



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. Innovators. Scholars. Doers.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:	Regular Board Meeting
Place:	WISD Board Room
Location:	319 W. Fourth Street
Date:	December 11, 2017
Time:	6:15 P.M.

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Erasmo Lopez, Board President.
- II. A quorum was established. The following board members were present.

Erasmo Lopez, President
Oscar Caballero, Vice President
Isidoro Nieto, Secretary
Andrew Gonzalez, Trustee
Dr. Richard Rivera, Trustee
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Trustee

Patrick Kennedy was absent.

- III. Opening Prayer

San Juanita Ramirez, Lead STAAR teacher at Sam Houston Elementary School delivered the invocation.

- IV. Pledge of Allegiance/Texas Pledge

The following students from Sam Houston Elementary School led the pledge of allegiance:

- Aidan De La Rosa is the son of Alejandra and Juan De La Rosa. He is a 5th grader at Sam Houston Elementary where he has developed his leadership skills since he started Pre-K. Aidan is a role model for his younger sister Alina, a first grader. He loves school and enjoys being involved in extracurricular activities. Aidan's favorite subject is math, and he is currently a part of Sam Houston's UIL Art Smart team and the Drama Club. He looks forward to graduating high school and arming himself with the tools necessary to launch his college career.
- Theresa Vasquez is the daughter of Michael and Christina Vasquez. She is also a 5th grader at Sam Houston Elementary and an avid reader. While in 4th grade, she became a Millionaire Words Reader, and she has also received a Master level on the Math STAAR assessment in 3rd and 4th grades. Theresa has been involved in many extracurricular activities and is currently in UIL Number Sense and Drama Club. In addition, she is an active member of CCE at Saint Pius X Catholic Church. Theresa's goal is to graduate from high school with an associate's degree to attend the University of Houston.

V. Awards and Recognitions

The Weslaco East High School Wildcat Football Team had an outstanding season. Despite being the smallest school in the toughest district in south Texas, the Wildcats made the playoffs for the 11th straight year.

Team members include:

Danny Salinas	Freddy Gonzalez	Dimas Alvarez	David Peterson
Antonio Cedeno	Jon Animas	Christian Avila	Matt Vela
Hector Muniz	Pedro Puente	Giovanni Guerra	Giovanni Barrera
Jose Serna	Russell Garza	Josh Gonzalez	Edward Villalobos
Felipe Cantu	Pablo Ibanez	Oscar Marin	Jordan Velasquez
Raven Figueroa	Dominic Castillo	Felix Vargas	Imanol Ordenez
Leonel Garza	Lazaro Torres	Pedro Posada	Brian Trevino
Enrique Avila	J.C. Cruz	Daniel Roque	Christian Campos
Ernesto Osorio	Iasi Martinez	Juan Martinez	Orlando Cabrera
Juan Mata	Adrian Juarez	Edi Barrios	David Leal
Jose Guerra	Daniel Posada	Juan Rubio	

The following players won distinctions, earning All-District Honorable Mention are:

Roy Pedraza	Orlando Fuentes	Alvaro Medrano	Carlos Espinoza
Derrick Ybarra	Jacob Carrasco	Gustavo Munoz	Alexis Gil
Hector Saenz	Fernando Garza	Robert Torres	

Second Team, All-District honors were awarded to:

J.C. Vargas	Ramsey Vasquez	Gerald Garza	Randy Cardoza
Robert Vera			

First Team, All-District honors were awarded to:

Paulino Arevalo	Jaime Banuelos	Mike Gonzales	Ramiro Aguirre
Jacob Banda	Jose Sanchez	Freddy Cardenas	

Offensive Lineman of the Year: Mario Trevino

District 32-6A Most Valuable Player: Richard LeFevre

Head Coach Mike Burget and all assistant coaches were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the sport.

On behalf of the Board, Board President Erasmo Lopez thanked the athletes for their hard work, devotion, and accomplishments which has led them to the playoffs 11 years in a row. He wished them luck for the coming school year. He thanked Coach Burget for preparing these men for future life.

