

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Commerce ISD

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Commerce Independent School District was held on October 19, 2015 at 6 p.m. in the Commerce ISD Administration Building, 3315 Washington St., Commerce, Texas. President Ted Oats called the meeting to order, extended a warm welcome and announced that a quorum was present. The meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Board members present were President Oats, Mr. Michael Beane, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, Ms. Etta Herring, Ms. Kathleen Hooten and Mr. Randy Starks. Mr. Gabe Wittkopf was absent.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance...

The invocation was led by CHS student Jarod Hill and the pledges to the U.S. flag and the Texas flag were led by Trey Grubert, also a CHS student.

Citizen's Comments...

None

Recognition

Senior Ashley Basham was recognized for attending the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders in Boston during the summer.

Superintendent Blake Cooper recognized the CISD Principals and thanked them for their commitment to the students of Commerce ISD as stated in the Principals Month Proclamation by Gov. Greg Abbott. Principals Diane Stegall, CES; Deanna Hays, ACW; Patrick Just, CMS; and Steve Drummond, CHS; attended.

Commerce High School Report

Principal Steve Drummond presented a video produced by student Calvin Preas showing a day in the life of a CHS student. He said he was proud of the high school students and he stated that kids don't have to force a smile as they are walking through the halls of the school. He thanked his staff for staying diligent in their duties and for their support.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 21, 2015, the financial statement and investment summary for September 2015 and a budget amendment. Mr. Beane seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Appointing School Health Advisory Council Members

Mr. Cooper explained that Director of Health Services Jennifer Speulda had presented a list of SHAC members including staff members Alison Walker, Joe Venable, Chris Ritchie and herself and parents Shannon Shannon, Melanie Clayton, Patty Wilson, Vanessa Clark,

Amber Weaver and Arely Salcido. Mrs. Hooten made a motion to approve the SHAC as presented. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Contract for Energy Services

Representatives from Schneider Electric answered questions about their proposed energy services contract. They stated that LED lighting, inside and out, was proposed for the entire district, which would save utility dollars. Automated HVAC systems and low-flow plumbing were also proposed. The CES and CHS cooling towers would be rebuilt and the chiller had CMS would be replaced. Meters would be right-sized and combined where appropriate. Superintendent Blake Cooper said attorneys were continuing to work through details of the contract and a special meeting would be called for its consideration.

Discussion of Student Dress Code

Mr. Oats said parents were asking questions about their being required to purchase clothing under the standardized dress guidelines and then the students don't wear them because of special dress days.

Mr. Drummond explained that CHS had three special dress days per week, My College Monday, Club Day and Spirit Day. Other campuses had special dress days as well. Ms. Hays said she likes standardized dress because "it levels the playing field." Mr. Just said the standardized dress "gives us something we don't have to fight, such as jeans with holes everywhere." Ms. Hays said it should be consistent across the district.

Mr. Oats asked administration to get a committee together to discuss and have a proposal put together for the spring. Mr. Cooper said the code should be altered a bit and changes announced before the end of this school year so parents would be informed before school dismissed.

Informational Reports

Mr. Cooper noted that enrollment was down three students to 1603.

He reminded Board members about the TASB Legal Seminar on November 18. He stated that the Winter Arts Festival would be held on December 10. Principals gave the Board an update on campus events.

He said that a meeting would be held by Texas A&M University-Commerce to explain the proposed charter school. He said area superintendents and himself would attend to express their point of view.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Monday, November 16, 2015, with executive session at 6 p.m.

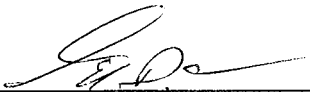
Board Comments

Dr. Hendricks thanked Mr. Drummond for CHS's participation in the Nate Newton event at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

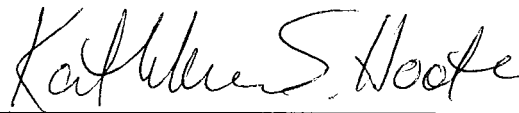
Mr. Oats suggested the Board hold a community meeting to discuss items of community interest. Mr. Cooper said that strategic planning would encompass such a meeting.

Adjournment...

Mrs. Hooten made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Beane seconded the motion. Mr. Oats stated that the meeting was adjourned.



Ted Oats, President
CISD Board of Trustees



Kathleen Hooten, Secretary
CISD Board of Trustees