



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

January 12, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Recognitions - January is School Board Appreciation Month

Frisco Independent School District hosted a reception prior to the January 12 school board meeting honoring the current board, which has been named the state's Outstanding Board of the Year. Former board members were honored as well. Guests included former board members Bill Minter, Dan Presley, Jane Whitledge and city councilmen Dave Prince and Tony Felker. Felker also represented the Frisco Chamber of Commerce.

Consent Agenda

Following the communications to and from the Board, the trustees approved the consent agenda for October. The consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the board and were approved under one motion. The actions included: tax office reports; payments to vendors, architects, and contractors; award for Preferred Approved Vendor List; approval of cooperative purchasing organizations utilized by Frisco ISD; deductive change order for Scoggins Middle School; act on deductive change order for miscellaneous summer projects/marquee signs; broadcast studio sets for Career and Technical Education Center; agriculture and pre-engineering equipment and supplies for Career and Technical Education Center; update on Board Policy Update 84; purchase of software/server for FISD staff remote access; selection of vendor for network connectivity for Allen, Ashley, Ogle, and Sem Elementary, Roach Middle School and Heritage and Lone Star High Schools; and the installation of fiber for FISD Early Childhood School. At the request of Brenda Polk, an action concerning student transfer guidelines was pulled pending clarification of wording.

Zoning

The Board voted to approve the recommendation of the administrative team concerning Allen Elementary attendance zone. The board approved Option D, which was the originally recommended zone with a few minor modifications. Two families who live in Lakes on Legacy – which only has 28 or 30 homes located in FISD and only six children attending Spears Elementary Schools - requested that the six children in their neighborhood be allowed to remain in Spears rather than be zoned to the new Allen Elementary. The board agreed to grandfather the families currently with elementary children into Spears until the next rezoning because their numbers did not significantly affect Spears and it is likely the neighborhood will be included in the next elementary zone created in the area. The board also approved modification to the Isbell zone – moving the unoccupied east part of the zone into Ogle, which was presented for the board's consideration in November. *Find maps here:* <http://www.friscoisd.org/zones>

AEIS Public Hearing

Public comments were invited after a power point presentation concerning the Academic Excellence Indicator System Report from TEA provided by Dr. Linda Bass, Dr. Debra Nelson and Richard Wilkinson. The complete AEIS report is available at www.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/aeis. Nelson answered questions from the board assuring them that FISD is looking at ways to increase the number of students taking the AP exams and at further improvements to the completion rates among high school students. She noted that students who quit classes and take the GED are no longer counted as having completed high school. After the presentation, there were no questions from the public.

Budget Timeline

The board discussed how the upcoming budget process and timeline. Dr. Rick Bankston provided a timeline and reported that he hopes to have estimated assessed taxable values in March. Preliminary budget estimates will be conservative due to economic uncertainties, although there still needs to be consideration of continuing to build the fund balance as recommended by Randy Howard in the recent FISD audits.

Construction Issues

The board considered construction projects such as the new administration building. Because of the uncertain economic situation, the board agreed with Richard Wilkinson to delay starting the proposed new Administration Building at least until May or June which could still provide a January 2011 occupation. This delay will allow for more information regarding growth in taxable values; debt service tax rate capacity, construction costs, and the economic recovery.

The board also approved Ratcliffe Construction as the contractor for Sonntag Elementary School. Mr. Wilkinson expressed that he was thrilled that the bid represented only a 4-5 percent increase over their bid for Carroll that was built a couple of years ago.

Personnel

The Resignations and New Hires report was presented for board approval. Coach Kent Jackson of Sweetwater was announced as the new athletic coordinator/head football coach for Heritage High School and Jason Prasifka as the band director. Jackson has 23 years of experience and comes highly recommended. Prasifka is an experienced band director and has previously taught at Staley, Frisco High School and Centennial. He has most recently been at Shepton High School in Plano.

Staff Reports

The four Frisco High School Academic Decathlon teams will be competing at the Regional competition in Irving at the end of the month, according to Dr. Debra Nelson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Melissa Fouche, Director of Technology, reported that the district may receive some funds, approximately \$171,000, back through the e-rate program that is based on the percentage of students eligible for the national lunch program.

Superintendent Rick Reedy ended the meeting with observations concerning the growth that occurred in the district from December 1st through the first school week in January. The district enrolled 116 new students, much more than expected with the slowing in the housing market. He also noted that the high numbers in the lower elementary grades that are moving up into the higher grades continue to justify the need for the construction of middle schools.

Next meeting: February 16, 2009