

Minutes of the October 16, 2018 - Special School Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Coppell Independent School District, #057-922, met in a special session on October 16, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. at the Vonita White Administration Building, 200 S. Denton Tap Road, Coppell, Texas. The meeting was called to order by President Tracy Fisher.

Members present: Tracy Fisher, President; David Caviness, Vice-President; Leigh Walker, Secretary; Manish Sethi, Anthony Hill; Thom Hulme and Nichole Bentley

A quorum was present.

Notice of this meeting was posted on October 12, 2018 at 11:35 a.m.

Staff present: Brad Hunt, Superintendent; Kay Ryon, Administrative Assistant; Sid Grant, Amanda Simpson; Janice Duffney; Kathy Creek; Kelly Penny and Diana Sircar

An update on the naming of the 11th elementary school in Coppell ISD was provided by Superintendent Brad Hunt. The District sought input from the community and used an online questionnaire. The results were reviewed by the Board subcommittee (Leigh Walker, David Caviness and Anthony Hill) with the following proposals for consideration: Santa Fe Trail Elementary, a name including "Ranch" (will not use "Ranchview" since there is a public high school with that name in the area), and Ledbetter (after the original owners of the land on which the elementary school is to be built). Another popular suggestion was Vern Edin Elementary. However, Mr. Edin requested that his name be withdrawn from consideration. Names with generic Texas symbols and with no connection to the District or geographical area were eliminated for consideration by the Board subcommittee. The subcommittee plans to meet again prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting to be held October 22, 2018.

Amanda Simpson, Director of Communications, and Janice Duffney, Director of Data Systems and Program Analysis, provided an overview of the responses to the online Boundary Realignment questionnaire. There were 1,229 responses and 659 open ended responses to the questionnaire in which individuals were asked to rank the following statements from 1-7 in order of importance:

- It is important that my child attend school with other children from my neighborhood.
- It is important that my child be able to walk to school or ride a bike to school.
- I believe all children who attend a particular elementary school should then attend the same middle school.
- I believe our individual schools should be as diverse as possible in terms of socio-economics, race, and ethnicity.
- I am okay with my child changing elementary or middle schools if it helps better balance school district enrollment and overcrowding.
- I want/need student bus transportation for my child to and from school (now or in the future).
- It is important that this boundary realignment be comprehensive, so that there are only minor adjustments, if any, in the next 5 to 6 years.

Responses from the questionnaire indicated that the top priority was neighborhood, followed by *don't* move my child (adjusted based on the comments associated with that priority statement), long-term planning, elementary feeder patterns, ability to walk or bike to school, bus

transportation and diversity. The comments provided in the questionnaire also were put into categories, and these were shared with the Board.

Bob Templeton of Templeton Demographics presented a demographic report to the Board of Trustees. One basic plan for elementary school boundaries was shown. It was then demonstrated how that plan would transcend to three different middle school feeder patterns. Mr. Templeton will refine the models based on feedback from the Board members. Throughout the discussion, the boundary realignment timeline was reviewed.

There was no action taken at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Tracy Fisher, Board President

Leigh Walker, Secretary

Approved on October 22, 2018