this District. There is something for every student in our District," Gonzales said.

Trustee Adams congratulated the "Westfield Mustang Football Program, Coach Meekins and the young men that did us really proud this past week at the playoff game." Adams also complimented the Performing and Visual Arts department on the recent Spring High School choral performance. "Again, I continue to be impressed and brag on how outstanding our performing arts program is in the District. Dr. (Joe) Clark, I really appreciate it. He also put a plug in for the upcoming PVA collaborative performances -- The Greatest Winter Show -- that will feature the theater, dance, choir and band students from across the District, including one of his own children. "I want to invite everybody to come out and enjoy what we do in Spring."

Trustee Bell reported on the District's participation in the history-making transport of President George H.W. Bush on the special Union Pacific 4141 funeral train on December 6th. "We experienced, this week something historical, and Spring was able to play a part in it," Bell said. "The train that took his remains to Texas A&M -- the Bush Library -- started right here in Spring, and a number of our students, faculty and staff, and residents were out to take part of a very historical occasion. We want to thank all those who made it happen for our students to be out and be part of history, not just something to read about in a book but to actually be part of history."

President Newhouse thanked Trustee Davis for representing Spring ISD at the Texas Association of School Boards Leadership TASB Class held recently in Amarillo. "Don, we are proud of your service to TASB and to the Board and to the students of Spring ISD.

VIII. Recognitions

A. Spotlight – Superintendent's Holiday Card Contest Winners

The Board recognized the scholars who placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the Superintendent's Holiday Card Contest, an annual fine arts event that draws submissions from students across the District. This year's contest was open to all secondary art students. The top three winners for 2018 were:

Melissa Gonzalez, First Place, Grade 12, Dekaney High School

An Nguyen, Grade 11, Spring High School

Nazly Mendoza, Grade 12, Carl Wunsche Sr. High School

This year's winning card design – by Dekaney senior Melissa Gonzalez – will become Spring ISD's official holiday card for the year, mailed out from the Superintendent's Office to a group that includes senior administrators, community leaders, local business partners and others whose work and contributions help support the District in its mission.

IX. Board of Trustees

A. Swearing in Ceremony for Trustees Elected November 6, 2018

President Newhouse presented the Trustees elected November 6, 2018 with their Certificates of Election. Donald Davis, who ran unopposed for Position 6, and Jana Gonzales, who ran unopposed for Position 7, were administered the Oath of Office by General Counsel Jeremy Binkley.

B. Election of Board Officers

In accordance with Board Policy BDAA, the Board elected a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary. Superintendent Rodney Watson assumed responsibility of the meeting to accept nominations for the position of Board President. Trustee Durant nominated Rhonda Newhouse for Board President. Trustee Adams seconded the nomination and Rhonda Newhouse was unanimously elected Board President.

President Newhouse resumed the meeting and called for nominations for Board Vice President. Trustee Jensen nominated Jana Gonzales. Trustee Durant seconded the nomination and Jana Gonzales was unanimously elected Board Vice President.

President Newhouse called for nominations for Board Secretary. Trustee Gonzales nominated Donald Davis. Trustee Bell seconded the nomination and Donald Davis was unanimously elected Board Secretary.

President Newhouse called for nominations for Board Assistant Secretary. Trustee Bell nominated Winford Adams, Jr. Trustee Durant seconded the nomination and Winford Adams, Jr. was unanimously elected Board Assistant Secretary.

C. Discussion and Possible Nomination of Names for New District Buildings and Streets
The Board voted to name its two new middle schools, choosing to align the campuses to either their geography or program.

Trustee Davis moved that the Board of Trustees name Middle School #8 as Springwoods Village Middle School. Trustee Bell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Durant moved that the Board of Trustees name Middle School #9 as Spring Leadership Academy. Trustee Gonzales seconded the motion and the motion carried with 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Trustee Adams), and 1 abstaining (Trustee Bell).

D. First Reading of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy EHAA(LOCAL) – BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM – REQUIRED INSTRUCTION (ALL LEVELS)
The members of the Board Governance Committee led a discussion regarding the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy EHAA(LOCAL).

Trustee Adams moved that the Board of Trustees approve the First Reading of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy EHAA(LOCAL). Trustee Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

X. Chief Financial Officer

A. Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2019

Chief Ann Westbrook presented information regarding an order authorizing the issuance of one or more series of Spring Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2019.

Trustee Jensen moved that Board of Trustees approve the order authorizing the issuance of one or more series of the Spring Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2019. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried with 6 for and 1 absent (Trustee Davis).

XI. Public Hearing for the 2018-2019 District Targeted Improvement Plan for Spring Independent School District

A Public Hearing was held for the 2018-2019 District Targeted Improvement Plan for Spring Independent School District.

