

Governing Council Minutes
September 18, 2007

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 by Susana Hildebrand.

Approval of Minutes

Dewayne Jones motioned to table the he approval of minutes from 7/24/07, 8/21/07, and 8/31/07 meetings were tabled until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill Pfaff. Motion passed.

PVC Reports

No PVC report was presented

Public Input

No public input was given.

Council Resolution

Teresa Elliott introduced a Council Resolution for name of Magnolia Campus, fiscal year, and grade levels served at respective campuses - required by the Texas Education Agency and the Child Nutrition Program in order to appropriately assign campus identification numbers. Robert Brenner motioned to approve the resolution with one change regarding grade levels. The motion was seconded by Dewayne Jones. Motion passed.

Calendar Change

The board discussed a proposed calendar change by Terry Berkenhoff. The current student holiday on April 28 will be changed to April 21 in order to prepare students for TAKS testing on April 29th. Bill Pfaff motioned to change the date from April 28 to April 21. Valerie Sterne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Financial Report

Follow up on TCEP

Teresa Elliott presented a clearer explanation of the TCEP fund program, specifically the allowance of using released funds to establish the required savings account of \$350,000. This allowance was not clearly stated in the documents discussed the previous month. Bill Pfaff suggested that a one-page information sheet or flow chart be created to help new council members to understand the bond process. Craig Shempert motioned to approve the resolution to accept the TCEP funds and to use the released funds to establish the bond required cash reserve of \$350,000. The motion was seconded by Valerie Sterne. Motion passed.

Finance Committee Report

Recommendation for Expanding Accounting Software

The finance committee unanimously supported the request to network the accounting computers and purchase additional software for accounts receivable and purchase orders/encumbrances for a cost of \$20,670 from our existing software provider, MIP. Robert Brenner motioned to acquire the networking capabilities and additional software. The motion was seconded by Craig Shempert. Motion passes.

Committee Reports

Teacher Retention Committee - the council temporarily suspended this committee due to teacher satisfaction.

Management - The Management committee has plans underway to designate a laptop and acquire project management software for the administration to utilize.

Nominations- Craig Shempert reported that he has no nominations for the parent or teacher representative to the council for the October elections. Teresa Elliott reported that a member of the Multicultural committee, Patricia Gregory expressed an interest. Tamara Golden also confirmed that she intended to run for the Teacher representative.

Bylaw Review - This committee is hereby terminated.

Student Growth - Dewayne Jones reported that the committee had met and made some tentative recommendations for the 2008-09 school year, including moving grades 4 and 5 to Kramer, separating grades 6 and 7, and increase 7th grade to 48 students. We would need to hire at least 2 additional teachers and possibly additional specials teachers. Susana Hildebrand asked that a formal presentation be made at the next meeting with an additional parent meeting to be held. The Council also asked for a recommendation regarding keeping the 4th and 5th grades together or to permanently split.

Transitions - This committee is hereby dissolved.

Student Recruitment - Valerie Sterne reported that her and Bill Pfaff had met and began looking into the issue of student recruitment as well as interfacing with the multicultural committee.

Multicultural - Michael Kamen reported that the committee was planning a luncheon for potential members for a multicultural advisory board to assist in the development of a strong multicultural plan for the school. The next meeting of the committee is set for October 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Communications - Craig Shempert reported that the committee met for the first time on September 6 and read the minutes from that meeting.

New Committee Formed

Teresa Elliott recommended that the council approve a new committee to oversee the bond construction project. Julian Morell was recommended as the chair and accepted the role.

Michael Kamen motioned to appoint a new Bond Construction Project Committee and to appoint Julian Morell as chairman. Dewayne Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Open Meetings Discussion

Susana Hildebrand presented information given to her at a governmental entity training session on open meetings.

Executive Session

The council went into executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the Secondary Principal Performance Evaluation. Invited guests were Teresa Elliott and Julie Atchley. No formal action was required. The council exited executive session at 9:15 p.m.

Announcement of next regularly scheduled meeting - October 16, 2007

The council adjourned at 9:45 p.m.