

Thursday, January 18, 2024

The Hemphill Independent School District Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for a regular Board Meeting in the HISD Administration Office with the following members present: Kim Scales, Carl Beall Jr, Andrea Procella-Heslip, Tammie Cox, Marty Griffin, Gary R. Parks, Dale Wilkerson.

Members absent: None.

Also present were Stephen English, Kelli Barnett, Amanda McClelland, Stephanie Harkness, Larry Upshaw, Jeremy McDaniel, Scott Dyer, Trinity Hughes, Denise Eddings, Chad Ford, Summer Ford, Andrew Upshaw, Amber McGee, Tommy McGee, Meredith Diggles II, Kyle Kelley, Susan Murrell.

Kim Scales, Board President, called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 7:00 p.m.

Carl Beall Jr gave the invocation.

Kim Scales led the Pledge To The Flag.

Dale Wilkerson recited the Hemphill ISD Mission Statement.

Auditor's Report - Alexander, Lankford, & Hiers LLP - Susan Murrell reported to the Board on the school audit and HISD receiving an Unmodified Opinion, which is the highest designation that can be received.

Superintendent Report Item

Facilities and Construction Update

Kyle Kelley with McInnis Construction spoke to the Board about the options for consideration for improvements to be made to the existing science building and on items that need to be addressed with the new middle school project.

Visitors and Comments

Amber McGee spoke on concerns as a parent and an employee about lack of communication and more transparency.

Summer Ford spoke on concerns on lack of participation in the PTO, lack of communication and miscommunication, and would like to be a part of a solution.

Andrew Upshaw spoke on the positive feedback of the new chefs and cafeteria food and the lack of participation in the lower grades in youth sports and would like for everyone to work together to improve participation.

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Final TAPR State Accountability Report

Mr. English and the Principals discussed the Final TAPR State Accountability Report

Consent Agenda

Motion by Marty Griffin, seconded by Dale Wilkerson, passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting December 18, 2023

Bills, Financial Reports, and Investment Reports for the month of December 2023

Stephen English, Superintendent, presented the Superintendent's Report

Enrollment

School	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024
High School	272	244	219
Middle School	276	248	232
Elementary School	358	331	329
Total	906	823	780

Class Counts

EE - 0, PK - 38, K - 60, 1 - 56, 2 - 60, 3 - 61, 4 - 54, 5 - 54, 6 - 55, 7 - 60, 8 - 63, 9 - 67, 10 - 53, 11 - 50, 12 - 49, Total - 780

January Board Recognition Month - "Locally Elected, Community Connected"

Student Overnight Trip Requests, if necessary

Softball Team to Rusk/Jacksonville Tournament February 22 - 24, 2024

FFA Robotics Team to Fort Worth Livestock Show January 25 - 26, 2024

FFA to San Angelo Ag Mechanics Show February 1 - 3, 2024

Personnel Update

Resign: Vernell Holman - Cafeteria Worker

Campus Academic Reports / Principal Reports

Each Principal reported on their campus.

Stephen English, Superintendent, presented the Superintendent's Recommendations

Discussion/Action to approve the calling of the annual School Board Trustee Election on May 4, 2024.

Position # 6 held by Kim Scales and Position # 7 held by Andrea Procella-Heslip are up for election

The Board approved the calling of the annual School Board Trustee Election on May 4, 2024 on a motion by Gary R. Parks, seconded by Tammie Cox, passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action for accepting resignations, employing personnel, reassignment of personnel, or termination/non-renewal of personnel, if necessary.

The Board approved Kaye Guthrie, Part Time Diagnostician for the Sabine County Special Ed Coop on a motion by Carl Beall Jr, seconded by Andrea Procella-Heslip, passed unanimously.

Kim Scales, Board President, stated the Board would convene into Closed Session for Gov. Code 551.071 and 551.074.

Adjourn for Executive Session allowed by Gov. Code 551.071 (Private Consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law) and Gov. Code 551.074 (Board deliberation concerning appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, or dismissal of public offices or employees).

a. Discussion of employee hires, resignations, reassignments, and discipline, including campus administration, Superintendent and professional educators and auxiliary personnel

b. Discussion of Board Relations Between the Members of the Board of Trustees and the relationship of the Board of Trustees with the Superintendent of Schools

The Board convened into Closed Session at 8:51 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:03 a.m.

Open Session (Action Resulting From Closed Session, if any)

Discussion/Action on Items Discussed in Closed Session, if any.

No action was taken.

Consideration and approval of Superintendent Evaluation and Contract Extension

The Board approved the Superintendent Evaluation and Contract Extension on a motion by Marty Griffin, seconded by Tammie Cox, passed 6 to 1 with Carl Beall Jr against.

Approval of Budget Amendment # 4 for the 2023 - 2024 School Year

There was not a Budget Amendment # 4.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:08 a.m. on a motion by Gary R. Parks, seconded by Marty Griffin, passed unanimously.

Kim Scales, President
Hemphill Board of Education

Andrea Procella-Heslip, Secretary
Hemphill Board of Education