

# 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 21, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at the Commerce ISD Administration Building, 3315 Washington St., Commerce, Texas. President Kathleen Hooten 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 Mrs. Hooten, Dr. Ray Green, Ms. Etta Herring, Dr. Mark Reid and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf. Dr. LaVelle Hendricks and Mr. Randy Starks were absent.

## **Executive Session...**

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:09 p.m. to discuss personnel (§551.074), safety and security (§551.076), and hold a private consultation with the Board's attorney, if necessary (§551.071).

## **Reconvene from Executive Session...**

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board ended its closed session 7:02 p.m. on October 21, 2019.

## **Opening Activities**

Dr. Reid led an invocation. The pledge to the American flag was led by Mr. Wittkopf and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Dr. Green.

## **Recognition**

Chartwells was recognized as a CISD business supporter. The company was entered into the TASB Business Recognition website. Representing Chartwells was CISD Director Anika Whetstone.

## **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session**

Dr. Reid made a motion to take no action on the resignation of Jack Brandon, CMS teacher. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The vote was four yea and one nay—Ms. Herring.

## **Citizens' Comments**

None

## **Consider Approval of the 2018-2019 CISD Financial Audit from Rutherford, Taylor and Company, PC, Greenville, Texas**

Auditor Cody Helm reported a "unmodified" opinion for the 2018-2019 financial audit—the best possible outcome. Dr. Green made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 financial audit from Rutherford, Taylor and Company, PC as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Wittkopf. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda**

Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 16, 2019, and the special meeting of October 15, 2019, and the financial statements and investment summary for September 2019. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Discuss Funding and Consider Funding Options for Cheerleader Trip and Ag Truck Additions**

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that the CHS cheerleaders wanted to participate in a national competition in the Dallas area. Their project expenses will be \$10,520. Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the cheerleader trip to compete in the national competition. Dr. Green seconded the motion. Mr. Wittkopf and Dr. Green abstained. Without a quorum, the measure was tabled.

Mr. Alderman explained that adding additional equipment to the new ag truck would keep equipment safer and more secure. Ms. Herring made a motion to approve the \$1838.95 charge for adding power windows, window tint, take off steps and a tailgate locking mechanism. Dr. Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consider Approval of District and Campus Improvement Plans**

Assistant Superintendent Patricia Tremmel shared highlights of the District Improvement Plan and asked Board members for questions. Dr. Green made a motion to approve DIP and CIPs as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consider Approval of Targeted Improvement Plans**

Dr. Tremmel presented specific strategies for student growth as required by the TEA. Sheila DeMidio, ACW curriculum coordinator; Hannah Farrell, District Curriculum Improvement Specialist; and Cari Sturch, CES curriculum coordinator explained their campus plans which will focus on data-driven decision for each student. Ms. Herring made a motion to approve the plans as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Update on School Improvement and Accountability Progress**

Dr. Tremmel, Hannah Farrell and Cari Sturch shared how students are being assessed more frequently and how they are using data to separate students into smaller groups for individualized instruction. Other administrators, including Mr. Alderman, work with small groups to increase mastery.

**Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Texas A&M University-Commerce Psychology Clinic**

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to table the MOU with TA&M-C Psychology Clinic until November when more information could be provided. Dr. Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consider Approval of Lease/Purchase Agreement with Cypress Bank for Two Buses**

Director of Finance John Walker explained that the district took delivery of two International buses with Cummins motors. Each bus is equipped with seat belts and shoulder harnesses. Mr. Walker received three proposals for financing and presented one from Cypress Bank as being the best option. Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to approve lease/purchase agreement with Cypress Bank as presented. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Informational Reports...**

Mr. Alderman reported enrollment of 1536 as of October 18, 2019, up 17 from the same time last year.

The TASB Legal Seminar will be held on Thursday, November 15 at TAMU-C and the Winter Arts Festival will be held December 11 at Commerce High School.

Principals gave their monthly reports.

The date for the November Board meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2019. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Executive session will be held at 6 p.m.

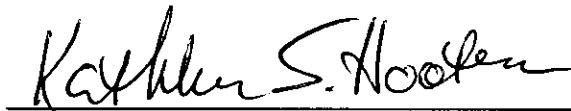
The check register was shared as well as the Campus Highlights newsletter.

**Board comments**

None

**Adjournment...**

Dr. Green made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Hooten stated that the meeting was adjourned.



Kathleen Hooten, President  
CISD Board of Trustees



Etta Herring, Secretary  
CISD Board of Trustees