

# Minutes of Board Workshop

## The Board of Trustees Lake Travis Independent School District

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A workshop of the Board of Trustees of Lake Travis Independent School District was held beginning at 6:00 p.m. on August 6, 2009, in the Educational Development Center, Live Oak Room, 607 Ranch Road 620 North, Austin, Texas 78734.

### Call To Order

President Susan Tolles called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

### Quorum Determination

Trustees Susan Tolles, Alan Williams, Guy Clayton, Mayo Davidson, Fred Goff and Lisa Johnson were present. Jason Buddin was not in attendance.

Trustee Tolles announced the grievance hearing for the Pribyl complaints would not be heard during the meeting and may be placed on the agenda for a future board meeting.

### Closed Session

Trustees adjourned into closed session at 6:08 p.m. as permitted under the Texas Open Meeting Act, Government Code Section 551.001 et. seq.

- A. Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney**
  - 1. The Board will discuss and receive legal advice from its attorney on matters which should be confidential under Texas Government Code Section 551.071(2).
  - 2. The Board will discuss and receive legal advice from its attorney regarding the Level III appeal of decision regarding complaint filed by D. Lovelace on April 7, 2009
  - 3. The Board will discuss and receive legal advice from its attorney regarding pending litigation under Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1).
    - a. Meadows v. Lake Travis Independent School District, Docket No. 1:08-CV-819-SS, in the United States District Court, Western District of Texas
- B. Section 551.072 – Deliberation regarding Real Property**
  - 1. The Board will discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property. (This may involve consultation with attorney as permitted under Section 551.071.)

Closed session adjourned at 6:25 p.m. Open session resumed at 6:25. The following action was taken.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Williams, and seconded by Trustee Davidson, that the Board hear the Level III appeal of the decision regarding David Lovelace's April 7, 2009 complaint on written submission. All Trustees present voted in favor (6-0).

Trustee Tolles announced the Board has voted to hear the grievance on written submission and that the trustees would adjourn and reconvene in closed session to deliberate the grievance. The trustees reconvened into closed session at 6:28 p.m.

Closed session adjourned at 6:44 p.m. Open session resumed at 6:44 p.m. The following action was taken.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Davidson, that the Board support the determinations of the administration and deny David Lovelace's appeal of the decision regarding the complaint he filed on April 7, 2009. All Trustees present voted in favor (6-0).

The Trustees reconvened into closed session at 6:46 p.m.

Closed session adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Open session resumed at 7:50 p.m.

### **Discussion and/or Action**

#### **Curriculum and Instructional Services**

**State Accountability Requirements** – Myra Pettit, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instructional Services, Dr. Jill Siler, Executive Director of Academic & Organizational Development, and Kathy Burbank, Director of Achievement & Accountability, provided an in-depth review of information and data related to the state accountability system.

**House Bill 3 Provisions** - Ms. Pettit and Kim Brents, Principal of Lake Travis High School, provided an update on House Bill 3 and the high school minimum graduation program, a graduation plan used at the high school only as a last resort for those students facing significant challenges and obstacles related to completing credits necessary for graduation. The state recommends a minimum of 22 credits to graduate, and Lake Travis High School's current requirement is 24 credits. Ms. Pettit and Ms. Brents discussed the administration's recommendation that the Board approve a policy change at the August 27, 2009 Board meeting to adopt the state's standard requirements for the minimum graduation program. In addition, Ms. Pettit provided an overview of revisions to the Student Success Initiative (SSI). The new legislation no longer requires 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to pass the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) reading test prior to promotion into the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Policy change recommendations related to the house bill 3 provisions will be brought to the Board for action at the August 27<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting.

#### **Administration and Accountability**

**2009-10 Student Code of Conduct** – Dr. Diane Frost, Deputy Superintendent, provided an overview of the administration's recommended changes to the Student Code of Conduct.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Goff and seconded by Trustee Johnson, to approve the Lake Travis ISD Student Code of Conduct for 2009-2010 as presented. All Trustees present voted in favor (6-0).

**2009-10 Salaries and Compensation** – Dr. Frost provided an overview of the proposed salary adjustments. The proposed salary adjustment should keep LTISD competitive with area school districts. A recommendation for the 2009-2010 health insurance plan will be presented to the Board in September.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Goff and seconded by Trustee Williams to authorize the administration to implement the proposed 2009-2010 Teacher Salary Schedule, provide an approximate overall 3% salary adjustment, based on 3% of midpoint of each pay grade as appropriate, plus other identified adjustments for an approximate cost of \$1,125,000 and an amount of health insurance coverage to offset the employee only increase in premium, estimated to be \$270,000.

### **Business and Finance Services**

**2009-10 Budget** – Johnny Hill, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, provided an update on the proposed 2009-2010 budget. Based on current revenue projections and adjustments to appropriations, the current budget has an estimated shortfall of \$1,800,103. This shortfall is an increase of \$187,002 from the June 18 meeting. The final 2009-2010 budget will be presented to the Board for action in August.

**Future Tax Ratification Election** - Mr. Hill, provided information on the school finance system and the District's authority to levy up to an additional 2 pennies of property tax that will not be subject to recapture by the state. The additional 2 pennies would mean and additional \$1.2 million in unrecaptured funds to the District. In 2009-2010, approximately 50.2% of each tax dollar levied by the District for Maintenance and Operation is "recaptured" (through "Robin Hood") by the state. A discussion ensued.

### ***2009-2010 Notice of Proposed Budget and Tax Rate and Date and Location of Tax Rate Meeting.***

A MOTION was made by Trustee Goff and seconded by Trustee Davidson to authorize the publication of the 2009-2010 notice regarding the budget and tax rate (at \$1.06) and the date, time, and location of the public tax rate meeting. All Trustees present voted in favor (6-0).

**Refinancing of Debt Service Obligations (Bond)** – Mr. Hill provided information on an opportunity the District has to refinance approximately \$3.5 million in older bond obligations. This would position the District to take advantage of favorable low interest rates, while building debt service capacity for future years. A discussion ensued and this item will be brought to the Board for action at a future Board meeting.

### **Governance and Legal Services**

***The Superintendent or Designee to negotiate and execute agreement for the purchase of Approximately 89 acres generally located on Highway 71 at Bee Creek Road for the location of a future district facility***

A MOTION was made by Trustee Goff and seconded by Trustee Clayton to authorize the Superintendent or Designee to negotiate and execute agreement for the purchase of approximately 89 acres generally located on Highway 71 at Bee Creek Road for the location of a future district facility. All Trustees present voted in favor (6-0).


**Upcoming Meetings**

President Tolles announced the following future meetings of the LTISD Board of Trustees:

- September 10, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, EDC
- September 17, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Board/Superintendent Conference, EDC
- October 8, 2006, 6:00 p.m., Board Workshop, EDC

**Adjournment**

There being no further action, the August 6, 2009 meeting of the LTISD Board of Trustees adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

  
Susan Tolles, President

  
Alan Williams, Secretary