Despite losing three of his best players to injuries at the beginning of the season, the Wildcats worked hard and excelled. Coach Burget thanked the trainers for the numerous hours spent on assisting players injured throughout the season. He also thanked Dr. Canales for always attending their games and Mrs. Sue Peterson for always being supportive of their team. He thanked the board members for their support and for providing all their necessities. Additionally, he thanked Big O (Oscar Riojas) and Andres Cantu for all their support, and his secretary Nikki for all her help at the office. Special thanks to their biggest fan (Mrs. Boswell) for providing cookies every weekend, and to the wives of the coaches for sacrificing the time the coaches are away at work. He thanked the coaches for their hard work and dedication and the parents who entrusted them with their kids. He concluded by thanking the administration at East High School for their support.

VI. Proclamation for School Board Recognition Month, January 2018

The month of January 2018 was proclaimed as “School Board Recognition Month”. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the mission of the public schools is to meet the diverse educational needs of all children and to empower them to become competent, productive contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are committed to children and believe that all children can be successful learners and that the best education is tailored to the individual needs of the child; and

WHEREAS, local school board members work closely with parents, educational professionals, and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are responsible for ensuring the structure that provides a solid foundation for our school system; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are strong advocates for public education and are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public and the public’s expectations to the district;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Priscilla Canales, Superintendent of the Weslaco Independent School District, do hereby declare my appreciation to the members of the Weslaco ISD School Board and proclaim the month of January 2018 as “SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH”.

I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and in working with them to mold an education system that meets the needs of both today’s and tomorrow’s children.

Board President Erasmo Lopez expressed the following:

“Recognition month is unnecessary in my opinion; we feel that we’re here to serve and help the kids get a better education. We do appreciate it and thank you, but we do it because it’s coming from the heart.”

VII. Public Comments

None

VIII. Superintendent’s Report



- Student Enrollment/ADA

Dr. Canales presented the report on enrollment for the 14th week of school.

Campus	14 th Week Enrollment		Difference
	2016-2017	2017-2018	
Roosevelt Elementary	605	539	(66)
Sam Houston Elementary	706	740	34
Silva Elementary	741	700	(41)
Gonzalez Elementary	774	740	(34)
Margo Elementary	983	952	(31)
Airport Elementary	669	576	(93)
Memorial Elementary	900	924	24
North Bridge Elementary	779	767	(12)
Rico Elementary	855	828	(27)
Cleckler-Heald Elementary	913	893	(20)
Ybarra Elementary	562	563	1
Mary Hoge Middle School	975	1037	62
Cuellar Middle School	692	758	66
Central Middle School	933	880	(53)
B. Garza Middle School	1070	1104	34
South Palm Gardens	54	51	(3)
East High School	2080	2026	(54)
Weslaco High School	2542	2460	(82)
Horton	67	67	0
JJAEP – Student Alternative Inc.	2	4	2
Hidalgo County Bootcamp	29	40	11
Early College High School	201	265	64
21 st Century ELF Academy	301	562	261
TOTAL	17433	17476	43

December 8, 2017

- Enrollment for the 14th week of school is 17,476 for a total of 43 less students than last year’s enrollment of 17,433.

CAMPUS	14 th Week Enrollment		DIFFERENCE
	2016-2017	2017-2018	
Elementary Schools	8487	8222	(265)
Middle Schools	3670	3779	109
High Schools	4877	4802	(75)
Alternative	98	111	13
ELF – Academy	301	562	261
Total	17433	17476	43

- The chart above reflects the increase/decrease in enrollment at the different campuses.
- On December 8, 2017, the district had a low ADA (77.36%) due to inclement weather. The district will be applying for a low attendance waiver since the state allows districts that have an attendance for any particular day of 10 percentage points below the attendance for that same day the previous year. The ADA for December 8, 2016 was 96.74%.

Mr. Lopez requested a report showing the yearly enrollment for the past 10 years to see what the trend was during this period.

