

# **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

## **COMFORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008 – 6:00 P.M. COMFORT ISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 327 HIGH STREET - COMFORT, TEXAS**

*The meeting will be held in compliance with Gov. Code, §551. The meeting is also being conducted in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act [42 U.S.C. 12101 (1991)]. The facility where the meeting is to be held is wheelchair-accessible, and handicapped parking is available. Handicapped services are available upon request if received at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To make arrangements for handicapped services, please call (830) 995-6400.*

*The subjects to be discussed are listed on the Agenda. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item listed on the Agenda should be held in closed meeting, the Board would convene in such closed meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code, § 551.071 - 551.084 to consult with the Board's attorney, discuss purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, discuss negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations, discuss personnel or to hear complaints against personnel, consider the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of security, personnel or devices, and/or consider discipline of a public school child or complaint or charge against personnel. No action will be taken during a Closed Session. At any time, the Board may go into closed meeting to receive legal counsel or advice, which the school district's legal counsel determines should be confidential in accordance with counsel's duty to the district pursuant to the code of professional responsibility of the State Bar of Texas.*

### **I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

*Barb Lindner, Board President called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

*Trustees present: Marshall Jennings, Ray Avery, Eric Lantz, Barb Lindner, Benji Alldredge, Jane Neuenschwander and Agustin Avalos.*

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **A. Public Comments**

*At this time, the Board will listen to comments from the public or staff members. In order to comment, please complete a public comment card and present it to the Board president prior to the beginning of the meeting. (All public comments will be limited to three minutes per issue or agenda item.)*

#### *1. Agenda items*

- CAYC - Shannan Bohnert*
- Conflict of Interest in the Vote for After School Program – Bill Nelson*
- Boys and Girls Club - Dave Thomas*

#### *2. Non-agenda items*

### **III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### **A. Employee Recognition**

|                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Teacher of the Months:</i>     |                         |
| <i>High School:</i>               | <i>Amber Muehlstein</i> |
| <i>Middle School:</i>             | <i>Celia McClintock</i> |
| <i>Elementary School:</i>         | <i>Debbie Bosworth</i>  |
| <i>Professional of the month:</i> | <i>Jerry Mannering</i>  |
| <i>Employee of the month:</i>     | <i>Keith Vadnais</i>    |

### **IV. WRITTEN REPORTS INCLUDED IN BOARD PACKET**

#### **A. Superintendent's Report**

- 1) Academics, Athletics, Facilities, Events*
- 2) October & November District Calendar*

#### **B. Principal's Report**

- 1) Elementary School Report*
- 2) Middle School Report*
- 3) High School Report*

#### **C. Food Service Report**

### **V. CONSENT AGENDA**

*All items in the consent agenda should be approved as presented unless an item is removed. All items are as recommended by the Superintendent.*

- 1. Minutes of the September 08, 2008 Regular**
- 2. Local Maintenance and Operations, Interest and Sinking, Workers' Compensation, Student Activity, and Tax Collection Reports,**
- 3. Monthly Investment Report**
- 4. Building Project Financial Update**

*Mr. Lantz made a motion that the Board pull item 4 of the consent agenda and except items 1, 2, & 3 of the consent agenda as presented. Dr. Alldredge seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

### **VI. NON-ACTION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION**

#### **A. Delinquent Tax Report**

*Mr. John Banks, tax attorney with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, will review the status of accounts paid, accounts currently subject to payment agreements, non-litigation accounts, tax sale properties, and corresponding charts for the district's delinquent tax accounts.*

- B. Exit Level TAKS Results (3<sup>rd</sup> Administration):**  
*The chart demonstrates the Exit Level TAKS result for the 2008 school year. The third administration is included.*
- C. Highly Qualified Report:**  
*No Child Left Behind requires specific district teachers to be highly qualified according to federal standards. The report will be reported to the Board of Trustees.*
- D. Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Public Hearing:**  
The purpose of the financial accountability rating system is to ensure that school districts will be held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices, and to achieve improved performance in the management of their financial resources. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources in order to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes. The system will also disclose the quality of local management and decision-making processes that impact the allocation of financial resources in Texas public schools.

## **VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION**

*(According to Government Code §551.071-§551-082, the Board of Trustees may convene in a closed session §551.071, Private consultation with the Board's attorney; §551.072, Discussing purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property; §551.073, Discussing negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations; §551.074, Discussing personnel or to hear complaints against personnel; §551.076, Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of security, personnel or devices; and §551.082, Considering discipline of a public school child or complaint or charge against personnel.) No action will be taken during a Closed Session.*

### **A. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

*Item 4, Building Project Financial Update, was pulled from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Lantz wanted to discuss several of the remaining balances. Mrs. Hall explained the reason for the balances. Mr. Lantz made the motion to approve item 4 of the consent agenda. Dr. Alldredge seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

### **B. Consider/Approve Contract With Kendall Appraisal District for Assessment and Collection Services**

**Background:** *Comfort ISD and Kendall Appraisal District agree to consolidate the assessment and collection of property taxes in one agency, to utilize the existing system and to promote governmental efficiency. The contract shall be effective from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 and shall be automatically renewed on a year to year basis and remain in effect until*

terminated by written notice to the Appraisal District, such notice to be given no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of any given year.

