

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting

### The Board of Trustees Commerce ISD

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A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Commerce Independent School District was held on November 16, 2020, at the Commerce ISD Administration Building. 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 for the meeting were Mrs. Hooten, Dr. Ray Green, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, Ms. Etta Herring, Mr. Randy Starks and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf.

#### **Consider Appointment of Board Member to Fill Unexpired Term of Place 4**

Dr. Green made a motion to name Kelsey Lytle to fill the unexpired term of Place 4, which was vacated by Mark Reid in June 2020. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. The motion carried. The place will be up for election in May 2021 to complete the remaining two years on the term.

#### **Oath of Office**

Kelsey Lytle was sworn into office by Mrs. Hooten.

#### **Executive Session...**

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:13 p.m. to discuss personnel (§551.074) 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 at 7:04 p.m. on November 16, 2020.

#### **Opening Activities**

Dr. Hendricks led an invocation. The pledge to the U.S. flag was led by Mrs. Lytle and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Mr. Starks.

#### **Citizens' Comments**

None

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

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to accept the resignations of Chris Vet, CHS teacher, and Taylor Flowers, CMS teacher. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Green made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 20, 2020 and the financial statements and investment summary for October 2020. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hendricks asked if the Board could take a five-minute recess, which was agreed upon.

### **Consider Approval of Out-of-District Travel for Students**

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that CHS student groups had investments in projects and performances and asked the Board to reconsider lifting the previous ban on out-of-district travel.

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to approve overnight stays for students at locations 100 miles away or more. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried with four voting aye and Ms. Herring opposing. Drs. Green and Hendricks abstained.

### **Consider Approval of the 2019-2020 CISD Financial Audit from Rutherford, Taylor and Company, PC, Greenville, Texas**

Mr. Mike Taylor, partner in the accounting firm of Rutherford, Taylor and Company, presented an unmodified opinion of the district's 2019-2020 financial audit, the best opinion available. Mr. Starks made a motion to approve the audit as presented. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Update on Accountability and School Improvement Measures**

Assistant Superintendent Patricia Tremmel said data would be presented at the December Board meeting.

### **Discuss and Consider Purchase of Band Uniforms**

Mr. Alderman told the Board that he had previously denied Band Director Kara Wallace's request for \$23,000 to supplement the \$23,000 in the band budget to buy uniforms citing decreased funds due to declining enrollment and the potential need to cut personnel costs. Mr. Starks made a motion to deny additional funds for band uniforms. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Consider Approval of One-Time Authorization for Paid Time Off Due to COVID-19 for Non-Contract Employees**

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the resolution declaring a one-time authorization for paid time off due to COVID-19 for non-contract employees. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Consider Approval of Attestation for Termination of Online Instruction**

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to table the attestation for termination of online instruction for students not in compliance with attendance requirements and allow the Superintendent an opportunity to provide information about the action to students. The matter would be addressed at the December board meeting. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Informational Reports**

Superintendent Charlie Alderman reported a total of 1466 students enrolled, down 60 students from last year.

The date, time and location for the December Board meeting was set at Thursday, December 17, 2020 with executive session to begin at 6 p.m. and the open session at 7 p.m. in the CISD Board Room.

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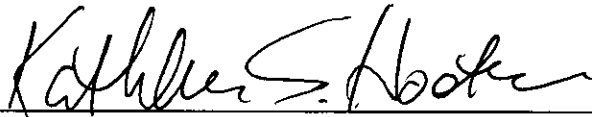
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**Comments from Board Members**

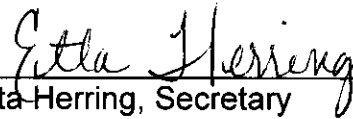
None

**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