

EYES ON THE BOARD

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A Union of Professionals

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BRIEFING MEETING

McAllen ISD Board of Education Meeting April 9, 2012

All Board members were present.

The first Board meeting of the month is a briefing meeting--discussion of all items--most items will be voted on April 23, 2012 (next board meeting).

Items discussed were as follows:

Repairs to McAllen ISD due to the hail storm we had on March 29, 2012. McAllen High School has air conditioning repairs--\$100,000

or more; Seguin Elementary--no sum mentioned; Milam Elementary--no sum mentioned. The stadium also had damage (the press box and lighting) and our new \$25 million city library (state of the art facility).

Continuation of the Collection of Taxes Contract

Insurance & Employee Benefits Consulting Services

Worker's Compensation Insurance Self-Funded Claims Administration.

Sungard Business-

PLUS System maintenance, support, and professional services--COST \$170,000.

Renewal of Maintenance, Support, and Professional Services for the Skyward Student Information System--no information on cost.

Request for qualifications for District Annual Financial Audit--Long, Chilton (best bid).

Deferral of 15% grading requirement in Chapter 39 of the Texas Education Code for 2011-2012--vote was 7-0 to defer to 2013-2014.

Memo of understanding with McAllen ISD and

South Texas College for Achieve Early College High.

Memo of understanding with McAllen ISD and UT Austin for College of Natural Sciences--a teacher at McHi has volunteered to go to training to teach Chemistry using Distance Learning--minimum of 12 students--if students interested could have at all three (3) high schools--max of 28 students.

Right now there will be one (1) class and students will be bused to McAllen High School.

Discussed Summer Educator



MORE DETAILS

internship for 2012.

Discussed renewing Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Services for Special Education--approved 7-0.

Approved Lone Star Learning Instruction Materials--approved 7-0.

Bid for Electrical Supplies and Equipment--estimated \$150,000.

Enrollment will be May 7-May 25. Problems are supposed to be solved. You will still have to go to schools for registration process--e.g.--picking up schedule, etc.

A special meeting lasted (3) hours concerned about McAllen ISD Board Policies. We in McAllen AFT live and die by the policy manual. Kathy London from Texas School Board Association lead the meeting. All Board members were present--some left early.

One point that was discussed was what if a board member had poor attendance. Policy says you have to go to court to get rid of him.

The online policy manual

has been updated. If you wish to review policies, you will need to spend some time learning the new manual.

The online manual is updated about three (3) times a year. **DETAILS WHEN YOU NEED HELP.**

McAllen ISD Board Mtg. about the Budget--April 23, 2012

Farias absent

The following are highlights:

Discussion of Academic and Instructional Services--data was projected in spreadsheets and PowerPoints. The spreadsheet numbers were difficult to read (very small). Ponce discussed that the data needs to be analyzed more carefully. The PreK/ Kinder groups need more attention regarding what learning strategies need to be used.

There was brief discussion regarding science labs.

Do we need them if we are getting iPads--we do because the labs are required in the tightly written guidelines for science. There will be a Coordinator for elementary science

and one for secondary Science this next year.

There will be a Coordinator for elementary math and one for secondary math this next year.

Monies for Special Education that are left over can be carried over to the next year.

The next meeting will include a discussion of stipends.

McAllen ISD Regular Board Mtg.--April 23, 2012

The Board approved 1636 iPads for teachers. The iPads will be given to 1,636 teachers before school is out. The cost will be \$560,000. Board approved 6-0. Tracks for McHi and Rowe will be repaired at a cost of \$645,000. Memorial will be repaired next school year at a cost of \$800,000 (in poor shape).

The Board approved the Re-Roofing projects for Milam, Seguin, McHi, and Auxiliary Buildings. The reroofing of McHi will be \$3.5 million.