



Board Highlights

Frisco Independent School District

6942 Maple Street Frisco, Texas 75034

Board Members: Richard Beaver - Cindy DePaolantonio - Laura Ellison - Renee Ehmke - Dan Mossakowski - Buddy Minett - Brenda Polk

Regular Meeting
February 16, 2009
7:30 p.m.

Call to order

The regular monthly meeting of the Frisco School Board was called to order at 7:30 p.m. February 16. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by WHS student Marde Meek, and the Invocation, the board approved the minutes from January meetings. The board welcomed teachers attending as part of GOAL, Growing Organizational and Administrative Leaders, and applauded GOAL member Laurie Weeks of Carroll Elementary, who recently qualified for the Boston Marathon.

Presentations

Principal Mike Farish of Wakeland High School announced that band director Gerry Miller is one of 15 instructors in the state who have been honored with the UIL Sponsor Excellence Award.

The Board also recognized Texas All-State Band and Orchestra students for their excellent work this year. Superintendent Rick Reedy presented each student with a resolution from the board. The students honored were: Alexandra Lachner and Scott Neumann of Centennial High School Band; Jung Choi and Chase Sydow of Frisco High School Band; Ernesto Tovar of Liberty High School Band and Jordan Fuchs of Liberty High School Orchestra; and Ben Houser and Marde Meek of Wakeland High School Band. FISD band directors, Alyson Keller of Liberty, Tim Linley of Centennial, Gregory Hayes of Frisco High and Gerry Miller of Wakeland were on hand to introduce students, as was Liberty Orchestra Director, Rick Hohmann.

Consent Agenda

These items are considered to be routine and were approved under one motion: tax office reports; payments to vendors, architects and contractors; award of Preferred Vendor List; Landscape maintenance contract extension for 2009-2010; maximum class size waiver request (for four classes located at Anderson, Mooneyham and Taylor Elementary campuses that have exceeded the state recommended size); changes to Board Policy on student records, student welfare, testing programs; approval of 5th grade environmental education camp contracts for the next two school years; deductive change order for security card access and closed circuit television contract; change order for Sam Carter Service Center; award of contract for furniture, equipment, curriculum and supplies for Allen Elementary; award for contract for furniture, equipment, curriculum and supplies for Early Childhood School; award of purchase of furniture, equipment, curriculum, and supplies for Heritage High School; blanket purchasing agreement with furniture company; security access additions; award of purchase of furniture for Child Nutrition training room renovations; purchase of emergency oxygen system (oxygen system to be placed at sites in FISD near Automated External Defibrillators for emergency medical situations); school lunch prices for 2009-2010 (New prices represent 10 cent increases - elementary \$2.10, secondary \$2.35 and adults \$2.85); and student transfer administrative guidelines.

Board Education

Board President Dan Mossakowski announced that all FISD trustees have met or exceeded the required board training.

Election Preparations

The board approved a resolution to call the election in May and approved the joint election contract and agreement that allows the district to hold elections along with municipalities of Frisco, Plano, Little Elm, and McKinney.

Election packets are available at the FISD Administration Building located at 6942 Maple Street. Up for election this year are Place 6, now held by Buddy Minett, and Place, 7, held by Cindy DePaolantonio. There are no term limits for trustees. FISD Board of Trustee elections are held at-large. The first day to file for a place on the ballot was February 9. The filing deadline is March 9 (the actual deadline fell on the weekend and is extended to the next business day). March 9 is also the last day to order a general election. Both incumbents have filed for re-election.

Voters may apply for ballots by mail beginning March 10. The last day to register to vote is April 9, 2009. Early voting will begin April 27, 2009. The last day to apply for a ballot by mail (received, not postmarked) is May 1, 2009. The last day of early voting is May 5, 2009. The general election is scheduled for May 9.

Employee Health Clinic Discussed

The board heard a presentation by Bryan Kersh of Main Street Medical Clinics presenting the potential benefits to offering a centralized primary care clinic for district employees. Under this proposal, a clinic would be offered for employees and their families who are covered under Fisd insurance plans. The purpose of a primary care clinic for employees would be aimed at decreasing loss of work time for routine office visits and to decrease the need for substitute teachers. The board requested more information about costs and also suggested considering partnering with the City of Frisco. A clinic would not take the place of primary physicians or the district health plans. Kersh was introduced by Ted Troy of McQueary Henry Bowls Troy, LLP.

Preliminary Budget

Dr. Rick Bankston presented an update on a very preliminary budget using the initial personnel requests that have come from campuses and departments. He said that the Collin County Appraisal District is still cautiously stating that some growth in the tax base is expected. The Denton County Appraisal District has not made any estimates. One area the school district is watching is change caused by foreclosures on property appraisals. The board is scheduled to adopt a final budget in June.

Future Administration Building

The board viewed preliminary design schematics presented by Trey Laird of SHW Architects and instructed Laird to proceed on with his initial design concept. The District has decided to move forward with the design of the administration building though the board may decide to delay construction based on the current economic situation.

Board Policies

The board discussed adopting an Election Day signage policy GKD (LOCAL) that is in line with the district's practice of banning political signs on school property on Election Day until 30 minutes after school is over for the day. Also discussed was a clarification of the policy FEC (LOCAL) regarding family trips (discouraging the practice and making the absences unexcused/limiting the number of days for making up work), and a modification of the policy EIAB (LOCAL) concerning academic penalties and unexcused absences (The policy is not used so is being discussed for removal from the books).

Personnel

Karen Kraft, associate principal at Frisco High School, was announced as the choice for principal of Lone Star High School. Kraft is a graduate of the University of North Texas. She began her career in 1986 and joined Fisd in 2002. Principals for Allen Elementary and the Early Childhood School should be announced in March.

The board also approved contract extensions for the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents, Executive Directors, Directors and Principals.

Open Houses

Fisd will host open houses during the week of March 9-13. Parents are asked to check their individual campus website for information on dates and time.

Next meeting – March 9, 2009