

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 June 22, 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, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, Mrs. Kelsey Lytle, Mr. Doc Pierce, Mr. Randy Starks and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf.

Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:05 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 7:07 p.m. on June 22, 2021.

Opening Activities

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

Citizens' Comments

None

Public Hearing to Discuss Proposed 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget

Director of Finance John Walker explained that the state legislature was raising property valuations and decreasing tax rates to fulfill their promises of lower rates.

Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

Mr. Starks made a motion to employ Paula Cookson, ACW teacher; and Gaylon Steel, CMS teacher. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to extend a 12-month contract to Roger Brown as an administrator. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Alderman recommended Mr. Brown was named high school principal, Steve Drummond, former high school principal, was named director of human resources; and Ludonna Smithers, former director of personnel and communications, named director of communications. Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve. Mr. Pierce seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Pierce made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 17, 2021, and the Special Meetings of May 24, 2021, and June 14, 15 and 21, 2021, and the financial statements and investment summary for May 2021. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Adoption of Proposed 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget

Mr. Walker explained that the state would set the tax rate and it is scheduled to be approved by the Board in August; however, proposed expenditures would not change. The proposed general operating fund budget is \$16,764,219, child nutrition fund is \$946,996 and debt service fund is \$2,050,977. Mr. Pierce made a motion to approve 2021-2022 preliminary budget. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Amendment of the 2021-2021 Budget

Mr. Walker said that amendments are proposed for end-of-the-year cleanup. Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve amendments to the 21-22 budget. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of 2021-2022 Salary Scale for Teachers, Librarians and Nurses

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that he would like the \$5000 stipend given two years ago to professional employees be made permanent, rolling it into the teacher salary scale. Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the 2021-22 teacher, librarian and nurse salary scale. Mrs. Lytle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Employee Stipends

Mr. Alderman said that during budget study sessions the Board had discussed giving returning employees a \$1500 one-time stipend and new employees \$500 using ESSER funds. Mr. Starks made a motion to approve as presented. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Budget Amendments for Athletics

Mr. Alderman explained that funds were being moved from the superintendent's budget to athletics for three washers and a dryer and camera equipment. Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Property and Casualty Insurance

Mr. Walker explained that Trident Public Risk Solutions was the only bidder with an increase of \$11,510 for property and casualty insurance. The firm is represented locally by Duncan Insurance Agency. Dr. Green made a motion to approve as presented. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and Consider the Use of Face Masks for Fall 2021

Mr. Alderman explained that the Board discontinued the use of face masks after June 4. After discussion, it was agreed that the recommendation would continue through the fall, addressing safety concerns as they arise.

Consider Approval of TASB Local Policy Update 117 Affecting Policies CH (Local), Purchasing and Acquisition; CV (Local), Facilities Construction; and DEC (Local), Compensation and Benefits – Leaves and Absences

Dr. Green made a motion to approve Local Policy Update 117 as presented. Mrs. Lytle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of NETCAT Education Consortium Shared Services Arrangement

Mr. Alderman said that the NETCAT Consortium was being joined by Honey Grove ISD and the new agreement includes them. Mr. Starks made a motion to approve the NETCAT SSA. Mr. Pierce seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Informational Report

Mr. Alderman said that student and staff recognition would resume at the August meeting and be a focus for the 2021-2022 school year.

The check register was included.

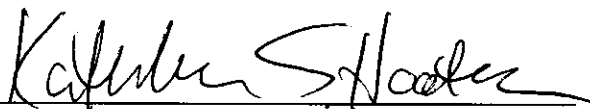
The date, time and location for the July Board Meeting is set for Tuesday, July 20, 2021, with executive session beginning at 6 p.m. and the regular session at 7 p.m. Facility Advisory Committee meeting are scheduled for July 12 and July 19 at 6 p.m. Other Facility Advisory Committee meetings are scheduled for July 26, August 2 and August 9. The regular meeting will be held on August 16

Board comments

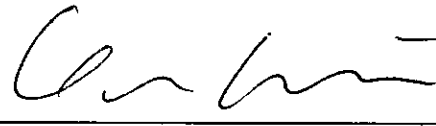
None

Adjournment...

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



Kathleen Hooten, President



Gabe Wittkopf, Secretary