



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the August 26, 2019 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**

### **A Public Hearing was held prior to the regular meeting:**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:02 PM. An announcement was made by President Bennett that a quorum was present and that notice of the meeting was posted for the time and manner required by law. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to provide an opportunity for community input regarding the following:

- 1) 2019-2020 Proposed Budget & Tax Rate
- 2) 2019-2020 Texas Afterschool Centers on Education (TACE): Pay for Contract Employees

#### **Proposed Budget:**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented proposed budget and tax rate information for 2019-2020. Total Proposed Budget: Fund 199 (\$35,018,334), Fund 599 (\$3,853,246), Fund 240 (\$2,015,700)

#### **Proposed Tax Rate:**

Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate: (\$1.0683 - M&O Tax Rate compressed as required by HB3)

Interest and Sinking Tax Rate: (\$0.35 - Reduction of \$0.01)

Total Tax Rate (\$1.4183 - approximate \$.11 total tax rate reduction)

President Bennett offered an opportunity for questions or public comment regarding the 2019-2020 proposed budget and tax rate. There were no questions or comments.

#### **TACE Pay for Contract Employees:**

Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the following proposed TACE program pay information for 2019-2020 contract employees.

- Texas Government Code Section 180.007 prohibits a school district from paying an employee more than the person is owed under a contract without a public hearing where specific information is provided.
- The reason that the payment in excess of the contractual amount is being offered to the employee, including the public purpose that will be served by making the excess payment. For PISD, the reason for the excess payment is to provide quality instruction for students participating in the after-school program through the services provided by teachers.
- The exact amount of the excess payment, the sources of the payment, and the terms for the distribution of the payment that effect and maintain the public purpose. The payment of \$25 per hour would be paid to professional staff who provide services through the TACE program. The payment source is federal funding, through Texas Education Agency, from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Community Learning Centers Grants, with the terms of distribution of the payment being monthly according to submission of documentation of hours worked.

President Bennett offered an opportunity for questions or public comment regarding the TACE program pay for contract employees. There were no questions or comments from the public regarding TACE program pay.

There being no further discussion of the proposed budget, tax rate, or TACE program pay for contract employees, the public hearing was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM.

Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags were recited.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comment requests.

### **Spotlight**

PISD Employee Daycare Center staff was recognized by the PISD Board of Trustees for working hard to get the new daycare set up in time for the start of school, and for the great work they do with the children of PISD staff. Mary Brooks, PISD Daycare Director, introduced daycare staff and thanked the Board for providing the new daycare facility.

### **PISD Property Values/Funding Lag Revenue**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer; informed the Board that he was required by a Texas Education Agency regulation to state that school funding was based on prior year property values. Mr. Atkeisson explained that although he was required to announce the previous statement, funding was now based on current year property values.

### **2019-2020 Tax Rate**

Ordinance approved to adopt the tax rate for 2019-2020 school year:

Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate: (\$1.0683 - M&O Tax Rate compressed as required by HB3)

Interest and Sinking Tax Rate: (\$0.35 - Reduction of \$0.01)

Total Tax Rate (\$1.4183 - approximate \$.11 total tax rate reduction)

### **2019-2020 Budget**

Budget adopted for 2019-2020 school year:

Fund 199 (\$35,018,334), Fund 599 (\$3,853,246), Fund 240 (\$2,015,700)

### **New Welding Shop Progress**

Superintendent Jason Marshall and David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer; presented an update to the Board regarding progress on construction of a new welding shop. Superintendent Marshall reminded that construction of a new welding shop was previously approved at the July regular school board meeting. Mr. Marshall informed that the plan had originally been to build the welding shop across the street from the PHS campus. However, to reduce the number of students crossing the street, the new plan was to construct the welding shop on the existing band practice field that is located on the PHS campus. The PHS location will provide space for a larger building, and the additional space will be used for a new dressing room for the Drill Team. The welding shop being located on the PHS campus will make the shop accessible to Junior High and High School students without them having to cross the street. A new and larger band practice field will be constructed across the street from PHS on Ben Milam Street. Relocating the band practice field will allow the practice field to be larger (regulation football field size) and will reduce the number of students crossing the street by approximately 200 students.

