

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 May 17, 2021, 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, Mrs. Kelsey Lytle, Mr. Doc Pierce, Mr. Randy Starks and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf. Dr. LaVelle Hendricks was absent

Administer Oath of Office

The oath of office was administered to Randy Starks, Place 6.

Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:08 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 7:09 p.m. on May 17, 2021.

Opening Activities

Mr. Starks led an invocation. The pledge to the U.S. flag was led by Mr. Pierce and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Mr. Wittkopf.

Citizens' Comments

CHS students Isiah Simon, Henry Serrano and Cody Jenkins spoke in favor of installing turf on the football field. Community member Allen Seale also spoke on the benefits of turf.

Robotics Team Exhibition

CHS teacher Earvin Larry and his state-title winning robotics team demonstrated their skills.

Recognition

The CHS Valedictorian Ryan Huynh and Salutatorian Alyssa Haddock were recognized by the Board.

The Campus Teacher of the Year were recognized. Those honored were Lauren McPherson, CES; Margaret London, ACW; Mylinda McCaslin, CMS; and Jennie Reynolds, CHS.

Reorganization of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Green made a motion to elect Kathleen Hooten, president; Randy Starks, vice president; and Gabe Wittkopf as secretary of the board. Mr. Pierce seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to accept resignations of professional personnel as follows Matt Sardello, CMS teacher/coach; Saicy Lytle, ACW teacher; Haley Barkley, CES teacher; and Kayla Collum, CMS teacher/coach. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pierce made a motion to employ Alexxis Farmer, ACW teacher; Joshua Hefner, CMS History teacher; Colton Croley, CHS Special Ed teacher/coach; Tyler Foster, ACW PE teacher/coach and Sheri Kemp, CMS reading specialist. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Green made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 19, 2021, and the Special Meetings of April 27 and May 4, 2021, and the financial statements and investment summary for April 2021. Mrs. Lytle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Use of ESSER III Funds

Superintendent Charlie Alderman said that the district would receive \$3.9 million in ESSER III funds over the next three years for remediation due to learning losses during the COVID pandemic. However, he said the state legislature was attempting to require districts to earmark 40 percent of the funds for use during the 2024-2025 school year.

Consider Approval of Budget Amendments

Mr. Starks made a motion to approve budget amendments as presented including the following:

- Spring break stipends which were not included in the budget,
- Added a coordinator position,
- CHS HVAC units for repairs totaling \$173,000,
- CES freezer totaling \$52,000,
- Vision screening, hearing kits and updated AEDs totaling \$27,000,
- Playground equipment for CES and ACW,
- 32-ft gooseneck band trailer \$41,000,
- CMS band instruments \$54,000,
- CMS athletic and band uniforms and the remainder of the CHS band uniforms, and
- Technology totaling \$417,995 for 1000 Chromebooks and 165 Dell laptops

Mr. Pierce seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval of Technology Purchases

Director of Technology Al Shipp told board members that quick action to approve and order equipment would ensure Chromebooks and laptops would be ready for the fall semester. The technology purchase proposal was \$417,995. Dr. Green made a motion to approve the purchase of technology. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval of Designation of \$400,000 for Maintenance and Operations

Mr. Pierce made a motion to approve designating \$400,000 in fund balance for maintenance and operations. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval of Architectural Agreement for Planning a New Middle School

Mr. Starks made a motion to approve the architectural agreement for planning the new middle school with Claycomb & Associates. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Possible Action Selecting Design Professional for the Football Field Turf Conversion Project and Delegating Authority to the Superintendent

Dr. Green made a motion to approve Texas Sports & Civil Engineering to provide engineering services and delegate authority to the Superintendent to negotiate the terms and conditions and finalize the contract with Texas Sports & Civil Engineering. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Possible Action to Determine/Select Procurement Method for the Football Field Turf Conversion Project

Mr. Pierce made a motion to approve TIPS (The Interlocal Purchasing System) as a method for the football field turf conversion project. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Possible Action to Select Job Order Contractor and to Delegate Authority to Superintendent to Contract with Job Order Contractor for the Football Field Turf Conversion Project

Mr. Starks made a motion to approve Symmetry Sports LLC as the Job Order Contractor and delegates authority to the Superintendent to negotiate the terms and conditions and finalize the contract with Symmetry, execute the contract on behalf of the District and Board and issue or authorize the issuance of purchase order as necessary for the football field turf conversion project. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Possible Action to Determine the Prevailing Wage Rate for the Football Field Turf Conversion Project

Dr. Green made a motion determine the prevailing wage rate in Commerce ISD for the football field turf conversion project is determined by the U.S. Department of Labor in its Wage Rate General Decision for Hunt County #TX20210281. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action on Continued Use of Face Masks

Dr. Green made a motion to maintain the mandate for wearing face masks through the last day of school and not require masks to be worn at summer school. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Informational Report

Superintendent Charlie Alderman reported that enrollment was 1435, down nine from last month.

Principal reports and the check register were included.

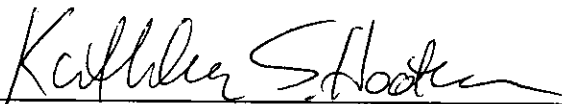
The date, time and location for the June Board Meeting was set for the third Monday of the month, June 21, 2021, with executive session beginning at 6 p.m. and the regular session at 7 p.m. A special meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., May 24 for Team of Eight Training. A budget study session was scheduled for 6 p.m., June 14, 2021.

Board comments

None

Adjournment...

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



Kathleen Hooten, President



Gabe Wittkopf, Secretary