**Recommendation:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the contract as presented.*

*Dr. Alldredge made the motion that the Board accept the Contract with Kendall Appraisal District for Assessment and Collection Services as presented. Mr. Avalos seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

**C. Consider/Approve the Use of Optical Scan Ballots for the November 2008 Trustee Elections**

**Background:** *The Kendall County Elections Administrator, Rosario Reyes, will use electronic scan ballots for the November 4, 2008 general election process. She states, using electronic scan ballots is more expeditious and cost effective. Comfort ISD will need the Board's approval before she can use them for the Trustee Election on November 4, 2008.*

**Recommendation:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the use of optical scan ballots for the November 4, 2008 Trustee Elections.*

*Mrs. Neuenschwander made the motion that the Board approve the use of optical scan ballots for the November 4, 2008 Trustee Elections. Mr. Jennings seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

**D. Consider / Approve 21 PC units for the Middle School Technology Lab in the New Facilities**

**Background:** *The new middle school addition will have a new technology lab. The district is requesting the purchase of 21 PC units, wiring and computer stations for the room. The district would prefer to use construction money to pay for the equipment.*

**Recommendation:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the purchase of technology equipment at the middle school to use 2006 bond monies.*

*Mr. Avery made the motion that the Board approve purchasing technology equipment at the middle school to use the 2006 bond monies but not to exceed \$31,000.00. Mrs. Neuenschwander seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

**E. Consider / Approve the Texas Security Safety Audit  
*This Item was Moved to the End of the Meeting***

**F. Consideration and Possible Action to Accept or Reject Proposal(s) Submitted in Response to Comfort ISD's Request for Proposals for After School Program for Children Age 5-10 on Elementary School Campus**

**Background:** *The district requested Walsh / Anderson to develop a Request For Proposal (RFP) for an after school program at the Comfort elementary. An ad was placed in the newspaper for two consecutive weeks notifying interested organizations to apply.*

**Recommendations:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board review the bid(s) and approve an organization to operate an after school program for Comfort elementary students.*

*Mr. Lantz made the motion that the Board of Trustees accept the Proposal submitted by The Boys and Girls Club and directed the Superintendent to negotiate the final contract with The Boys and Girls Club for final approval by the Board of Trustees at the November 17, 2008 Regular Meeting. Mr. Avalos seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-2-1. Dr. Alldredge and Mr. Jennings opposed the motion. Mrs. Lindner abstained from the vote.*

**G. Consider / Approve a resolution to provide wireless access and six PC units to the CAT's Den for an after school program**

**Background:** *The district provides (6) PC units and wireless internet access to the CAT's Den. The technology equipment is not currently in use.*

**Recommendation:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the resolution to allow the CAT's Den to use district owned wireless equipment to obtain internet access from the middle school and donate the six PC units to the after school program.*

*Mr. Lantz made the motion that the Board approve the resolution to donate the six PC units to the CAT's Den after school program and to allow the CAT's Den to use the district owned wireless equipment to obtain internet access from the middle school, to be reviewed annually in July. Mr. Jennings seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.*

**H. Tax Levy Roll**

**Background:** *The Kendall Appraisal District has applied our new tax rates to the current properties and has prepared tax statements. The tax levy amount for 2008-2009 is \$7,012,701.08. (2007-2008 tax levy amount was \$6,396,816.19)*

**Recommendation:** *It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the tax levy for the 2008-2009 tax year as prepared by the Kendall Appraisal District.*

Mr. Avery made the motion that the Board approve the tax levy for the 2008-2009 tax year as prepared by the Kendall Appraisal District. Mrs. Neuenschwander seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**I. Consider / Approve a resolution to provide electricity to the basketball courts at Altgelt Field**

**Background:** The CAYC placed two basketball courts on the Kendall County owned property (Altgelt field). CAYC is requesting through a resolution to use district electricity to provide lighting to the basketball courts. The cost of running the lights is unknown. The district did not budget for the service. CAYC is asking the district to pay the first \$10.00 of the electricity bill each month. CAYC will pay the remaining amount of money over the \$10.00 limit each month to the district.

**Recommendation:** It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board review the resolution to allow CAYC to obtain electrical connection for the basketball courts.

Dr. Alldredge made a motion that the Board give Mr. Chapman the authority to develop a resolution to allow CAYC to obtain an electrical connection for the basketball courts. Mrs. Neuenschwander seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**E. Consider / Approve the Texas Security Safety Audit**

**Background:** The 2005 legislation passed a bill requiring districts to complete an emergency operation plan and security and safety audit. The Board approved an emergency operation plan. However, there is still a need to review the security and safety audit. The Board may go into executive session to review the security audit.

**Recommendation:** It is the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board approve the security and safety audit as presented.

(According to Government Code §551.071-§551-082, the Board of Trustees may convene in a closed session §551.071, Private consultation with the Board's attorney; §551.072, Discussion purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property; §551.073, Discussing negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations; §551.074, Discussing personnel or to hear complaints against personnel; §551.076, Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of security, personnel or devices; and §551.082, Considering discipline of a public school child or complaint or charge against personnel.) No action will be taken during a Closed Session.

The trustees went into closed session at 8:09 P.M.

Trustees convened into open session at 8:30 P.M.

Dr. Alldredge made a motion that the Board approve the security and safety audit as presented. Mrs. Neuenschwander seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**VIII. ADJOURN**

*There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.*

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*Barb Lindner  
Board President*

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*Marshall Jennings  
Board Secretary*