

## Highlights from Board Meeting – February 27, 2017

The Board met last night in a regularly scheduled meeting. Here is a highlight of the meeting.

1. The board recognized the Caldwell High School “Club” Soccer program.
2. They heard a presentation from County Judge Southerland about affordable housing, new oil activity, and the new fiber line coming to Caldwell via Brazos Valley COG.
3. Russ Fortsen, our food service firm’s director, made a presentation about the offerings Southwest Food Service is providing our district.
4. Brady Beavers and Mr. Peters provided some continual dialogue on the costs of cameras on the buses, GPS mapping software, and the elimination of stops on state highways (in progress).

In action items:

1. Texas Public School Week is taken place this week. The campuses have special activities all week. Highlights are Dr. Seuss’ birthday at Elementary on Thursday and the Ho-Down on Friday. Intermediate and Middle have invited parents to eat pastries on Thursday and High School invites parents to eat lunch on Thursday.
2. Soccer was approved as a UIL sport for the upcoming year.
3. Contracts were approved to have the County run the election in May, including a Joint Election with the City, and approved the judges and clerks.
4. John Banks from Perdue law firm presented information on how his firm collects taxes for the ISD (and the other gov’t entities). A contract was approved to keep Perdue as our tax attorneys for three years (matching the County contract).
5. Superintendent A. Peters and Director of Business Services H. Belyeu presented a first draft of the expected budgets for the next three fiscal years. Those budgets show a deficit. Peters pointed out that he will be recommending a Tax Ratification Election and it would be an even swap. The tax rate will not go up, but the state will provide additional funds to the district. However, even with the swap, the district does not have a balanced budget. He will recommend eliminating positions as people leave/retire and tightening our belt to balance the next budget.

Board Member, T. Warren suggest the board cut expenses such the meal provided to them before the board meeting and reduce costs in their training. Peters suggested this would be a good way to lead by example.

6. The board approved posting of a new position, “Assist. Superintendent” with an emphasis on Human Resources.” Peters stated that while we are refining our

positions and focusing on needs, not wants, this position would help us accomplish the important tasks schools should do. It could be offset in costs due to reducing legal fees and improving efficiencies.

7. The board approved a \$2500 stipend for math, science and Spanish teachers teaching grade levels 9 – 12 based on federal funds that are available to the district. Bilingual teachers in grades PK – 5 would also earn the \$2500 stipend.
8. There was discussion about facility planning and a meeting for this topic was scheduled for March 21, 2017 at 6 p.m.
9. The tax ratification election was discussed (a TRE) and the board decided not to hire a consultant to assist with this endeavor.
10. While the board wants to start a foundation, the board took no action on hiring a contractor to help establish the foundation.
11. The auditors were renewed for one year (Singleton, Clark and Company).
12. Policy updates 106, 107 and a new DNA Local on Teacher appraisals was all approved.
13. A firm, Delta T was approved to do a comprehensive test and balances of the elementary school.
14. Contracts were extended for Vicki Ochs, Erin Supak, Nathan Goodlett, and Shaunna Savage, all principals. The Assistants were also approved, David Bailey, Brian Fowler, Kimberly Pagach, and Andrew Gandrud. The AD, Coach Goforth, the Director of Fine Arts, Campbell were also extended a year. Keith Johnson, Technology and Heather Belyeu, Director of Business Services were also extended a year. *No other names were taken to the board at this meeting.*

The Minutes will be posted online once they are approved.

Next Board Meeting: March 21, 2017 for a facilities workshop at 6 pm and the regular board meeting will be at 6:30 pm on March 27, 2017.

This document was prepared by the superintendent. For questions, please contact Andy Peters at [apeters@caldwellisd.net](mailto:apeters@caldwellisd.net)