## **Extracurricular Facility Improvements**

Superintendent Marshall shared information regarding district extracurricular facility improvements scheduled to be completed in 3 phases. Phase 1 improvements include a new storage facility for Track, a new ramp to be located closer to the visiting concession stand, and a multi-purpose covered area for use by all extracurricular activities to protect students during bad weather. Phase 2 improvements include weight room improvements, and Phase 3 would be new bleachers at the baseball field. The completion timeline for all 3 phases is January of 2021. The Board approved to authorize Superintendent Jason Marshall to begin Phase 1 extracurricular facility improvements.

## **Consent Items Approved**

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 22, 2019
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of August 8, 2019
- Bills paid for July, 2019
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

### Palestine ISD

\$500 from Prosperity Bank to provide breakfast for New Teacher Orientation.

### Palestine High School

\$200 from East Texas Home Inspection for Carnegie Hall New York City Trip

\$100 from Dr. Christopher Johnson for Carnegie Hall New York City Trip

### PISD Special Education

\$833.33 from Big T's Buddies/Autism Support Network for Life Skills class

### PISD Employee Back to School Picnic

Austin Bank 6 New Account Gifts valued at \$35 each

Bishop's Steak House & BBQ: \$15 Gift Card

Braly's Hardware: Drink container valued at \$20

Cotton Patch: 3 Dinner for 2 gift certificates valued at \$20 each

Curious Museum: Solar System Kit/Coffee Mug and Build Your Own Toys (set of 4) valued at \$100

Donut Palace: 2 Dz Donuts valued at \$12

El Toro: 5 \$20 gift certificates

GBH Farms: Farm Fresh Homemade Goals Milk Candle, Soap, & Scrub valued at \$40

Island Tans Gift & Boutique: \$25 gift certificate, Free Month Platinum Tanning valued at \$89.99, and candle valued at \$10

John's Shaved Ice: 2 snow cone parties

Kiwanis Club of Palestine: 2 Walmart cards valued at \$25 each

McDonald's: 5 coupons for lunch/dinner extra value meals, and 4 coupons for Premium Salad valued at \$10 each

Mario's Mexican Grill: 2 gift certificates valued at \$20 each

Whataburger: Gift Basket valued at \$35

U.S. Benefits Services Group: 2 \$25 Walmart gift cards, 2 \$25 VISA gift cards, 2 \$20 Domino's gift cards, 2 \$15 Whataburger gift cards, and 1 \$25 Subway gift card

Kona Ice: 3 snow cone parties

Old Town Vintage & More: 2 gift cards valued at \$50 each

Shep's Bar-B-Q: 2 gift cards valued at \$10 each

Rotary Club of Palestine: \$75 gift card to Braly's ACE Hardware

Kona Ice: 2 class parties

Farm Bureau: Pallet water and 2 Coolers valued at \$250

- Fuel Bids for 2019-2020 School Year: Sun Coast Resources (Gasoline & Diesel) Sumrall Distributing (Fluids)
- Resolution Regarding Budget Transfers between functions: (The Board authorized Administrative staff to transfer budget allocations between function provided there is no change in the amount of the total budget)
- Property and Casualty Insurance for 2019-2020 School Year: Property and Casualty Alliance of Texas (PCAT)
- Fund Balance Transfer for Construction/Capital Projects: \$300,000 for purchase, renovation, and supply of new daycare facility, and \$100,000 if needed for current year budget.
- 2019-2020 Region 7 Education Service Center Service Agreements
- 2019-2020 Honors Classes: Algebra 1 & 2 PAP, Pre-Calculus PAP, Geometry PAP, English 1 & 2 PAP, English 3 AP/Dual Credit, English 3 Dual Credit, English 4 AP/Dual Credit, English 4 Dual Credit, Creative Writing PAP, Technical Writing PAP/Dual Credit, Spanish 1, 2, & 3 PAP, Spanish 2 PAP/Dual Credit, Spanish 3 PAP/Dual Credit, Spanish 4 & 5 AP, Biology PAP, Biology AP/Dual Credit, Chemistry PAP, Chemistry AP, Physics PAP, Anatomy & Physiology PAP/Dual Credit, Environmental Science AP, Government Dual Credit, US History Dual Credit, European History AP, World Geography PAP, and World History PAP.
- 2019-2020 Gifted and Talented Plan/Timeline
- 2019-2020 Teacher Appraisal Calendar
 

