



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

7:30 p.m., March 10, 2008 - Regular Meeting of the Board

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, the Board members hosted a reception to honor the state qualifying teams in Academic Decathlon, Swimming/Diving, and Wrestling. See the Resolutions presented by the Board that highlight the outstanding accomplishments of these students.

Worksession

The Board and Administration held a work session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss updated high school student enrollment projections. It still appears that the best plan will be to open Heritage High School in 2009 with 9th and 10th graders and to open Lone Star High School in 2010 with 9th-11th graders. The district will proceed with hiring a principal for Heritage in May and will conduct the zoning process in the fall when updated projections are available. In September the plan for zoning of the new high school will be proposed, input will be taken with a public hearing being held in October and a final decision will be made in November. The Lone Star zone will be discussed at the same time, but will not be fully established until the following year if it continues to not be necessary to open the school until 2010.

Consent Agenda

These items are considered to be routine by the board and were approved under one motion: tax office reports; payments to vendors, architects and contractors, preferred approved vendor list; award for purchase of athletic supplies and equipment for volleyball, football, cross country, tennis, training supplies and equipment, and middle school supplies and equipment; digital closed circuit television equipment and controlled access competitive sealed proposal for Elliott and Tadlock elementaries; competitive sealed proposal for health screen services for district health fair; recommendation of award for purchase of furniture, equipment, and supplies for Scoggins and Stafford Middle Schools, time clocks for Tadlock, Elliott, Stafford and Scoggins, radios for the Career and Technical Education Center, and revisions for Sam Carter Service Center; Board Policy DBD (local) Employment Requirements and Restrictions; adoptions of textbooks recommended by Frisco ISD's Textbook Committee; purchase of resources for the development of the elementary and secondary science and mathematics instructional resource binders; approval for vendor to supply robotic equipment; approval of resolution for E-Rate funding for 2008-2009 school year.

Curriculum Initiatives for 2008-2009 School Year

Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and members of her school improvement cadre presented improvement plans to the Board that have been formulated over the past several months that are intended to take FISD to the next level. FISD is at a pivotal time as a district, and these plans are intended to address some of the challenges faced due to rapid growth, student mobility and the need to provide instructional uniformity and support for the newest staff members. Plans are to finalize research and adopt the best instructional model for FISD; to redesign district curriculum; to plan and deliver district professional development to support an aligned and tightly woven curriculum; to create teacher resources to assist with differentiation and provide more resources. A primary resource project this summer will be to develop an Instructional Resource Binder for Math and Science and to implement a plan for Professional Learning Opportunities that will be presented to the Board in April. The resource binders will help ensure content coverage at the appropriate level of rigor and within an appropriate time frame of when objectives should be mastered. The information will also be online for teachers and will include lesson plans, resources, strategies and assessment options.

Discussion of Preliminary Budget for 2008-2009 School Year

Dr. Rick Bankston, acting Business Manager, gave a brief summary of preliminary budget considerations for the 2008-2009 school year. Factors used in the preliminary data were estimated taxable values of \$15.8 billion; a 98 percent collection rate; \$17 million budget increase for new employees for growth; and a 14.3 percent increase in expenditures due to growth and increased costs. These considerations show a very preliminary budget outlook of \$237 in expenditures and a possible four cent tax rate increase for maintenance and operations as allowed by law (for a \$1.00 M&O rate). Growth projections are in line with these estimated budget numbers.

Modifications to student intradistrict transfer guidelines effective for 2009-2010 school year

The Board approved the Administration's recommendation to do away with two of the guidelines for administrative transfers. With this change, fourth graders will no longer be automatically approved for transfer to remain at the previously zoned campus for fifth grade. Seventh graders with a previously approved transfer will no longer be able to automatically request to remain on the same campus for eighth grade regardless of projected enrollment. This decision was made because the vast majority of the transfer requests can normally be approved based on the fact that the campus where the transfer is being sought will be under 90 percent capacity and to also reduce confusion. Board policy allows a student to remain at the high school they attended the entire 11th grade year for his/her senior year even if they move.

Technology Issues

The Board approved vendors for technology projects: HP will be the desktop computer vendor for 2008-2009, providing computers for the new buildings and refreshing equipment at CHS, FHS, Staley, Boles, Riddle and Acker. Dell will be the provider of servers, printers and laptops for 2008-2009. In addition to the HP and Dell equipment, the district will purchase additional Mac computers for video, animation and multi media classes. The district will also be purchasing two Apple servers allowing for the creation of an Apple node on the network and to provide podcasting services. Apple will provide the computers and laptops for CATE, CHS, FHS, Stafford and Scoggins in regard to these program needs. In addition, Microsoft was approved as the vendor to provide services for Phase One of the district's network migration at a total cost of \$167,635.

Construction Issues

The Board looked at an updated design for the early childhood center to open in 2009 north of Christie Elementary, serving PPCD and preK students. The design is colorful, kid friendly and centered around a courtyard in a way that will be easy for very young students to "read" the building. Campuses slated to open this fall are all on schedule, however Scoggins Middle School is still working to make up time, with a July delivery date for furniture and equipment.

The Board awarded the contract for Allen Elementary on Legacy Drive to Ratcliff Construction. This school will open in 2009. This bid is \$750,000 less than the previous bid, but inflation and rising material costs may facilitate a look at all budget estimates for elementary schools being built using 2003 bond funds and under those earlier cost estimates.

The Board also approved the summer projects and an interlocal agreement on joint road projects with the city to expedite these projects near schools. A change order for the Transportation facility west was approved to finish out 5,000 square feet for storage, offices and staff development.

Personnel Recommendations

The Board approved the contract extensions of assistant principals, coordinators, specialists, teachers, counselors, librarians and nurses. In addition, Joel Partin was named as principal of Clark Middle School for next year to replace Mary Dowd who has been named coordinator of middle school English/Language Arts. Partin is currently assistant principal at Griffin Middle School. Prior to coming to FISD in 2006, Partin worked in Wylie ISD as an assistant principal and Director of Instructional Technology for 7 years and was also chairman of the History department at Curtis Middle School in Allen for two years. He began his career in education in 1985 and taught history and English for 11 years. His bachelor's degree is from Southwest Texas State (now Texas State) and his master's degree is from Dallas Baptist University.

Staff Reports

Curriculum and Instruction - Tanya Heard has been named secondary summer school administrator and Becky Specht will head up elementary summer school. More information on summer school will be announced shortly.

Facilities and Finance – A bond sale of \$90 million was scheduled for March 13 to fund ongoing and upcoming projects.

Human Resources – The job fairs welcomed 1,300 potential employees and was deemed a great success.

Communications – Dedication dates have been set – September 14 – Elliott 2 p.m; Tadlock 4 p.m; September 21 – Scoggins 2 p.m and Stafford 4 p.m. The CTE Center open house is tentatively set for Oct. 27, along with the Sam Carter Service Center dedication.

Upcoming Dates – April 7 – Regular Meeting of the Board