

EYES ON THE BOARD

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A Union of Professionals

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FOURTH BUDGET MEETING

McAllen ISD Budget Meeting-- May 21, 2012--3 p.m.

The following are
a few brief high-
lights:

It was suggested
by Dana Atkinson
(Texas School
Board Association)
that teachers be
given a 2.25%
raise (roughly
\$1,110).

New teacher's sal-
ary is suggested
to be \$41,500.
Atkinson felt that
increases for new
teachers was more
important than in-
creases in

stipends.

It was suggested
that other employ-
ees pay be in-
creased by 1 1/2%
raise.

The maximum to
be spent on sala-
ries is \$4.1 million.

In a discussion re-
garding bilingual
certification Mrs.
De Shazo and Mrs.
De La Garza Lopez
told Dr. Ponce that
teachers were be-
ing told if they did
not have the bilin-
gual certification
they could be fired.
Aurora Zamora (HR
Director) was called
up and told to

communicate to
principals that this
was not true. Dr.
Ponce said that
scheduling was
more difficult if
the teacher was
not bilingually cer-
tified.

Dr. Ponce said if
students move
and different certi-
fication needs for
varied certifica-
tions may change
the needs of cam-
puses.

A discussion took
place regarding
the stipend for a
master's degree.
The focus will be a
stipend only if the
master's is in the
area you are
teaching. Thus
teaching math--
master's must be
in math. Purpose
is to have enough
teachers for the
dual enrollment
classes.

McAllen ISD Regular Board Meeting--May 21, 2012--6 p.m.

The Board ap-
proved the dona-
tion of \$37,000
from the Milam
PTO to Ben Mi-
lam Elementary
for metal fenc-
ing.

Approved a new
job position of
Career and Tech-
nology Education
Coordinator for
Middle School
and Student-
Centered Inquiry-
Based Lead
Teacher for IB.

The Board ap-
proved June 19,
2012 as the day
the Board will
vote on the 2012
-2013 Budget.

**Investigation
continuing at
Lincoln.**



JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE

McAllen ISD Public Comment--May 21, 2012--6:15 p.m.

Two different parents spoke about the poor leadership at Travis.

They also talked about the quality of the GT program.

Lastly they felt subs were not trained properly and there was poor morale among the teaching staff.

We spoke about excessive testing--<http://timeoutfromtesting.org/>

SIGN THE PETITION

McAllen ISD School Board Meeting--May 8, 2012--4:30 p.m.

All Board members were present.

The Board was reorganized and new officers were elected.

Mrs. Hilda Garza DeShazo is the new President. (There was a 4-3 vote--DeShazo, Aliseda, De La Garza Lopez, Saldivar--FOR)

Erica de la Garza Lopez is the new Vice President. (There was a 4-3 vote--DeShazo, Aliseda,

De La Garza Lopez, Saldivar--FOR)

Debbie Crane Aliseda is the new Secretary. (There was a 7-0 vote.)

McAllen ISD Briefing School Board Meeting--May 8, 2012--6 p.m.

Teachers Appreciation Week--Thanks to all of you! Also appreciation to all other employees.

ALL OF YOU ARE IMPORTANT!

The Board approved mandatory school uniforms at Jackson Elementary.

The Board approved a fire alarm upgrade at Garza Elementary and Rayburn Elementary.

The Board approved the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with South Texas College for Dual Enrollment.

The Board approved 1250 iPads for teachers and librarians at a cost of \$528,250. iPads should arrive about May 20 or 21st.

The Board approved Musical instruments, elec-

tronic equipment, accessories, elementary music instructional resources catalog bid for \$152,000.

The Fund Balance is \$47 million.

Mark May read a resolution Nominating Dr. Ponce as Texas Association of School Boards as Superintendent of the Year. If Ponce

wins, the announcement will be September 27, 2012.

Elections

The Elections Annex Building on Closner Road is the busiest polling location in Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County was easily leading the way, with a turnout of 8.08 percent on the Democratic Party side. None of the other 12 counties had reached 1.5 percent.