



# 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

## **Frisco School Board Notes - November 10, 2008 - 7:30 p.m., Maple Street Board Room**

*The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scouts Nick and Brad Bleggi.*

### **Consent Agenda**

The Board considers some items to be routine and places them on the agenda for approval under Consent Agenda. Those items approved November 10 included: tax office reports; budget amendments; payments to vendors; architects and contractors; preferred approved vendor list; contract for two-way radio and cell phones; deductive change order for summer projects; deductive change order for Briar Ridge Road; deductive change order for Transportation West parking; change order for Transportation West; change order for Stafford Middle School project; request for proposal for athletic vendors; act on newly revised appraisal instruments for speech language pathologist, assistant principal, and associate principal; act on update to Board Policy GKD (local) nonschool use of school facilities; act on approval to add wireless laptop lab to here training rooms at CTE Center.

### **Rezoning**

Dennis Brent, FISD internal demographer, informed the board that he had received 74 contacts by Frisco ISD parents concerning the proposed zoning of Heritage/Liberty High School. The majority (44) were made via a chain email from Craig Ranch residents. Their requests were threefold: 1) allow Craig Ranch to remain together in a single high school 2) avoid splitting Ogle Elementary 3) continue to attend Liberty High School. The second largest volume of contacts was concerning the separating of siblings between two high schools (9). The splitting of Scoggins Middle School was opposed by (8) parents. The remaining calls and emails concerned changing high schools.

Parents addressed the board concerning the rezoning. Three parents from the Craig Ranch community spoke about splitting Craig Ranch neighborhoods. Three parents from the Cascades and Aspendale neighborhoods had concerns about the preferred plan and splitting the Scoggins Middle School students into two high schools. A Stonelake Estates parent expressed concern about siblings who will be in different high schools. Two students spoke about their concerns about friends going to separate schools.

FISD has opened Centennial High School, Wakeland High School and Liberty High School in the last six years and the concept of opening high schools with freshmen and sophomores, and sometimes juniors has been very successful. The board assured parents that opportunities are equitable. Individual sports will compete at the varsity level in the first year, although team sports do not. Transfers are not allowed between high schools; siblings have not been granted transfers in the past.

Board members looked at three additional options suggested by parents – three with acceptable numbers and one that left Scoggins sending all students to Liberty, which board members said was not viable. No vote was taken at this public meeting and the board will be considering comments and options in coming weeks. A recommendation from the Administration will come to the Board in December.

The board also viewed the administration's preferred rezoning map for Allen Elementary School which will be discussed at next month's regular board meeting. A time for public input will be provided at this meeting. Parents may have input prior to the meeting as well by emailing or calling Rick Cohagan, who works with Mr. Brent.

### **Finance Issues**

The board approved the FIISD Financial Audit , performed by Pingleton & Howard.

Dr. Rick Bankston, Director of Finance, Planning and Research, also presented a new monthly reporting format which will monitor expenditures to the budget and quickly note overages that need correction. Dr. Rick Reedy told the board that this easily understood monthly instrument will help the board stay abreast of the budget and expenditures in an effective manner.

### **Construction Issues**

Richard Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of Facilities and Finance, asked that a report on the site plan for the new administration building be tabled until a later date. The board also approved the purchase of a new elementary site and additional land purchased on Ohio Drive.

### **Personnel**

The Board approved resignations and new hires and also approved the termination of a probationary employee's contract for cause. A certified letter will be sent to the former employee.

### **Staff Reports**

Dr. Linda Bass, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, presented a list to the board of the colleges and universities where Human Resources is recruiting this fall.

Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, told the board that the district's elearning taskforce is looking into vendors who provide classes, as well as what other districts are doing.

Wilkinson told the board that a walking evaluation of the athletic fields turf is being scheduled. Due to high use, Memorial Stadium turf may need to be replaced next year, a bit earlier than the 10-year projection.

Doug Zambiasi, assistant superintendent of administrative services, told the district he is arranging for health fairs to be held on individual campuses, instead of holding a district-wide event prior to school starting.

Melissa Fouche, FISD Executive Director for Technology and Information Services, informed the board that the district is preparing to do a Microsoft Migration for servers.

Shana McKay-Wortham, Director of Communications, told the board that recommendations for names of new facilities will be presented to the board in December for approval.

Dr. Rick Reedy applauded the district for the successful participation and support of the Gary Burns Fun Run, the Chili Challenge and the Frisco Community Parade.