

## **Minutes of the August 22, 2022 - Regular School Board Meeting**

The Board of Trustees of the Coppell Independent School District, #057-922, met in a regular session on August 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room located at the Vonita White Administration Building, 200 S. Denton Tap Road, Coppell, Texas. The meeting was called to order by President David Caviness.

Members present in person: David Caviness, President; Anthony Hill, Vice President; Nichole Bentley, Secretary; Trustees Leigh Walker; Manish Sethi Dr. Neena Biswas; and Tracy Fisher

A quorum was present.

Staff present: Dr. Brad Hunt, Superintendent; Carol Snowden, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Dennis Womack; Kristen Eichel; Dr. Angie Brooks; Dr. Dennis Womack; Diana Sircar; Angela Brown; Amanda Simpson; Naveen Boppana; Jennifer Villines and Rachael Freeman

Notice of this meeting was posted on August 19, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

### **DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Back to School Highlights
- Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds Community Input
- Community Based Accountability System (CBAS) Update

### **AWARDS**

- District Teachers of the Year
- Trustee Manish Sethi completes Leadership TASB Program and Earns Master Trustee Designation. Mr. Sethi was presented with a certificate by Mr. Ty G. Jones, Master Trustee from Lancaster and TASB Alumni Association Executive Board Member.

Nichole Bentley gave the Invocation and led the Pledge.

### **OPEN FORUM**

The community was given the opportunity to address the Board of Trustees either in person or remotely during Open Forum. The following community members came forward to speak:

- Urmi Subramanian – Panorama
- Westley Atwood – Panorama/SEL
- Kellie Fishpaw - Panorama

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS:**

Dr. Angie Brooks (Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction) provided a Strategic Design – Visioning Committee and Future Bond presentation. Dr. Womack (Chief Operations Officer) rounded out the reports with a Bond Projects Update.

President Caviness called a 5-minute recess at 7:47 p.m. President Caviness call the Board back into Open Session at 7:51 p.m.

In consideration of guest in the audience, an action item was considered. A motion to approve the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees Charge to the 2023 Bond Steering Committee as presented was made by Manish Sethi and seconded by Anthony Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

### **CONSENT**

Tracy Fisher requested to remove the interlocal agreement with the City of Coppell for School Resource Officers and the updated agreement with the Dallas County Sheriff's Department for the placement of two sheriff's deputies at Coppell Middle School West, Canyon Ranch Elementary, Lee Elementary and Valley Ranch Elementary for the 2022-2023 school year from the consent agenda.

Trustee Tracy Fisher then motioned to approve the following consent agenda items with those two items removed:

1. Approve minutes of the regular board meeting and workshop held on August 1, 2022
2. Approve 2021-2022 final budget amendments
3. Approve Financial Report for July 31, 2022
4. Approve Purchasing Cooperative Fees paid by Coppell ISD
5. Approve the Dallas and Plano Regional Day School Program for the Deaf Shared Services Arrangement Agreement
6. Approve application to TEA for Foreign Exchange Student Waiver

Leigh Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Tracy Fisher then motioned to approve the interlocal agreement with the City of Coppell for School Resource Officers and the updated agreement with the Dallas County Sheriff's Department for the placement of two sheriff's deputies at Coppell Middle School West, Canyon Ranch Elementary, Lee Elementary and Valley Ranch Elementary for the 2022-2023 school year. Nichole Bentley seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0.

### **ACTION**

A motion to approve the 2022-2023 District Improvement Plan as presented was made by Anthony Hill and seconded by Tracy Fisher. The motion passed 7-0.

Tracy Fisher made a motion to approve the resolution adopting the Official Budgets at the fund and function level for the General, Food Service, and Debt Service Funds for fiscal year beginning September 1, 2022, and ending August 31, 2023, as presented

and in accordance with Texas Education Code 44.002-44.006. Anthony Hill seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Manish Sethi read the statement "The tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate" and "The tax rate will effectively be raised by 4.93% and will raise taxes for Maintenance and Operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$ -60.50." Trustee Sethi followed with a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.2173, which is effectively a 4.92% increase in the tax rate, and that the accompanying Resolution setting the tax rate be approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees. Nichole Bentley seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

Tracy Fisher motioned that the 2022-2023 school year, the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees delegate contractual authority to obligate the school district under Texas Education Code (TEC) §11.1511(c)(4) to the superintendent, solely for the purpose of obligating the district under TEC, §48.257 and TEC, Chapter 49, Subchapters A and D, and the rules adopted by the Commissioner of Education as authorized under TEC, 49.006. This includes approval of the Agreement for the Purchase of Attendance Credits. The motion was seconded by Nichole Bentley and passed 7-0.

A motion to approve the resolution to commit \$9,677,852 in Operating Fund fund balance for 2021-2022 was made by Nichole Bentley and seconded by Manish Sethi. The motion passed 7-0.

Manish Sethi made a motion to approve the allocation of the 2016 Bond Project Savings to annual allotments. The motion was seconded by Anthony Hill and passed 7-0.

Tracy Fisher made a motion to nominate Nichole Bentley to apply for a Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Advocacy Institute stipend. Leigh Walker seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-1. Trustee Neena Biswas voted in opposition.

Tracy Fisher made a motion to nominate Manish Sethi as an alternate to apply for a Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Advocacy Institute stipend. Leigh Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-1. Trustee Neena Biswas voted in opposition.

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEE REPORT ITEMS:**

President David Caviness reported on the District Safety & Security Design Committee's recent meeting. Tracy Fisher provided a TASB Legislative Committee update, and Anthony Hill discussed the Coppell Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and TASB Risk Management Fund Quarterly meeting.

At 8:54 p.m., President Caviness declared the Board in Closed Session as authorized under Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 - Attorney Consultation, Section 551.072 – Real Property and Section 551.074 - Personnel.

President Caviness declared the Board in Open Session at 9:55 p.m.

Nichole Bentley made a motion to authorize Dr. Brad Hunt, Coppell ISD Superintendent, or his designee, to submit a written complaint to the State Board of Educator Certification with a finding that good cause did not exist pursuant to section 21.210(c)(2) for Trent Pickrell and Martha Eitelman to abandon their employment contract with the district. The motion was seconded by Manish Sethi and passed 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Leigh Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tracy Fisher seconded the motion. President Caviness adjourned the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

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David Caviness, Board President

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Nichole Bentley, Secretary  
*Approved on September 26, 2022*