Campus	August 28, 2017 – December 8, 2017	
	Average Daily Attendance	Percentage of Attendance (%)
Roosevelt Elementary	496.96	97.23
Sam Houston Elementary	677.26	97.98
Silva Elementary	623.80	96.58
Gonzalez Elementary	682.80	97.66
Margo Elementary	857.94	97.08
Airport Elementary	526.74	97.14
Memorial Elementary	853.07	97.64
North Bridge Elementary	683.18	96.66
Rico Elementary	766.88	96.98
Cleckler-Heald Elementary	823.79	98.15
Ybarra Elementary	479.82	96.82
Mary Hoge Middle School	1004.84	97.13
Cuellar Middle School	710.90	96.23
Central Middle School	850.93	97.05
B. Garza Middle School	1059.53	97.32
South Palm Gardens	59.07	91.16
East High School	1923.59	94.77
Weslaco High School	2299.76	94.84
Horton	48.61	81.95
JJAEP – Student Alternative Inc.	9.30	76.68
Hidalgo County Bootcamp	31.88	99.91
Early College High School	254.22	96.25
21 st Century ELF Academy	377.51	92.50
TOTAL	16102.38	96.40

December 8, 2017

Mr. Sanchez will provide a more detailed report in January on ADA for the three six-weeks for funding purposes.

Based on the enrollment counts provided, Dr. Rivera requested a report listing the number of teachers, counselors, secretaries, and support staff at each campus to see if staffing was comparable.

- Blended Learning

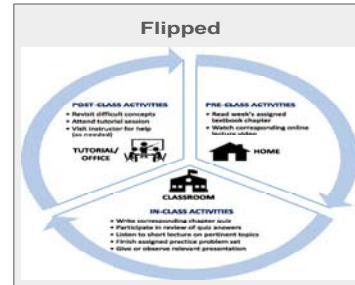
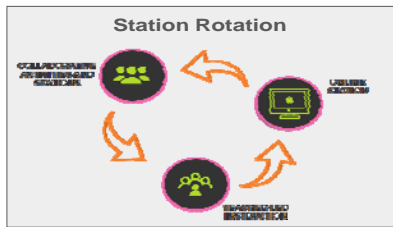
Mr. Scott Amdahl, Ms. Julie Kelly, and Mr. Carlos Martinez provided the presentation on Blended Learning.

What is Blended Learning

According to Michael Horn and Heather Staker, two nationally renowned experts,
Blended Learning is,

*“Any time a student learns, at least in part, at a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home and, at least in part, through **online delivery with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace.**”*

Models of Blended Learning



Source: "Blended Learning Models." *Blended Learning Universe*, www.blendedlearning.org/models/#stat.

- Models being promoted:
 - The Station Rotation model is commonly used in the elementary levels.
 - › Students have a choice in working at the different centers.
 - The Flipped Instruction model involves preloading content for students through a video or other means as homework. As the students attend class, they will do collaborative activities to break down that content knowledge for better understanding.

Why Blended Learning?

Student Success for All



- WISD is spending a significant amount of money on technology and staff wants to make sure it is used well to impact students.
- Teachers target instruction and use data to differentiate the instruction piece through technology.
- The programs are innovative which lead to engagement and therefore students are not bored in the classroom.
- Students are being educated through technology by the use of many different resources.

What is the roll out plan?

- Professional Development (Slide 6)
- Increased Access to Proven Online Resources (Slide 7)
- Establishing Best Practices/Model Classrooms (Slide 8)



Professional Development

Summer: Training the trainers modeled BL while learning about BL

August: Innovative Teaching Day PK-12 & a two-day BL Academy

October: Innovative Teaching Day at campus level to build on district initiatives

Currently: On-going campus level trainings

Coming soon!: Cohort of teachers from each campus to lead the way.



Access to Resources

Wealth of technology

16,600 Chromebooks



Robust Internet and Wifi Network



Wealth of online software



Current software pilot with 100 teachers:



Positive Feedback!

- The District has over 16,000 chrome books, almost one per student.
- Robust Internet and Wifi Network
 - › Within the next few months every single classroom throughout the district will have 1 wireless access point
- Online Software: Resources are made available so students can streamline and have easy access.
- Nearpod Software: This software is being used by 100 teachers before a decision is made to purchase for student use. Staff has received positive feedback from the teachers.

Establishing Best Practices/Model Classrooms



Blended Learning Grants
27 Teachers awarded
Flexible Learning Environment Grants

Blended Learning Cohort

- Select teachers per campus
- Blended Learning Leaders
- Receive PD & provide PD

Coming Soon!