No members of the public registered to speak to this item.

Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board of Trustees approve the 2018-2019 District Targeted Improvement Plan for Spring Independent School District. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

XII. Public Hearing on Spring Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

A Public Hearing was held on Spring Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating.

No members of the public registered to speak to this item.

XIII. Consent Agenda

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

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

1. November 8, 2018 Board Work Session
2. November 13, 2018 Regular Meeting

B. Internal Audit – Mid Year Progress Report and Revised Internal Audit Plan

The Board will consider approving the Internal Audit – Mid Year Progress Report and Revised Internal Audit Plan.

C. Safety and Security Bid Package B, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

The Board will consider approving the Safety and Security Bid Package B, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$2,135,444.

D. Dekaney High School 9th Grade Center Bid Package A, Initial Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

The Board will consider approving the Dekaney High School 9th Grade Center Bid Package A, Initial Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$3,546,773.

E. Spring High School 9th Grade Center Bid Package #1, Initial Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

The Board will consider approving the Spring High School 9th Grade Center Bid Package #1, Initial Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$15,170,434.

F. North Freeway Bid Package #2, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

The Board will consider approving the North Freeway Bid Package #2, 2nd Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$380,037.96.

G. Amendment 5 to the Facilities Use Interlocal Agreement Between Lone Star College System(LSCS) and Spring ISD for LSCS's Transportation Institute

The Board will consider ratifying Amendment 5 to the Facilities Use Interlocal Agreement between Lone Star College System (LSCS) and Spring ISD for LSCS's Transportation Institute.

H. 2018-2019 Class Size Waivers

The Board will consider approving the 2018-2019 Class Size Waiver Requests.

- I. Request for Proposals (RFP) #19-009 – Arts Integration Services
The Board will consider awarding the contracts for Arts Integration Services to the providers recommended by the administration.
- J. Request for Proposal (RFP) #19-201 – Districtwide Learning Management System (LMS)
The Board will consider approving the cooperative contract for a Districtwide Learning Management System to the provider recommended by the administration.
- K. Taxpayer Refunds
The Board will consider ratifying refunds exceeding \$500.

XIV. Public Participation

Shatara Slater, Alicia Correa, Nicholas Karr, Andrea Orozco, Erick Chavarria, Anitz Muonagolu, Caleb Hayslip, Helena Slaer, Yadira Herrera, and Alejandra Pereira addressed the Board regarding the Westfield High School choir instructor.

XV. Closed Session

President Newhouse recessed the open session at 8:54 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
 - 1. The Board will deliberate on a recommendation to settle all claims brought, or which could be made, by or on behalf of student O.R., including those claims made in the Due Process Action identified as Texas Education Agency Docket No. 115-SE-0118.
- 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 approximately 37.8467 Acres of land with frontage on Imperial Valley Drive, known as tract 1A of the Manuel Tarin survey, A-778, in Harris County, Texas and recorded in the real property records of H.C.C.F No 20090264363 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 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.

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

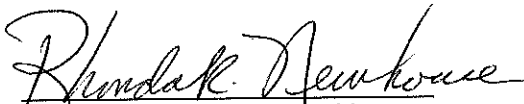
XVI. Action on Closed Session Items

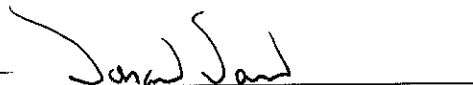
President Newhouse reconvened the open session at 10:33 PM.

- A. Trustee Gonzales moved that the Board of Trustees render a final order to terminate the employment contract of Shamira Williams and authorize the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried with 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (Trustee Bell).
- B. Trustee Jensen moved that the Board of Trustees approve resolution of Docket No. 115-SE-0118 according to the terms discussed in closed session and authorize the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents. Trustee Adams seconded the motion and the motion carried with 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (Trustee Bell).
- C. Trustee Adams moved that the Board of Trustees declare that the approximately 37.8467 Acres of land, known as Tract 1A of the Manuel Tarin Survey, A-778, in Harris County, Texas, and recorded in the real property records of H.C.C.F. Number 20090264363 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 Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried with 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (Trustee Bell).
- D. Trustee Adams moved that the Board of Trustees approve the recommendations of the Superintendent, as presented in closed session, to propose the termination of the employment contracts of Joel Cruz and Anthony Jones, and to authorize the Superintendent to provide each employee notice of the proposed action and his or her rights under Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. Trustee Durant seconded the motion and the motion carried with 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (Trustee Bell).

XVII. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Jensen, seconded by Trustee Durant, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 10:38 PM.


Rhonda R. Newhouse, President


Donald Davis, Secretary