

**SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HUGHES SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

July 12, 2021
6:00 P.M.

Van Hall, Presiding

Members Present

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Robert Johnson | Van Hall |
| Robyn Shelton | Billy Willis |
| Scott Nelson | Phillip Chapman |
| DeAnna Putman | |

Members Absent

None

School Personnel Present

Sarah Dildine, Superintendent

Guests

(See attached list)

1. OPENING ACTIVITIES:

1.1 CALL to Order/Declaration of Quorum by President Van Hall *{Gov't Code 551.001 (6), 311.013 (b)}*

1.2 INVOCATION given by DeAnna Putman; Pledge of Allegiance lead by Robyn Shelton

1.3 PUBLIC COMMENT *{HSISD Policy BED}*

There was no public comment

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2.1 ESSR III Grant and Grant Budget Hearing

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (Mar. 27, 2020)

Superintendent Sarah Dildine explained that until the ESSR III Grant has been approved, the proposed budget is tentative. Administrators will receive training on the grant application which is due on July 27, 2021, later this week. In the meantime, items have been submitted that require pre-approval and the district is waiting on the results of the submissions.

2.2 HEARING Regarding District Health Guidelines

Texas Education Agency (TEA) Public Health Planning

To qualify for the federal ESSER III Grant, the District must have Health Guidelines in place. Current TEA guidance no longer requires quarantining or contract tracing, but a Covid diagnosis from a medical doctor will mean that a student must have a release with a date to return to classes. The District's guidelines currently include the same sanitizing and disinfecting procedures and precautions regarding visitors in the school's buildings, along with other safety measures in place for the past year.

3. PRESENTATIONS:

3.1 Student Handbooks

{HSISD Policy BP}

The Board reviewed the High School, Junior High School and Elementary student handbooks. Supt. Dildine advised the trustees that the elementary handbook had not changed from the

previous year. High School principal Brian Nation explained the minimal changes for the junior and senior high schools from last year; primarily information on some items that needed clarification. Vaping and e-cigarettes received the most editing to make the district's policy regarding these issues very clear and understandable. Some clarification was also added to the current student dress code and use of electronic devices.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

{HSISD Policy BE}

4.1 Minutes of Meeting June 14, 2021

4.2 Budget Amendments (as needed)

On motion by Billy Willis, seconded by Scott Nelson, it was moved to approve the consent agenda items. Budget amendments moved funds to cover:

- purchase of a three-wheeler for turf management
- an amendment to manage the end of the year final finance clean-up

Motion carried on a 7 to 0 vote.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

{HSISD Policy BE; BEC; BED}

5.1 **CONSIDERATION to Approve Resolution Regarding Cass County Appraisal District Preliminary Budget for 2022**

{HSISD Policy CCH}

On motion by Robyn Shelton, seconded by DeAnna Putman, it was moved to approve the preliminary budget presented by the Cass County Appraisal District. Motion carried on a 7 to 0 vote.

5.2 **CONSIDERATION to Approve Resolution Regarding Morris County Appraisal District Approved Budget for 2022**

{HSISD Policy CCH}

On motion by Scott Nelson, seconded by Robert Johnson, it was moved to accept the approved budget presented by the Morris County Appraisal District. Motion carried on a 7 to 0 vote.

5.3 **CONSIDERATION to Approve Date for Tax Rate and Budget Hearings**

{HSISD Policy CE}, {Education Code 44.004(a), (f)}

On motion by Robyn Shelton, seconded by Phillip Chapman, it was moved to complete work on the 2021-2022 budget at the regularly scheduled board meeting on August 9, 2021, and hold the hearings to set the tax rate and budget on August 23, 2021. Motion carried on a 7 to 0 vote.

