

BRAZOS ISD REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES (Unofficial)
November 16, 2015

1. The Brazos ISD Board of Trustees held a regular board meeting on Monday, November 16, 2015 in the Brazos ISD Board Room. President Matt Demny called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and declared a quorum. Other members present included Mark A. Fernandez, Christopher R. Nanez, and Felix Martinez II. Brian Demny, Myles Marek, and Wayne Jetelina were absent.

1.1. Open prayer and pledge of allegiance: President Matt Demny gave the prayer and led the pledge of alliance.

1.2. Moment of silence: A moment of silence was held for the victims of the Paris attacks.

2. Acknowledge Brazos High School State Cross Country: The superintendent and the board presented certificates of achievements to Chandler Krueger, Katherine Ressler, Stephen Aguilar, and Cesar Flores.

3. Public comments: No one signed up to speak as allowed by policy BED public participation or for student related issues as per HB 1226.

9.2. Consideration and action to approve the 2014-2015 district audit as presented by Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP, CPA'S: Ben Cohen, CPA Audit Manager, with Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP, and CPA's presented the audit to the board. Christopher R. Nanez moved with a second by Felix Martinez II to approve the 2014-2015 district audit as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Hearing to discuss School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) (Public Participation is allowed at the time): Business manager, Marjor Mayo, presented the School FIRST Report to the board. There was no public participation.

5. Principal' reports: Each campus principal had a report enclosed in the board packet.

6. Approval of Minutes: Christopher R. Nanez moved with a second by Mark A. Fernandez to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2015, regular board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Business Office

Presenter: Marjor Mayo

7.1 – 7.5.: The board reviewed the bills, current bank reconciliation and balances, current tax collection report, utility cost comparison, and monthly budget summary report.

8. Presentation and discussion only

Presenter: Earl Jarrett

8.1. Changes to Campus Handbooks: Brazos High School principal, Mary McCarthy, presented to the board the changes to the campus handbooks to comply with the legal changes made during the 84th Legislative Session.

8.2. Adjusting the District Calendar in accordance with HB 2610: Superintendent Earl Jarrett discussed with the board HB 2610 which was passed by the 85th Legislature that changed the accounting for the amount of time children must attend school from days to minutes. The board was presented with two small adjustments to the Brazos ISD calendars as follows: (1) Prairie Harbor would like to dismiss the students at 1 PM every Thursday for Team Meetings. This meeting will allow Mrs. Glenda Hooper, administrator, and the teachers to meet and plan with each other as well as meet with clinical and support staff at Prairie Harbor. (2) Mrs. Mary McCarthy, Brazos High School principal, would like to have an early release day and dismiss school on June 2nd and make June 3rd a work day for teachers. Approval for these adjustments will be on the December agenda.

8.3. Resolution asking the Gregg Abbott, Governor of Texas, to name an educator to the position of Commissioner of Education: Christopher R. Nanez moved with a second by Felix Martinez II to approve the resolution to the Governor of Texas, Gregg Abbott, to name an educator to the position of Commissioner of Education. The motion carried unanimously. (Copy attached.)

9. Action Items

9.1. Consideration and action to approve the district and campus improvement plans: Felix Martinez II moved with a second by Christopher R. Nanez to approve the 2015-2016 District and Campus Improvement Plans as presented by the Brazos ISD administration. The motion carried unanimously.

9.3. Review “Policy Update 103, affecting local policies (see attached list): Christopher R. Nanez moved with a second by Mark A. Fernandez to add, delete or revise (LOCAL) policies as advised by TASB Policy Services and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Update 103 with the following changes: to adopt DH (LOCAL) X instead of DH (LOCAL) A. The motion carried unanimously.

9.4. Consideration and action to elect Fort Bend County Appraisal District Board of Directors: No action was taken.

9.5. Consideration and action to schedule a workshop to review the TASB Salary Study: Christopher R. Nanez moved with a second by Felix Martinez II to set Wednesday, December 9, 2015, as a board workshop beginning at 6:00 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

10., 11. Closed Meeting: The board did not go into closed session.

12. Discussion of Future Agenda Items: If anyone needs to put an item on the agenda please call President, Matt Demny, or Superintendent, Earl Jarrett.

13. Adjourn: After having completed all agenda items, President Matt Demny adjourned the meeting at 8:31 PM, November 16, 2015.

Brazos Independent School District

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the current Texas Commissioner of Education, Michael Williams, has recently resigned his position effective January 1, 2016;

WHEREAS, Texas Governor Greg Abbott has yet to name a successor to Commissioner Williams;

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education and the Texas Education Agency, which the Commissioner oversees, regularly make decisions, rulings and policies that directly and in-directly affect the 4.3 million school children of Texas, as well as over 1,200 Texas school districts, 8,300 + campuses, and 324,000 public school teachers throughout the Great State of Texas;

WHEREAS, the needs of Texas' schools and its children are of paramount concern to both the people of Texas and the long-term economic and cultural aspects of both the future of our State and our Nation;

WHEREAS, the People of the United States of America have proven their exceptionalism time and time again to the world and the People of Texas have continually proven their exceptionalism both to the world and to all of the other States in the Union who continue to look to Texas for bravery, integrity and leadership;

WHEREAS, the Great State of Texas will only continue to maintain its greatness, exceptionalism, cultural uniqueness, and economic edge with a high quality workforce and educated citizenry through a continued statewide commitment to quality public education for all;

WHEREAS, the new Commissioner of Education will be asked to lead in that endeavor, as well as address a wide array of other challenging educational and societal issues affecting our schools;

WHEREAS, a Texas professional educator with a life-long devotion to putting children first and being a successful proven educational leader, who also has a proven record of: high expectations for all students; commitment to local school control; a first-hand knowledge of effective Texas school practices, laws, policies and procedures; and a record of "doing the right thing" by students, parents, teachers, and schools is what is needed in the skill set ("tool bag") of an effective new commissioner;

WHEREAS, local government is more efficient, effective, and responsive to its citizens than government or regulators from Austin or Washington, yet Austin and Washington governmental authorities continue to erode the traditional local control of Texas public school districts to the detriment of Texas students, teachers, administrators, parents, taxpayers, board members and local school districts statewide;

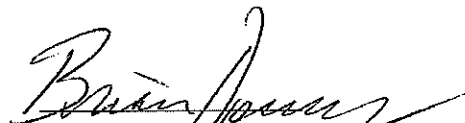
WHEREAS, "unfunded mandates", excessive paperwork, and regulations from Austin and Washington are costing Texas public school districts millions of dollars annually, which results in higher taxes at the local level;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Brazos Independent School District respectfully asks, and recommends, that Texas Governor Greg Abbott appoint as the next Texas Commissioner of Education an individual who meets the following criteria:

- The new Commissioner must be a current or former educator with a track record of putting the needs of students first;
- The next Commissioner must be a Texan who understands how Texas schools operate and has successful experience utilizing best educational practices at both the campus and district-levels;
- The new Commissioner must understand the exceptionalism of our state and our Texas schools, as well as have a detailed understanding of the varying backgrounds, diversity, challenges, uniqueness, and needs of Texas students;
- The new Commissioner must be highly committed to restoring "Local Control" to our schools, administrators and school boards;
- The new Commissioner must be committed to eliminating unfunded mandates, excessive paperwork & regulations from Texas school districts.

Approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Brazos Independent School District on Monday, November 16, 2015.


Board President


Board Secretary

Board members: Myles Marek, Felix Martinez II, Christopher R. Nanez, Wayne Jetelina, and Mark A. Fernandez