Appraisal Activities	Dates
Teacher Orientation (Walk-throughs may begin immediately after orientation date)	August 7-14, 2019
Formal Observations Begin	August 29, 2019
End of Year Conferences Begin	March 2, 2020
Final Date for Summative Conferences	April 17, 2020
End of Appraisal Period	May 21, 2020
Copies of all Final Appraisal Report Due to HR	May 29, 2020

Formal T-TESS observations may not be conducted on the following days:

  - During the two weeks following the day of completion of T-TESS Orientation
  - During administration of Standardized Testing (including STAAR, EOC, etc.)
  - On the days before and after a school holiday:
    - August 30, 2019
    - September 3, 2019
    - October 2 and 7, 2019
    - November 7, 11, and 12, 2019
    - December 3 and 19, 2019
    - January 7, 17, and 21, 2020
    - February 13 and 17, 2020
    - March 12 and 23, 2020
    - April 9 and 14, 2020
- 2019-2020 Certified Appraisers for Evaluation of Teachers: Sheila Bradley, Dee Dietz, Barbara Dutton, Suzanne Eiben, Rhonda Herrington, Brian Howie, Chris Kiser, Larissa Loveless, Grace Mancilla, Joseph Mason, Melissa Molandes, Traci Pridgen, Breck Quarles, Sharon Reed, David Richardson, William Stewart, and Cody Tunstall.
- Anderson County Appraisal District 2020 Approved Budget
- Tyler ISD Deaf Services Agreement
- Archery: District Club/Sport

**School Safety Update**

Bruce Bradley, the district’s new Director of School Safety, presented a school safety update. Officer Bradley shared that the start of school had gone well and there had been no major safety issues. Implementation of a one way street at Northside had improved traffic at that campus. A.M. Story Intermediate flow of traffic had shown improvement from the previous school year, and there was more visibility of administrators at the campus.

**Personnel Approved**

- |                     |                               |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Atkeisson, Leah  | Student Service Provider      | Palestine High School   |
| 2) Dietz, Dee       | Special Education Director    | Palestine ISD           |
| 3) Parrish, Cheryl  | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science | A.M. Story Intermediate |
| 4) Tibbetts, Pamela | Math                          | Palestine High School   |

**TACE Pay for Contract Employees**

Pay for contract employees providing instruction in Texas Afterschool Centers on Education (TACE) Programs was approved.

**Policy Update 113**

The Board approved the adoption of Update 113 affecting local policies BBE, BDD, BJCD, CI, CO, COA, COB, CRB, EHBAF, and FNF as presented.

**PISD Police Department Resolution**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a plan for the district to form a police department. Mr. Atkeisson informed that funds were available through HB3 for schools to utilize for safety improvements, and that the first step in forming a police department would be to adopt a resolution. The resolution would delegate authority to the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into agreements for the creation of the PISD police department, and to develop practice and procedure for the implementation of the PISD police department. The Board voted to adopt a resolution to establish a PISD police department.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported on the following:

- Start of 2019-2020 school year
- Student Enrollment 3,412 (34 more students than first day of previous year)
- Extracurricular activities
- PISD Preliminary Schools FIRST Rating (District expects to receive Superior rating)
- Calendar of Events was given to board members

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.