6. **CLOSED SESSION**, as authorized by Texas Government Code Chapter 551.001 through 551.146, shall be declared by the Board of Trustees when necessary, during the course of the meeting at the time, date and place of this notice. The Board may close this meeting to consult with its attorney on any item posted on this agenda in order to receive legal advice or to maintain the attorney-client privilege. The Board may also close the meeting to consult with its attorney on any other matter when the attorney's professional and ethical duty to the Board requires a confidential communication. **Board entered closed session at 6:52 p.m. and reconvened at 7:42 p.m.**

6.1 PERSONNEL (Action)

Consider Employment, Resignations, Reassignments, Transfers, Substitute Teacher List, Extended Leaves, Additional Positions, and Other Personnel Matters

1. CONSIDERATION to Approve School District Teaching Permit for Cyruss Ragsdale

7. RECONVENE

Open meeting to vote on matters considered in executive/closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, to take action necessary regarding any items listed above.

7.1 PERSONNEL (Action)

1. CONSIDERATION to Approve School District Teaching Permit for Cyruss Ragsdale

On motion by Robyn Shelton, seconded by Billy Willis, it was moved to grant a school district teaching permit to Cyruss Ragsdale for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion passed on a 7 to 0 vote.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

{HSISD Policy BE and BJA}

8.1-8.7 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sarah Dildine informed the Board of an administrative decision regarding the monthly pay days for employees. Effective with the September payroll, wages will be paid by direct deposit only. The deposit will be on the 20th of each month, regardless of the day of the week or of any holidays. Employees will receive notice of the change in time to make arrangements for direct deposit and will be able to access the pay-stub information online through the Skyward Employee Access.

She advised the Board that the Athletic Boosters Club may have some volunteers lined-up for the coming year so that the club will not be dissolved for lack of workers.

Information regarding the test scores was given to the trustees, revealing that the District is at or above the state average, with a weakness in the math category. Painting at the elementary is finished with new artwork on the walls; after school begins, the junior high gym floor is to be replaced due to water damage from burst pipes during the February freeze and work is being done to enclose the porch of the auditorium to provide additional storage for the Theatre Department. Back to School events have been set and the dates posted on social media.

8.8-8.14 Business Manager's Report

Business Manager Jalyn Setser gave the Board the following information as of June 30, 2021:

1. *Financial Summary*

- a. General Funds
 - i. Revenue - \$11,407,114 (Estimated Revenue - \$13,150,000)
 - ii. Expenditures - \$10,028,160 (Budget - \$13,150,000)

- b. Food Service
 - i. Revenue - \$347,244 (Estimated Revenue - \$442,000)
 - ii. Expenditures - \$366,767 (Budget - \$517,000)

- 2. **Monthly TEA Foundation Payments**
 - a. June 2021 payment - \$923,309
 - b. July 2021 payment - \$842,936

- 3. **Tax Collections**
 - a. Cass County - \$2,097,517 (Levy – \$2,130,000)
 - b. Morris County - \$691,400 (Levy – \$669,000)

- 4. **Investment Accounts**
 - a. Certificates of Deposit (FNB) - \$3,304,000
 - b. Lone Star Investment Pool - \$493,000

- 5. **Cash Position**
 - a. Bank Accounts - \$5,914,000
 - b. Investments - \$3,797,000
 - c. Total - \$9,711,000

- 6. **Fund Balance as of August 31, 2020 (Audited)**
 - a. Unassigned - \$3,305,887
 - b. Non-spendable for Inventory - \$82,890
 - c. Committed for Construction - \$2,500,000
 - d. Committed for Capital Expenditures for Equipment - \$850,000
 - e. Committed for Self Insurance - \$15,706
 - f. Other Committed - \$1,167,000
 - g. Total - \$7,921,483

9. **CLOSING ACTIVITIES**

9.1 **Questions asked of and by Board Members**

{HSISD Policy BE}

There were none.

9.2 **Adjournment**

On motion by Billy Willis, seconded by Scott Nelson, it was moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 7 to 0.

Van J. Hall, President

Robyn Shelton, Secretary