



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the July 23, 2020 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Virtual Called Meeting

Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 coronavirus, this meeting was conducted by telephone via Zoom software application. At least a quorum of the board was present by telephone call in accordance with the provisions of Sections 551.122 or 551.127 of the Texas Government Code that have not been suspended by order of the governor.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Michael Bennett at 5:05 PM.

Executive Session

The Board convened into closed session at 5:08 PM as authorized by the Texas Government Code 551, Emergency Management: COVID-19 planning (Section 418.183).

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:13 PM.

Public Comment

The board meeting agenda posting notified that individuals who wished to make a public comment could sign up by calling the PISD Administration Office until 4:30 P.M. the day of the meeting. There were no requests for public comment.

Superintendent's Report

COVID-19 Coronavirus Update

Superintendent Marshall reported on safety measures needed due to health and safety concerns related to COVID-19 Coronavirus, that will be in place when students return to school for the 2020-21 school year.

School Supply List

PISD will assist parents with the cost of school supplies by purchasing cleaning/sanitization related supplies and pens/pencils/erasers for students.

Transportation Requirements

All students must wear face masks on buses.

Staff Professional Development

Professional development will take place only in small groups.

Extracurricular Plans

Football and Volleyball practice will begin in early August. Cheer/Drill will begin on first day of school, August 10, 2020. Band practice can begin August 3, 2020 but no marching permitted until September 8, 2020.

Campus Start/Stop Times

Washington E.C.C. (7:45am-3:00pm), Northside Primary (7:45 am-3:10pm), Southside Elementary (7:45am-3:10pm), A.M. Story Intermediate (7:55am-3:35pm), PJHS (8:00am-3:40pm), PHS (8:00am-3:40pm)

Back to School Activities

First Day of School (August 10, 2020)

First day of TACE (September 8, 2020)

Financial Report

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a financial report that included the following information:

- Current Year Tax Collections lower than normal
- 2019-20 Balanced Budget expected
- Investment Interest higher than usual during previous month, but based on the current market interest is not expected to be as high in future months

2020-21 Budget Workshop

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a budget workshop. The following information was reviewed:

- 2020-21 Revenue Planning Estimate
- Expenditure Planning Considerations
- 2019-20 Projected Fund Balance
- 2020-21 Budget expected to be similar to 2019-20 Budget

2020-21 Proposed Tax Rate

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2020-21 Proposed Tax Rate and informed that the district was required to compress the tax rate. The 2020-21 Proposed Tax Rate of \$1,4047 is a decrease from the 2019-20 Tax Rate of \$1.4183.

The Board approved a Proposed Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations in the amount of \$1.0547, and a Proposed Tax Rate for Interest and Sinking of \$0.35 for a Proposed Total Tax Rate of \$1.4047.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Virtual Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 6, 2020
- Bills paid for June, 2020
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations (None received)
- Fuel Contract for 2020-21 School Year (Sun Coast Resources (Gasoline/Diesel) Sumrall Distributing (Oil/DEF/Antifreeze)
- Anderson County Appraisal District 2021 Proposed Budget
- Policy EIC (Local) Revision: Academic Achievement-Class Ranking (Courses included/not included in GPA Calculation)
- 2020-21 Credit by Exam Timeline
- 2020-21 Handbooks (Campus/Athletic/Transportation)

Employee COVID-19 Care Plan

Superintendent Marshall presented a plan to assist employees who contract COVID-19 while at school/work during the 2020-21 school year. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that an employee absence related to COVID-19 would not result in loss of pay during the employee absence from work due to COVID-19 illness. The Board approved the Employee COVID-19 Care Plan for the 2020-21 School Year as presented.

Personnel Approved

1) Copeland, Jennifer	Art	Palestine High School
2) Erickson, Tonya	5 th Grade	A.M. Story Intermediate
3) Moore, Nikki	Band Director	A.M. Story Intermediate
4) Owens, Kameko	Language Arts	Palestine High School
5) Smith, Kiva	4 th Grade	A.M. Story Intermediate
6) Trees, Lisa	PPCD	Washington E.C.C.

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations of Karen Harden and Sherry Michael.

TASB Delegate/Alternate Delegate Tabled

Item Tabled: Vote to Elect Delegate/Alternate Delegate to Delegate Assembly at the TASA/TASB Convention – Saturday, October 3, 2020.

2020-21 Final School Calendar & Beginning of Year Transition Plan

Superintendent Marshall presented the 2020-21 Final School Calendar. The first day of school will be August 10, 2020. The last day of the school year will be May 21, 2021. Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 Coronavirus, the district has adjusted the 2020-21 Calendar to include a Beginning of Year Transition Plan and the option for At-Home Learning. The BOY Transition Plan consists of limiting the number of students at school to 25% during the first two weeks of the school year. The district plans to gradually increase the number of students At-School to 100% following the Labor Day holiday. Students and parents may choose the 100% At-Home Learning, however; the plan will be completely aligned with state academic standards including STAAR test prep, will include numerical grades, students must check-in for attendance and spend a minimum of 4 hours/day engaged in lessons, and submit work to teachers each day.

The Board approved to adopt the final 2020-21 School Calendar including a Beginning of Year Transition Plan.

Home Learning Instruction

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, presented information regarding “Asynchronous”, the district’s preferred method for delivering instruction to students on home learning days. Mr. Kiser informed that Asynchronous will provide students the option of completing online learning at flexible times in case of unreliable internet reception. The Board approved to adopt “Asynchronous” as the district’s preferred method of delivering instruction on Home Learning Days.

Extracurricular Participation Policy

There was discussion regarding the implementation of a district policy that would limit participation in Extracurricular Activities to only students who are physical in attendance at school, and to disallow Extracurricular participation to students that opt for 100% At-Home Learning due to health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.

The Board approved to adopt a district policy that would limit participation in Extracurricular Activities to only students who are physically At-School and to disallow participation to students that opt for 100% At-Home Learning.

Amended Motion: Athletic Handbook guidelines will be used to assist in determining whether a student will be allowed to participate in Extracurricular activities.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.