The poster features a blue background with bokeh light effects. It includes the text: 'Weslaco ISD is an innovative school district integrating technology with the latest classroom strategies for an interactive learning experience.' and 'WISD invites you to INNOVATE! Bring a blended learning interactive learning experience to your classroom!'.

Anticipated Results and Next Steps



Collect data to better understand the impact BL is having on students. Data we will collect and study include:

- Student performance, attendance, engagement, & behavior
- Teacher satisfaction
- Parent satisfaction



Use data and feedback in order to

- expand BL implementation
- inform PD for the 2018-2019 school year Innovative Teaching Days.

- Mr. Lopez requested information on the Robust Internet and Wi-Fi Network. He would like to know what kind of loops the district has and where they are located, as well as what area is covered and its capacity, usage, and how much longer before the district has to upgrade. He requested an in-depth report on the status of the district's technology systems. He wants to make sure WISD is at the forefront in technology.

Mr. Caballero commented that students in the colonias might not have access to the internet and wanted to know if students are able to check out the chromebooks for use at home. Mr. Amdahl replied that some campuses do allow students to check them out. The students at the Early College High School each have a chromebook which they are allowed to take home to do their homework. In addition, the district has hot spots at different business locations where students are able to access free Wi-Fi. A map indicating the hot spots in the city is available on the district's website as well.

Mr. Caballero also suggested that staff check with the internet carrier to see if they can negotiate low rates for Wi-Fi for low income families. McAllen ISD has provided this opportunity to their students. Mr. Carlos Martinez informed the Board that Verizon is the district's carrier but they have looked at AT&T because residents who reside in the outer boundaries of Weslaco do qualify for a low cost through AT&T. Nonetheless, the district is currently applying for grants to get more hot spots for the Verizon or foremost area. Mr. Martinez is also working on a report on fiber optics which he will forward to the Board on the weekly update or, if necessary, present to the Board in January.

- Insurance/Newsletter

Mr. Mike De La Rosa, Risk Management/Employee Benefits Administrator, provided the report on Insurance.

WESLACO ISD SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM BCBS / American Health Care 2017-2018 Plan Year-Medical Claims				
September 1, 2017 - November 30, 2017	Claims	Rx	Fixed Costs	Total
Frares / MK CARE 2016-2017	\$ 3,735,023.34	\$ 824,597.03	\$ 447,376.44	\$ 5,006,996.81
BCBS / AHC 2017-2018	\$ 1,409,320.78	\$ 798,157.85	\$ 733,662.25	\$ 4,267,401.27
Frares Run-Out	\$ 1,114,063.29		\$ 212,197.10	
	\$ 2,523,384.07		\$ 945,859.35	\$ (739,595.54)
	\$ (1,211,639.27)	\$ (26,439.18)	\$ 498,482.91	

- › The total spent in 2016-2017 for claims was \$3,735,023.34 vs. \$2,523,384.07 spent in 2017-2018, for a decrease of \$1,211,639.27.
- › The cost for prescriptions for 2017-2018 is \$798,157.85 vs. \$824,597.03 in 2016-2017, for a decrease of \$26,439.18.
- › The fixed costs for 2017-2018 for BCBH is \$733,662.25. Also listed is the run-out paid to the prior TPA in the amount of \$212,197.10. This concludes the run out period for the prior TPA as they are no longer processing claims.
- › Overall, the total spent for 3 months in 2016-2017 for the health insurance plan was \$5,006,996.81 vs. \$4,267,401.27 spent in 2017-2018, for a savings of \$739,595.54.

WESLACO ISD SELF-FUNDED WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM November 2017		
	2017-2018	2016-2017
Budgeted for Plan Year	\$ 356,000	\$ 356,000
Claims	37	33
Total Medical Claims, Rx, Admin, Indemnity & Services Incurred Through November	\$ 63,970	\$ 121,167
Total Paid in November Inclusive of all Plan Years	\$ 23,076	\$ 36,568
Total Reserves	\$ 149,663	

- Total reserves in the Self-Funded Workers' Compensation Program is \$149,663.
- Mr. Sanchez confirmed that the amount of \$356,000 was actually approved and reflected in the budget.

