



President Peter Baron convened the meeting with Dr. Aaron Reich, Bowie Hogg, Gloria Peña, Tony Pompa, and Jerry McCullough present.

Program/Presentation

- **Ditto Elementary, Exemplary School** - Superintendent Jerry McCullough introduced Julie Harcrow, principal of Ditto Elementary and presented her a plaque to be hung in the building in honor of being named an Exemplary School. Harcrow went on to introduce the teachers and staff of Ditto, who were presented with a certificate for their achievement.

Public Hearing

- **“Schools First” State Financial Accountability Rating** - The AISD received a “School’s First” rating of Superior Achievement for 2011. Under the Schools First system, the Texas Education Agency assigns each school district one of five accountability ratings. The ratings are based on the district’s overall performance on certain financial measurements, ratios, and other indicators established annually by the Commissioner of Education.

Open Forum for Agenda Items

- **Larry Shaw** with UEA spoke on the school finance litigation.
- **Dennis Killy** Arlington resident spoke regarding district strategies.
- **Charles Brady** representing Perdue, Brandon, Fielder spoke on the delinquent tax collection contract.

Action Item

The Board approved the following:

- The termination of the contract for Robert Thomas, previously proposed for discharge.
- The nomination of Michael Glaspie as the candidate for a position on the Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors.

The Board tabled the following:

- The resolution to join potential school finance litigation. A number of Texas public school districts are organizing to bring potential litigation against the State over the current school finance system. The issues to be litigated include equity for students and taxpayers, arbitrary state aid distribution methods, suitability of the current system, and the tax rate structure that effectively is a state property tax. School districts participating in the litigation are asked to contribute a one-time payment of \$1 per student in weighted average daily attendance to help fund the cost of the litigation. For the AISD the total is \$74,713.

Discussion/Action Item

The Board approved the following:

- **Providing support to high school teachers support as a result of the 2011-2012 high school schedule** – Deputy Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos presented information on the district’s current 4/3 block schedule. The district changed the high school schedule from a 3/3 block schedule to a 4/3 block schedule for the 2011-2012 school year due to budget reductions. As a result, high school teachers currently receive a conference period every other day versus every day. On Sept. 15, the Board asked the administration to explore options to provide high school teachers additional support. High school principals, teachers and department chairs met and provided suggestions. The ones approved by the Board include: hire one teaching assistant per campus to make copies and perform other clerical duties; hire six long term substitutes as adjuncts to departments to provide instructional support; provide substitute allocation for high schools to allow teachers and/or departments to collaborate, plan and review curriculum assessment data and issue statement from the district regarding support for high school teachers.

- **Policy EIA (Local) and STAAR End of Course assessments** – Deputy Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos presented information on the implementation of EOC exams. The EOC Board Policy must dedicate that exam scores must count as 15 percent of the final course grade and a student is permitted to retake an EOC exam for any reason at any scheduled testing. Option 1 dictates if a student retakes an EOC exam the district will include the retake score as 15 percent of the final course grade only if the retake score allows a student to gain credit for the course. After a student earns credit for the course, subsequent retakes will not be included in the calculation of the final course grade. Option 2 spells out that if a student retakes an EOC exam, the district will not include the retake score in the final grade calculation for the course. Option 3 could be a combination of other considerations. The district will go with the first option. The EOC assessment scores shall not be included in class rank calculations. The calculation of grades with the EOC exam scores shall be in accordance with the district’s grading guidelines. In special education a student’s ARD committee shall determine the type of assessment to be administered and how the score on an EOC exam will be used for final course grades, credit decisions and grade graduation requirements.



Discussion

- **Impact of Senate Bill 100 on school board elections and terms** – This legislation implements the provisions of the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, which requires elections administrators to mail ballots to eligible voters 45 days prior to the election date. To comply with the MOVE Act, the Texas primary run-off has been moved to the fourth Tuesday of May. The later primary run-off date conflicts with the May general election date with local entities, and will make it difficult for the Tarrant County Elections Administration to administer local entity elections on the general election dates. SB 100 offers the opportunity for school board to adjust their office terms to address the impact of the new primary run-off date.

- **Board of Trustees meeting schedule** – Administration recommended work sessions on the Thursday, Oct. 13, Oct. 27 and Nov. 10 to discuss topics that require in-depth discussions that may be too lengthy to include with a regular Board meeting. The topics include the budget preparation process for the 2012-2013 (including update on MGT of America cost containment recommendations), high school scheduling for the 2012-13 (including graduation requirements), and possible move of sixth grade to junior high.



Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McCullough announced that Sherrod Elementary third-grade teacher Kim Humphrey is one of 1,100 recipients awarded with more than \$1,000 in school supplies by OfficeMax and Adopt-a-Classroom. The program is called A Day Made Better, and the winners were nominated for being outstanding teachers. The Dean P. Corey Band Spectacular was held Tuesday evening at UTA's Maverick Stadium. The annual event showcased the high school marching bands, which received critiques from visiting judges in preparation for the UIL marching competition. The junior high bands performed between the high school performances. He thanked the fine arts department and Bill Huff for organizing this event. This month we celebrate Human Resources Awareness Month. Our personnel staff is vital to the success of the AISD. Mr. McCullough thanked Assistant Superintendent Marilyn Evans and her staff for everything they do to help the AISD.



School Board's Report

- **Gloria Peña** participating in various Hispanic Heritage activities throughout the district and the community.
- **Tony Pompa** attended the Dean P. Corey Band Spectacular and was impressed by the talented performances.
- **Peter Baron** attended the TASB conference along with other Board Members. He reminded every one to remember to get their flu shot.