



Board Highlights

Frisco Independent School District

6942 Maple Street Frisco, Texas 75034

Board Members: Richard Beaver - Laura Ellison - Renée Ehmke - John Hoxie - Dan Mossakowski - Buddy Minett - Brenda Polk

*Regular Board Meeting
June 21, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.
FISD Board Room*

Oath of Office and Reorganization of Board

Newly re-elected Board members Laura Ellison, Renée Ehmke and Dan Mossakowski signed their statements of elected officer, were issued their certificate of election and took their oath of office. It was noted that Laura Ellison was beginning her fifth term of office; joining only three others who have had service on the Board of 15 years or longer. The Board elected its officers, with Dan Mossakowski, Renée Ehmke and Brenda Polk continuing as President, Vice President and Secretary, respectively.

Board Presentations

The Board honored FISD students who have advanced to state in UIL media, track and field, golf, tennis and basketball competition. *See attached Resolutions.*

Laurie Tinsley, principal at Ogle Elementary, was honored as a finalist for the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association National Distinguished Principal award.

Communications to and from the Board

Pippa Couvillion and Jeremy Starritt of the city of Frisco Environmental Services Department presented Dianne Miller, FISD recycling coordinator, with an award for her recycling/environmental work in FISD. Miller is leaving to move to Dripping Springs. <http://www.friscogreenliving.com/2010/05/28/fisds-miller-leaves-a-recycling-legacy-and-plenty-of-friends/>

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the consent agenda. The consent agenda consists of items that the board considers routine and approves under one motion. The items approved were: tax office reports; year-end budget amendments; payments to vendors, architects and contractors; award for Preferred Approved Vendor List; extension of award for purchase of equipment and supplies for custodial department; extension of contract for temporary labor staffing for Child Nutrition and Custodial Department; purchase of special program supplies; vendors over \$50,000 for maintenance department; vendors over \$50,000 for transportation department; armored car services for Frisco ISD; extension of contract for purchase of full line grocery; extension of contract for financial advisor consultant; recommendation to extend contract for wireless services; software for credit recovery program; staff uniform proposal; vendors for athletics for winter and spring sports; proposals for color copy paper; interlocal agreement with city of Garland for purchasing co-op; award for district smallwares purchase; agreement with city of Frisco for shared costs on lighting for running trail; change order for service center project; deductive change order for ag facility project; TEA waiver for foreign exchange students; maintenance agreement for security systems; competitive sealed proposal for recycling services; adoption of 2010-2011 Student Code of Conduct; waiver for low attendance days for 2009-2010.

Frisco Economic Development Corporation Board representative

The Board voted for Richard Beaver to continue as the FISD representative on the EDC Board.

2010-2011 Budget and Proposed Tax Rate

Director of Finance Rick Bankston reviewed the final budget and the anticipated tax rate to fund the budget; opportunity for citizen input was provided. The balanced maintenance and operations budget calls for no tax rate increase; the M&O tax rate will remain at \$1.00 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The \$292,469,000 budget includes a two percent of mid-point raise for all employees, including the Superintendent, and a starting teacher salary (bachelor's degree and no experience) of \$46,000 (a \$750 increase). Some stipend/pay adjustments were also made

based on a comparison study with like districts. To reach a balanced budget, efforts were made to reduce the number of new positions added. These efforts included looking closely at secondary schools to optimize staff utilization and maintain full class sizes, reducing instances where there are small numbers. Budget developers also budgeted funds for plant maintenance and operations as close to true projected costs as possible for utilities, etc. Some federal funds will also be used for a portion of the special education personnel allocations. Administrators noted that this year's budget was complicated due to the opening of six new schools, with four of those being secondary schools, in a tougher financial time. Rick Reedy, Superintendent of Schools, stated it was the tightest budget in 17 years and that it took effort on everyone's part to present a balanced budget without a tax rate increase. FISD still has four cents that it can utilize on the tax rate before having to go to voters in a Tax Ratification Election. Dr. Reedy said that those pennies must be saved to prepare for what may be coming in regard to school funding and in respect to the hold harmless provision. The budget will be monitored closely and each additional position will be scrutinized, he added.

Dr. Bankston stated that a three cent increase to the Interest and Sinking tax rate (from 39 to 42 cents) will be needed to make the district's debt payment of \$78.7 million. By using TIF funds and reserve funds in the debt service account, this increase can be held to three cents. On the average valued home in Frisco of \$258,540, this three cents that is needed to pay for debt that has been incurred due to issuing bonds for construction will mean a tax bill increase of \$73 (or \$6 a month). *This does not take into account fluctuations in the appraised value of a home from one year to the next as determined by the county appraisal districts. Also, citizens who are over 65 have the over 65 exemption which caps their tax bill. (No exemption is automatic, citizens must apply).* The tax rate will not be approved until after September 1.

During the public hearing portion of the budget/tax rate discussion, a citizen asked about the potential need in the future for an additional stadium. The district entered a public-private partnership to bring Pizza Hut Park to the area which is utilized as the district's second stadium and should be sufficient with six high schools. This project saved the taxpayers because it cost less than what a single use stadium would have cost and also saves them in maintenance and operations costs. It utilized TIF funds rather than bond funds that had been allocated in a previous bond program. The district does own land where an additional stadium or a middle school could be built. As a seventh high school is added in the future, that could be a consideration if time appropriate scheduling becomes impractical.

