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
February 8, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.
FISD Board Room

Call to Order - CHS band student Jordan Bidwell, junior, led the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

Board Presentations
The Board honored FISD students who have been named to the Texas All State Band, Choir and Orchestra. A record number of FISD students obtained this high honor this year. Of the 13 4A All State positions from our Region, all but three were FISD students. Some students also earned 5A all-state honors. *See attached Resolutions.*

Consent Agenda
The Board approved the consent agenda. The consent agenda consists of items that the board considers routine and approves under one motion. The items approved were: tax office reports; payments to vendors, architects and contractors; award for Preferred Approved Vendor List; landscape maintenance contract extension for 2010-2011 school year; award of purchase of furniture, equipment, curriculum, and supplies for new campuses; award of blanket purchasing agreement with furniture company; vendor for student online registration software (this will allow parents to register on-line and electronically complete the annual "re-enrollment" process of checking information and filling out forms); vendor to provide wireless for new schools and replacement campuses for 2010-2011; award of contract extension for PSAT/SAT prep classes.

Communications to and from the Board
Mr. Jerry Loughren spoke to the Board regarding information related to an administration building and the bond program status.

May 8 Board of Trustees Election
Review of Board of Trustees Training – Annually at the meeting at which the call for election of board members is scheduled, the board president reviews the training credits for all current board members. Board president Dan Mossakowski stated that all FISD board members currently met or exceeded training requirements.
The Board approved the resolution approving voting change, the Order of Election and the joint election contract and agreements.

Budget Outlook for 2010-2011
Director of Finance Rick Bankston reviewed the timeline for the budget process and presented a very early look at related information. He stated that the preliminary estimates indicate that FISD taxable values will remain flat or show slight growth. In the current school funding system, student growth matters more to local districts than tax base growth. The budgeting estimates presented utilized a conservative student increase of 8 percent (2,800 students) and a maintenance and operations tax rate or $1.02. FISD will gain 2,000 students with just the graduating seniors being replaced with kindergarten students. FISD's current M&) tax rate is $1; FISD is among about 20 percent of the school districts in the state that still have the flexibility to raise 4 more cents on the tax rate since the district was not at the tax cap previously. With the opening of 6 schools this fall, the estimated increase in revenue will be needed for those related start up costs and personnel for growth. This is not considering other budget issues, personnel requests or raises. Dr. Reedy, Superintendent of Schools, has already discussed with staff that any requests for personnel that are not needed at the campuses will be looked at very closely. At the next meeting, Mr. Bankston will share information that will reflect scenarios with zero tax base growth and tax rates of $1 up to $1.04. He will also show how slight changes in student growth would impact funding, in a range of 2,600 to 3,000 students. *See attached presentation for more information.*

Construction Issues

The Board discussed the status of the administration building and the delivery method for the project.

The Board approved the construction manager at-risk delivery method for the potential administration building and high school additions because it provides more flexibility in timelines, value engineering, and change orders. Allowing Mr. Richard Wilkinson, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Finance, to go ahead with the request for proposal and to bring forward a construction manager for hire will show the Board and Administration what a guaranteed maximum price would be. It is believed that the current construction climate is favorable and could mean savings in costs. Rough costs estimates are that the building would cost $25-30 million. If the decision is made not to move forward, the only expenditure will be the pre construction services to the construction manager and the architect fees that have been paid for the design thus far. In relation to the bond program, Dr. Reedy stated that even if the pricing comes in at favorable level and the Board chooses to proceed, there would still be funds to build the schools that are in the package, along with the high school additions. The additions to each high school will basically take the place of one high school. He also reiterated information shared last month that the impact on the debt service tax rate related to an administration building would be about half of a cent. The debt service tax rate will go up in the future whether the administrative complex project moves forward or not, due to a slow down in the tax base growth, he added. There are many steps still to be taken before a final decision is made to move forward, Dr. Reedy said. Updates and communications will be available on the website.

Personnel Matters

Dr. Linda Bass, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented her personnel report to the board. The Board approved the contract extensions of the Assistant Superintendents, Executive Directors, the Assistant to the Superintendent and Board, the Chief Financial Officer, Principals, the Athletic Director, the Assistant Athletic Director, and Campus Athletic Coordinators. These are the employees with multi-year contracts; recommendations for employees with one-year extensions will come before the Board next month. The Board also extended the contract for the Superintendent.

Staff Reports

Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, shared with the Board that in the recent survey of students regarding their interest in possible new elective courses, one of with considerable interest was JROTC. Jimmy Bowser, assistant principal and former Marine, has explored this process and at this time all of the branches of the military have more than 100 percent of their eligible JROTC locations in Texas. Consequently, the possibility of a unit in FISD in the next three years is slim. While new unit activation seems to be unlikely at this time, each of the representatives stated that they would likely close at least one unit this year, which could present an opportunity for FISD. The process for applying for a JROTC unit is fairly simple and after submission the rating process begins. The school district is rated and placed on a waiting list based on their rating. Several factors contribute to the overall district rating: geographic location; Title 1 status; demographic variables; determined support level of the administration; required facilities (varies by branch). FISD would not have enough numbers for a unit at a high school; a centralized unit at the CTE would be more feasible. FISD will submit an application to all four branches; this process has no cost or obligation. Each year, FISD receives parental inquiry regarding whether this offering is being considered.

Mr. Douglas Zambiasi, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, stated that FISD nurses recently participated in Emergency Triage Training —a program for school nurses developed by the National Association of School Nurses (NASN). The program's goal is to provide school nurses with the knowledge, skills, and resources to perform as leaders of first-aid teams in response to mass casualty events occurring in the school setting. The strategies and practice learned in the disaster preparedness training ties in with the district crisis management plans and the SAFER project – all things that officials hope they never have to utilize.

Dr. Reedy's report highlighted student achievements in the last month. His report ended by sharing a milestone reached by WHS student Zach Wester. Zach had reached a goal of walking 50 feet without resting on Feb. 2. Prior to his walk, this UT fan received a phone message of encouragement from University of Texas quarterback Colt McCoy.

Next Meeting: March 8