

Minutes of the December 14, 2020 - Regular School Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Coppell Independent School District, #057-922, met in a regular session on December 14, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Vonita White Administration Building, 200 S. Denton Tap Road. The meeting was called to order by President Nichole Bentley.

Members present: Nichole Bentley, President; Leigh Walker, Vice President; Manish Sethi, Secretary; Anthony Hill; Tracy Fisher; and Neena Biswas

Trustees David Caviness (6:45 p.m.), Tracy Fisher (6:06 p.m.) and Neena Biswas attended the meeting virtually.

A quorum was present.

Notice of this meeting was posted on December 11, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Staff present: Brad Hunt, Superintendent; Carol Snowden, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Greg Axelson; Dr. Angie Applegate; Kristen Streeter; Deana Dynis; Angela Brown; Diana Sircar; Amanda Simpson; Marnie Wallen; Stephanie Flores; Misty Lynch; James Holloway and Adam Bennett

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- CISD Virtual Holiday Card Contest Winner
- Super Teachers Model Great Teaching
- Great Employees Matter (GEM) Recognition

AWARDS

- Coppell High School only school in U.S. with two 2020 National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Pacemaker finalists – The Sidekick and KCBY
- Coppell Cowboys place 5th in State Cross Country Championship and Senior Evan Caswell Takes 8th in State

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Leigh Walker gave the invocation and led the Pledge.

OPEN FORUM

The following individuals came forward or had a comment read in OPEN FORUM:

- Todd Kettler – Budget Proposals (in person)
- Jennifer Mendola – Budget – New Tech (comment read by staff)
- Victoria Rapp – Proposed Elimination of New Tech (in person)
- Jacob Chappell – Budget Considerations (comment read by staff)
- Audrey Kteily – Closing New Tech HS (comment read by staff)
- Krystyna Isaacs – Possible Closing of New Tech High (comment read by staff)
- Lilian Hess – Proposal to Eliminate New Tech (comment read by staff)

DISCUSSION AND REPORT ITEMS - SUPERINTENDENT

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Dr. Angie Applegate presented on Student Experience, Angela Brown, Executive Director of Communications and Community Engagement provided the Board with a COVID update and Dr. Greg Axelson, Chief Operations Officer, gave an update on Bond Projects.

CONSENT

Leigh Walker made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Approve minutes of the regular meeting held on November 16, 2020 and workshops held on November 30, 2020 and December 7, 2020
2. Approve Monthly Budget Amendments for December 2020
3. Approve Financial Report for November 2020
4. Approve Quarterly Investment report for Period Ending November 30, 2020
5. Approve the employment of personnel as recommended by the Superintendent

Anthony Hill seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

ACTION

Anthony Hill made a motion to approve the addition of the specific course as presented to allow for additional inclusive CTE opportunities for learners. Leigh Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Manish Sethi made a motion to approve adoption of the Resolution as presented pursuant to the District and Board's substantial public interest in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community in light of COVID-19. The motion was seconded by David Caviness and passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION AND REPORT ITEMS – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Nichole Bentley provided a recap of the Board workshop on Budget. A Legislative report and TASB Board update were provided by Tracy Fisher. Anthony Hill provided an update on the Strategic Design Committee as well as the Coppell Chamber Education Committee. President Bentley also shared an update regarding the Inclusion Committee meeting and Safety & Security meeting.

At 8:15 p.m., President Bentley declared the Board in Closed Session, as authorized under the Government Code of Texas, as allowed by Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters.

President Bentley declared the Board in Open Session at 11:00 p.m.

ACTION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

Leigh Walker made a motion to approve the Superintendent's contract as presented. Manish Sethi seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0.

Leigh Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Caviness seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

Nichole Bentley, Board President

Manish Sethi, Secretary
Approved on January 11, 2021