

# EYES ON THE BOARD

a publication of the McAllen AFT



*A Union of Professionals*

March 2013

Volume 20, Issue 9

## INFORMATION IN A NUT SHELL

### MISD Regular Meeting—March 4, 2013

Erica de la Garza Lopez was absent.

1. The MISD Board members approved a Resolution to Oppose Vouchers, Taxpayer Savings Grants, Tax Credits, and other mechanisms that Reduce Public Education Funding.
2. The Superintendent was approved to attend the following conferences: March 27, 2013, Reading of “Celebrate Texas Public School Month” Resolution—Austin, Texas; March 28-29, 2013—DP League of Innovative Schools Inc. for the IDEO Convening—San Francisco, CA; April 13, 2013—NSBA Conference—San Diego, CA. Funded through Ponce’s Budget.
3. The Board approved the final payment to Hellas Construction Inc. for Memorial Stadium in the amount of \$22,661.
4. The Board of Trustees approved Pavilions for Castaneda, Fields, Roosevelt, Sanchez, and Wilson.
5. The Board approved Translucent Roof System Replacement for Rowe.
6. The Board approved IB Primary Years Programme Application for Candidacy for Castaneda, Fields, Hendricks, Houston, Jackson, Navarro, Seguin, and Thigpen/Zavala.
7. The Board approved Sign Language Interpreter Services Re-Bid.
8. The Board approved Math and Science Equipment and Supplies.
9. The Board approved classroom instructional supplies, furnishings, equipment, materials and miscellaneous items bid.
10. The Board approved musical instruments repair services.



# MORE INFORMATION

## **REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, MARCH 18, 2013 AT 3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**

Erica De La Garza Lopez absent until last hour of meeting.

Dr. Caporusso absent.

This presentation was done on PowerPoint. District Operations budgets discussed what is needed to run varied departments. We have prepared brief notes (not detailed information).

1. Student Support Services—need a replacement secretary.

2. School Health Services--need additional supplies--\$204,325.

3. Transportation--wants to add a break room to present building--\$235,000.

4. Athletics—

Administration wants to add two (2) high school coaches to middle school to encourage continued play in high school sports--Cost would be \$350,000. A.D. Ms. Gonzalez did not seem to understand scheduling and many other things. Gonzalez wants to change turf at Stadium—two (2) board members said “NO”. Turf is good for 15-20 years (right now only seven (7) years old). A.D. wants an

Assistant.

5. Police--Want six (6) new employees (including 1 Medicaid biller and 3 camera monitors). Century 21 program needs licensed professional counselors.

6. Food and Nutrition--need one (1) to two (2) vehicles a year--may offer an evening meal. Provide 30,000 meals a day. Sam Saldivar asked that the five (5) schools not providing meals every day be added to the daily meals being served.

7. Facilities and Maintenance--needs an asst. director--move 5 grounds people to athletics to care for stadium and other facilities. Need to replace seven (7) vehicles now over 20 years old. Department needs \$30,000,000 a year just to keep current.

## **REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING--MARCH 18, 2013 AT 6 p.m.**

Dr. Caporusso absent.

Most all items on the agenda were discussed at the March 4, 2013 meeting. One item was pulled regarding Bonham Elementary--electrical services. The next meeting will be April 8, 2013--Regular Board Meeting.

## **TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

### **HOUSE BILL 5**

**MARCH 27, 2013**

**HB 5, a bill by Rep. Jimmie Don Aycocock (R-Killeen), that would cut the number of state-mandated end-of-course tests from 15 to five, passed by a 145-to-2 margin after a day-long debate over scores of amendments.**

**HB 5 remains essentially intact. Most of the key amendments to improve the bill by limiting the high stakes attached to state achievement tests did not prevail.**

**Some good amendments, especially measures to limit the influence of testing companies and to curb the potential for “tracking” of minority students and economically disadvantaged students, did stick.**