Mr. De La Rosa informed the Board that there has been less claims submitted and therefore the district has been spending less money on this plan. Last week's report showed no employees on TIBS (Temporary Income Benefits) which is the first time he has seen this.

Trustee Andrew Gonzalez wanted to know if they needed to fill the position of Safety Coordinator, which was in place a couple of years ago, to help keep the number of claims down.

Mr. De La Rosa replied that the position is not budgeted. However, the district has an incentive program in which they give out awards at the end of the year to employees who are accident free. Employees look forward to receiving an award and therefore the program has been beneficial. In addition, the second monthly health newsletter focusing on Lifting Proper Techniques will be mailed out to all employees the following day. Blood screenings will also be made available to all employees after the Christmas break.

IX. Consent Agenda

Dr. Rivera pulled out agenda item Q for discussion. Isidoro Nieto made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, with the exception of Item Q. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 13, 2017

The Board approved the minutes as presented.

B. Approval of Out of Valley Trips

The Board approved the following trips as presented.

Weslaco East High School

- The Varsity Cheerleaders will participate in the UIL Spirit State Championship at Fort Worth, Texas, on January 11-14, 2018.
- The Boys Soccer Team will participate in the 2018 Gulf Coast Classic Soccer Tournament in Corpus Christi, Texas on January 11-13, 2018.
- The Band students will perform at Six Flags over Texas in Dallas, Texas on June 12-15, 2018. Students will go through an evaluation process and be critiqued by musicians and directors from across the state.

Weslaco East High School and Weslaco High School

- The Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students will attend and participate in the FCCLA Regional Leadership Conference to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 1-3, 2018. The students will compete in STAAR events, participate in leadership development workshops, and serve as voting delegates.
- The Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students will attend and participate in the FCCLA State Leadership Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas on April 4-7, 2018. The students will compete in STAAR events, participate in leadership development workshops, and serve as voting delegates.

WISD

- Weslaco ISD middle school and high school students who place first through third at the February 13, 2018 Rio Grande Valley Regional Science & Engineering Fair will advance to compete at the ExxonMobil Science & Engineering Fair in San Antonio, Texas on March 23-25, 2018. The students present their original research projects in 17 categories to teams of judges who are specialists in each category's area of science.

C. Approval of 2018 Annual Membership Renewal with the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)

The Board approved the 2018 membership renewal with the Texas Association of School Boards. The annual membership fee is \$11,000.00. As an active member with the Texas Association of School Boards, members receive a wide variety of services, including advocacy, training opportunities, legal and regulatory information and support, and timely publications.

D. Approval of Legal Assistance Fund 2018 Membership Renewal with Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)

The Board approved the 2018 membership renewal for the Legal Assistance Fund with the Texas Association of School Boards. The annual membership fee is \$500.00.

The Legal Assistance Fund was established in 1980 and is administered by a board of trustees made up of officers of the Texas Association of School Boards, Texas Association of School Administrators, and the Texas Council of School Attorneys. The District is an active member with the Texas Association of School Boards Legal Assistance Fund. The purpose of this fund is to assist school districts in defending challenges on issues that have a statewide impact on public schools. The fund is designed to support litigation of participating school districts.

E. Approval of 2017-2018 Membership Renewal with the Region One School Board Association

The Board approved the 2017-2018 membership renewal fee to participate in the Region One School Board Association. The membership fee of \$150.00 is based on the total refined ADA of 16,096.39.

The Region One Education Service Center is a significant force in the field of public education legislation. Its success will be built through the efforts of the Superintendents, combined with the development of research information capabilities of the Association. The Region One School Board Association pledges to utilize these resources to enhance the quality of services offered to the children and staff of the district and to the Board of Trustees.

F. Approval of 2017-2018 Membership Renewal with the South Texas Association of Schools

The Board approved the 2017-2018 membership renewal fee for South Texas Association of Schools as presented. The estimated cost of \$6,438.40 for the membership is based on the 2016-2017 ADA of 16,096 @ \$.40 per ADA.

