

## **Summary of October 24, 2011 School Board Meeting**

The school board met Monday evening to address the following agenda items.

### **Special Recognitions**

Morningside teachers Shawna Goodwin and Carlee Miller were in attendance with two of their students to present information on the progress of our students in the refugee program. Stan Stroebel and T.J. Funderburg were also there to brag on these students. Board members listened as a first grade little girl demonstrated her reading skills and a fourth grade young man answered questions from the board about his experiences in the school system.

Other items of special recognition in the school district were noted by the board.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Patty Willis, seconded by Joe Ballard and approved by a 6-0 board vote to accept the consent agenda as presented and to amend the budget as necessary in order to spend the funds as requested. (Brent Clark was out of town and unable to attend the meeting.)

A. Minutes of the October 10, 2011 Regular Meeting

B. Gifts

- Panhandle Children's Foundation gave \$1,699.99 for the purchase of a powered wheelchair.
- DEF gave a teacher's grant in the amount of \$2,676 for the purchase of a reading kit.
- DEF gave a teacher's grant in the amount of \$1,650 for the purchase of two projectors.
- Monsanto Fund gave a grant of \$20,000 for the purchase of a driving simulator to be housed at High School.

#### **EIA (L) – Academic Achievement, Grading/Progress Reports – Second Reading**

Due to impact on board policy from implementation of the STAAR program, significant policy implications arise in the areas of course credit, grading and class rank. Information on these implications was presented to the board with discussion following.

A motion was made by Kirk Pope, seconded by Joe Ballard and carried with a 6-0 board vote to approve EIA (L) – Academic Achievement, Grading/Progress Reports as presented.

#### **Budget Amendments**

A motion was made by Johnny Schmucker, seconded by Patty Willis and carried with a 6-0 board vote to approve budget amendments as presented.

#### **Personnel**

The following personnel items were presented to the board for approval.

A. Appointments:           None

B. Resignations:           None

C. Retirements:           None

No action was necessary by the board.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Trustee Terms and Election Dates**

SB100 changed the deadline for calling elections and has presented the district with a decision to be made regarding school board elections. The board recently explored options, such as keeping the election schedule the same and purchasing the district's own voting machines, moving elections to May in odd numbered years and extending terms to four years, or moving our elections to November in even numbered years and extending terms to four years.

The district is required to hold its elections jointly with the City or a local college, and in light of information received from the City of Dumas, the board looked into keeping our elections as they have been in the past and purchasing two refurbished voting machines which could be supplemented with borrowed machines from the County. Additional information will be presented to the board at a later meeting.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Incentive Leave Program Report**

Discussion was held regarding the Incentive Leave Program, which was implemented three years ago as a staff incentive for exemplary attendance. Questions were raised about the effectiveness of the program since it has not produced the desired result of decreasing absenteeism. Another problem now exists due to the recent changes to how paid leave is recorded for non exempt employees. Because vacation time was rolled into PTO, it will make it impossible to determine if an employee has perfect attendance under the program guidelines. The administration will bring a recommendation at a later meeting to discontinue the program and settle accounts with qualifying staff members in the next pay period.

### **Enrollment Report**

Current enrollment was 4,663 as opposed to 4,645 last week and 4,527 this time last year.

### **Financial Report for September 2011**

A summary of the full financial report covering the period from July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011 for all funds was presented.

### **Check Register for September 2011**

The check register for September 2011 was presented.

### **Construction Update**

A construction update on current projects throughout the district was presented to the board.

The next meeting of the DISD School Board is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building.