



Board Highlights

Frisco Independent School District

6942 Maple Street Frisco, Texas 75034

Board Members: Richard Beaver - Laura Ellison - Renée Ehmke - John Hoxie - Dan Mossakowski - Buddy Minett - Brenda Polk

Regular Board Meeting

June 22, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

FISD Board of Trustees Board Room

Call to Order

Recent graduate and honoree Adam Jordan led the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

Board Presentations

The Frisco ISD School Board honored state qualifying high school students in band, orchestra and choir.

[See Resolutions.](#)

The Board also recognized staff members for recent honors – Stacy Mills, assistant principal at Elliott Elementary, for being chosen by her peers as Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) District 10 Assistant Principal of the Year; Kristin Hebert, Assistant Principal at Wester Middle School, (who is taking the position of ELA K-12 Coordinator for the district), for being named Texas Association of Secondary School Principals District 10 Assistant Principal of the Year; and David Wehmeyer, principal of Corbell Elementary, for being named TEPSA National Distinguished Principal Finalist.

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the consent agenda. The consent agenda consists of items that the board considers routine and approves under one motion.

2009-2010 Budget

The Board approved a balanced operating budget of \$254,473,000 (\$241,273,000 excluding the \$2.2 million in Chapter 41 obligation and the \$11 million flow-through TRS On-Behalf payment), which included a \$1,500 pay raise for returning teachers and nurses and a three percent of mid-point pay increase for all other employees. The teacher pay raise represents about three percent of mid-point, as well. The beginning teacher (no experience) pay increased by \$750 to \$45,250. FISD pay increases compare well to area districts and keep the district competitive in the market. This budget reflects approximately 7.5 percent increase in spending and is based on a projected and conservative estimate of a four percent increase in taxable values and a 10 percent increase in student enrollment. FISD's teacher pay raises represent an additional \$1.4 million in spending beyond the state minimum requirements of House Bill 3646. Increased state funding is being provided through the federal stimulus package in the form of stabilization funds. If current projections hold, the district will be able to fund this operating budget with no increase to the Maintenance and Operations tax rate. A two-cent Interest and Sinking tax rate increase is anticipated to make the district's debt payment. In order to minimize the tax rate increase, some debt service fund balance will be utilized. The Board will approve the tax rate following receipt of the certified tax rolls. [See slides.](#)

Presentation on Drug Use Intervention and Prevention Strategies

Rick Burnett, Executive Director for Student Services, updated the board on substance use/abuse prevention and intervention programs, including the addition of two student assistance coordinators, and presented results of the latest surveys given to students in grades 7-10. Dr. Reedy stated that any student using or abusing drugs is a concern and the two new coordinators will present to the Board in the spring regarding their efforts. [See PowerPoint.](#)

Construction Issues

The Board approved the competitive sealed proposal of Groves Electric for the lighting for the cinder track near the CTE Center. The lighting of the track was left out of the original cinder track bids. Staff has continued to review the lighting design/needs to get the costs "down" to approximately \$150,000 (plus \$15,000 contingency). There will be on average sixty students utilizing the track from August to October before daylight, which is a safety concern. Additionally, the City of Frisco Parks Department has agreed to pay up to \$80,000 for the lighting project as it will ultimately be tied in to the hike and bike trails and is near the Frisco Athletic Center. The Board looked again at the exterior design features of the Administration Building and gave consensus to one option so that the firm can finalize designs to be prepared when the Board feels like it is time to move forward.

Personnel

The Board approved the personnel report, which included the hiring of **Angie Borgarello** to replace retiring Curtsinger Principal J'Lynn Anderson. Borgarello is currently the assistant principal at Spears Elementary. She has 15 years of experience and has a bachelor's degree from the University of Memphis and master's degrees from Texas A&M Commerce.

Katherine Broughton was hired as a Child Nutrition Field Supervisor. She has 12 years experience and a bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University.

James Driskill was named Coordinator of Communications and Technology Solutions in the Communications and Technology Departments. He has bachelor's degree from Texas A&M and a master's degree. He has 12 years of education experience and is currently Administrative Technology Facilitator.

Rosalyn Dunn was hired as Parental Support Coordinator in the Curriculum/Counseling Department. She has 11 years of experience. Her bachelor's degree is from Ohio State and her master's is from the University of North Texas.

Kathryn Garms was named Assistant Principal of Mooneyham Elementary. She has 7 years of experience and is currently teaching at Isbell Elementary. Her bachelor's and master's degrees are from the University of North Texas.

Blair Hickey was named Special Education Coordinator. She has 13 years experience and is currently a school psychologist. Her bachelor's degree is from Texas A&M; she has her master's and doctorate degrees.

Richard Manuel was named Assistant Principal at Wester Middle School. He is currently athletic coordinator and Physical Education and Health Teacher/Coach at Clark Middle School. He has 16 years of experience. His bachelor's degree is from Texas A&M and his master's is from Concordia.

Courtney McDonald was named Roach Middle School Assistant Principal. She has 12 years of experience and currently teaches at Griffin middle School. Her bachelor's degree is from Texas A&M and her master's is from DBU.

Kyla Prusak was named Bledsoe Elementary Assistant Principal. She has six years of experience and is currently a teacher at Riddle Elementary. She has bachelor and master's degrees from Austin College.

Becky Specht was named Special Education Coordinator. She has 24 years experience and is currently assistant principal at Robertson Elementary. Her bachelor's degree is from the University of North Texas and her master's degree is from Texas A&M Commerce.

TAKS Scores

Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented the 2009 TAKS scores to the Board. The scores showed that the percentage passing remained the same or increased in almost every test and grade level, compared to last year.

FISD is particularly pleased with increases in high school math and science scores and in numbers of commended students. It is also pleased with the longitudinal data tracking from 2003 which shows a trend of improved student achievement and a closing of the gap among subgroups.

"Math and science has been a focus for us for some time, and our teachers and students have worked very hard," Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, stated. The

district has also focused on issues of student mobility and teacher experience. Instructional resource guides were developed last year in math and science and tweaked over the last two weeks based on feedback from the year. In addition the district made the transition from department heads to instructional coaches. Despite these efforts, Nelson is always quick to say that the work is not done.

“We are proud of what our students have accomplished, but there is always room for improvement, she said. This month principals met to look at the test scores and disaggregate the available data. Principals met according to high school feeder patterns and conducted vertical planning, particularly concentrating on transition years – elementary to middle school and middle to high school. Bridging learning and developing common terminology and learning strategies is key to continued success, she added, along with sharing what works and what does not. As always, the data and the tools available to analyze the data will also help to target areas of improvement for individual students. In addition, in this coming year, the district will pilot an elementary program called First Steps in Mathematics which originated in west Australia. Teachers are undergoing training at this time at Robertson, Bright and Christie.

“Test scores are just one indicator of student success, but we want each of our students to have every opportunity to achieve at the highest level on their path to graduation,” Nelson said.

[See PowerPoint.](#)