Contract Extension for Internal Control Evaluation Services

The Board approved extending the contract with Weaver and Tidwell; the firm has evaluated FISD business processes for safety, security and efficiency and this extension will continue their internal control analysis into the areas of Technology general control review; network security; Human Resource administration process.

Centennial High School Addition

The Board approved the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Centennial High School addition of \$5,981,930, which is \$211,750 less than the initial GMP. CORE Construction will be building the addition, which will accommodate up to 300 more students. The addition will be ready by the fall of 2011. The district has developed plans and a design for a high school addition that can be built as each school reaches capacity. The addition will expand each high school's capacity to 2,000 -2,100 and includes some commons spaces. This addition will save significant construction and operating funds and would continue to meet the goals of having smaller schools, while also providing stability. This plan delays a difficult rezoning for several years until a time that growth has stabilized and the boundary lines will be more clearly defined. Six additions that accommodate 200-300 students basically take the place of one high school. A future high school will cost about \$85 million. *See rendering.*

Contract for Construction of FISD administration building/board complex

The Board approved moving forward with the guaranteed maximum price of \$24,055,054 for the construction of the building complex. The total turn-key cost (including development costs, equipment) will be \$27 million. Pogue Construction is building the facility, which will cost \$3-4 million (15 percent) less than previous estimates due to the current construction cost climate. At earlier meetings, Richard Wilkinson, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Finance, has shown that this project will impact the debt service tax rate in the future by one-half to ¾ of a cent without any increases in taxable values. In reference to the construction climate and the current "lull" in school construction, Dr. Reedy stated that it is a good opportunity at a time when the district can get it done. In FISD, there has not been a year since 1998 in which two to six schools did not open. At this time, it appears that there will be no

need for a school to open in 2011. The only need is the first high school addition at CHS. In the following two years the district will most likely need a total of four elementary schools.

This administration building/board complex will provide needed space for administrative offices to serve the needs of the district until build out. Another timing and planning consideration is that the Student Opportunity Center and the KEYS program at Acker need to expand and with the construction of this facility they will be able to utilize all of the office space at Acker and the Administration Building on Maple Street, along with the training room and the Board rooms. Mr. Wilkinson showed the Board last month that it would take about \$1.4 million to renovate these facilities for classroom use. Additionally, having a centralized administrative facility, rather than more satellite facilities, will consolidate staff to provide efficiencies in operations and foster better collaboration, as well as more timely decision making. Administrators are currently spread across the district at four facilities and numerous campuses. In addition to the Administration Building and Acker, administrators are now located in the Administrative annex and the Sam Carter Service Center and utilizing space at transportation west. The Service Centers and the Transportation facilities are intended to house all of the support areas - transportation, maintenance, custodial, child nutrition, construction services, security, textbooks, energy management - and those spaces will be needed for those purposes as the district grows to build out. Also, the new complex will provide a larger board room to accommodate citizens and student recognition (without overflow and video projection) and staff development space.

Bond funds will be utilized for this facility. FISD also has a land tract it will not be using that it hopes to sell; at a point in time when it does sell it can be used to pay down this debt, although it is not being counted on for this purpose at this time. *See rendering.*

Issuance of Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds

The board authorized issuing approximately \$26,855,000 in refunding bonds to refund portions of the district's outstanding Series 2000A, 2001, and 2002 bond issues. This should save about \$1.5 million in interest.

Frisco ISD Unlimited Tax Qualified School Construction Bonds, Series 2010 (Tax Credit Bonds)

The Board approved the order authorizing the issuance of these bonds in the amount of \$20,195,000. The bonds are expected to be issued over a 16-year period at an interest rate of 0.00 percent. These will be issued within 60 days and will fund the new administration building/board complex.

Personnel Recommendations:

The Board approved the personnel recommendations, which included naming Jerry Littlejohn, currently the associate principal at Wakeland High School, as the assistant athletic director for FISD. Littlejohn is replacing Ronny Mullins, who is now the athletic director in Prosper. Littlejohn has 21 years of experience as an educator, 18 of those years in FISD. He joined FISD as a math teacher and coach in 1992; he has coached football, baseball and golf and has been an assistant principal since 2005. His FISD experience has included Frisco High, Centennial High and Wakeland. Littlejohn has a bachelor's degree from Centenary College in Louisiana and a master's degree from the University of North Texas.

Clarence Williams was named as Associate Principal at Wakeland High and the following educators were named as assistant principals: Steven Bazan, Pink Elementary; Eric Green, Heritage High; Grace McDowell, Fowler Middle School.

Staff Reports

Dr. Debra Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, shared with the Board the 2010 Spring TAKS results. See attached PowerPoint.

Richard Wilkinson shared that as his department has been discussing ways to minimize costs, the white fleet has been a consideration. A board member had also mentioned that the district may want to consider utilizing smaller, more economical, vehicles where we could. Although there is a need for a limited number of trucks that have the capability to haul materials, utilize a lift, and/or be able to secure a number of tools (toolboxes), in many cases a smaller truck (Ford Ranger) could be used and would save approximately \$3,000 a vehicle. The gas mileage is approximately 5-6 miles per gallon better compared to an F-150 as well. He estimates that as the district replaces the larger pickups as needed, a savings of \$30,000-\$40,000 annually in fuel costs could be realized.

*Melissa Fouche, Executive Director of Technology and Information Services, reported on the **TOP distribution.***

She stated that the district distributed approximately two hundred computer systems as part of our Technology Outreach Program. Pink Elementary was a campus that was receiving new computers this summer and those that could not be utilized elsewhere were available for this program. She stated that the families were very appreciative.

Next Meeting: July 26