



Board Report HISD



Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees January 11, 2010

Happy New Year!

Recognitions:

Recognition of Past / Present School Board Members: January is School Board Appreciation Month. This year, Mr. Wright designated January 11, 2010, as School Board Member Appreciation Day to honor past and present Hallsville ISD School Board Members. These members were recognized with a special catered dinner, Certificate of Appreciation, gift bags, and picture frame. Alyssa Rummel, a junior at Hallsville High School, recited a poem she had written to honor past and present School Board Members. Twenty-two (22) past School Board Members attended this Special Appreciation Program.

Consent Items:

Minutes from the December 14, 2009 Board meeting, December 2009 Financial Report and personnel were approved.

Budget Amendments: Budget Amendments were approved by the Board.

Construction Payment Authorization: The Board approved the Construction Payment Authorizations for the following projects: East Elementary, North Elementary, High School Site Work, and Off -Site Roads / Utilities for North Elementary.

Policy Update 86: The Board adopted Policy Update 86 as recommended. This policy reflects changes in law from the 81st Legislative Session and addresses policies throughout the Policy Manual.

Technology Report: Mike Stanfield and Toni Erickson presented the Technology Report and highlighted the many technology advancements throughout the years from the original cable fiber to our present day iPod (Nanos) and Junior Cat Academy.

Annual Audit Report: The Annual Audit Report was presented by Knuckols, Duvall, Hallum & Co., P.C., the auditors for the district. A review of the findings was presented and the report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

2010 Bond Sales: Information was presented by Tom Lawrence, the district's financial consultant, regarding the next sale of bonds that have been approved by voters of the district. Currently, the district has issued \$10 million in bonds that will be paid in 2009-2010. There are still \$86 million remaining. Interest rates are favorable for the next bond sale.

Hallsville High School Courses, Industry Certifications, and Graduation Requirements: Paula Rogers, Deputy Superintendent; John Wink, High School Principal; Kathy Gaw, CTE Director; and Lynn Henderson, High School Counselor, presented information to the Board regarding additional Technology Courses, Dual Credit Classes, and Industry Certifications recommended for 2010-11. These courses and certifications were recommended to be consistent with the campus and district philosophy of continuing to offer rigorous and relevant courses to students.

Policy EIF (LOCAL) – Graduation Requirements – was also presented. This policy maintains the current credit requirement for students. A provision for required electives is included in the policy. The policy also includes a mechanism allowing for the consideration of extenuating circumstances by the Student Support Team. Mr. Wink and Mrs. Rogers explained that this policy allows the district to maintain very high academic standards while offering a balanced approach for those students who may need consideration for extenuating circumstances.

The Board approved the Hallsville High School Course and Industry Certifications and Policy EIF (LOCAL) – Graduation Requirements as recommended.

Fly Management Plan: Dr. Brian Morris and Kathy Gaw presented board members with a Fly Management Plan for the district's Ag farm. The plan is a method of being proactive to the control of flies at the farm. Dr. Morris provided the board with background information as to why this process was necessary. Dr. Morris stated that district officials were in contact with Mr. Randy Reeves, Harrison County Extension Agent for guidance in developing a plan of this nature. Mr. Reeves referred the district to Dr. Michael Merchant from AgriLife Extension- Texas A&M System. Dr. Merchant visited the district's Ag farm to review the steps the district is presently taking to control the fly population. A plan was developed by Dr. Merchant and he recommended that the plan be approved by the School Board and kept on file to refer to as necessary. Mrs. Gaw briefly discussed details of the plan with board members and informed them that the plan had been reviewed and approved by Schwartz and Eichelbaum. The firm complimented the district on the plan and stated that district officials had received guidance from the top experts in the field.

Superintendent's Annual Evaluation and Contract: The Board approved to extend Superintendent Greg Wright's contract for an additional year through June 30, 2013.



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Teamwork Makes The Dream Work!

Tradition + Pride + Hard Work = Success!