The South Texas Association of Schools represents sixty (60) school districts with over 425,000 students. The Association represents thirty-eight (38) School Districts from Region I and twenty-two School Districts from Region 2. Their primary purpose is to represent the member districts before the legislature, State Board of Education, and the State Board of Education Certification. South Texas Association of Schools is a significant force in the field of public education legislation.

G. Approval to Accept a Donation of 10 Bicycles (Valued at \$500.00) from Stellar Energy Solutions for Students at North Bridge Elementary School

The Board approved the donation of 10 bicycles from Stellar Energy Solutions. The bicycles were given to 10 economically disadvantaged students at North Bridge Elementary as Christmas gifts.

- H. Approval to Accept a \$100.00 Donation from Woodmen of the World Insurance Company for Central Middle School Courtesy Club Fund for Campus Staff

The Board approved a \$100.00 donation from Woodmen of the World Insurance Company. The funds will be used by the Courtesy Club from Central Middle School to provide the staff with refreshments, incentives, and supplies throughout the school year.

- I. Approval to Accept a \$100.00 Donation from Woodmen of the World Insurance Company for Central Middle School Student Council Club Fund

The Board approved a \$100.00 donation from Woodmen of the World Insurance Company. The funds were used by the Student Council Club from Central Middle School to provide refreshments, supplies, and incentives for the Veteran's Day Celebration.

- J. Approval to Accept a \$450.00 Donation from the Association for Migrant Educators of Texas Conference for the Fine Arts Program

The Board approved a \$450.00 donation from the Association for Migrant Educators of Texas as presented. The funds were used to cover the cost of meals for the students who performed at the Association for Migrant Educators of Texas Conference held on November 8-10, 2017, at the McAllen Convention Center.

- K. Approval to Accept Donations in the Amount of \$600.00 for the Fine Arts Christmas Tree Forest Located in the Lobby of the Weslaco ISD Performing Arts Center from Various Vendors:

1. \$25.00 from Belinda Vargas of Edward Jones Investments
2. \$25.00 from Alexis Villarreal of Edward Jones Investments
3. \$50.00 from Tio Robertos
4. \$50.00 from Andrew Gonzalez Insurance Agency
5. \$50.00 from Smith Security
6. \$50.00 from Boots 'N Jeans of Weslaco
7. \$50.00 from HDL Enterprises
8. \$50.00 from Arturo's Bar & Grill
9. \$50.00 from Villa de Cortez
10. \$50.00 from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
11. \$50.00 from Amri Soap Company
12. \$50.00 from Weslaco Music Company
13. \$50.00 from Jose's Cafecito Courtyard

The Board approved the \$600.00 donations as presented. The funds were used to cover the cost of the Christmas Tree Forest located at the Performing Arts Center for the month of December.

- L. Approval of Purchase of After School, Project Based Literacy Program "Write Brain Books" All Inclusive Published Author's Package for WISD's 21st CCLC ACE Program

The Board approved the purchase of the project-based literacy program "Write Brain" All-Inclusive published author's package for third through fifth grade students in the 21st CCLC ACE program at a cost of \$29,971.00.

Write Brain Books are richly illustrated, wordless books with lines on the pages where young authors can write their original and creative stories. The afterschool literacy program inspires kids of all ages to write, ignite self-expression and inventive storytelling while developing vital 21st Century skills. Additionally, the afterschool curriculum activates creativity and critical thinking, comprehension, communication and collaboration skills.

M. Approval of Purchase of Science Curriculum Materials from Delta Education for Grades K-5

The Board approved the purchase of science curriculum materials FOSS science investigation modules, resource textbooks, consumable refills, live organisms, and professional development training from Delta Education for grades K-5 for the 2017-2018 school year. The program materials will cost \$220,200 and will be paid from the instructional materials allotment (IMA). Delta Education is a sole source vendor. FOSS science investigation modules have been purchased in previous years as part of the district's adopted science curriculum to service 7,365 students at all eleven district elementary schools.

N. Approval of Purchase of SuccessEd to be Used to Track At-Risk Students and Provide Interventions

The Board approved the sole source purchase of SuccessEd to implement an intervention and special programs management system subject to legal counsel review of the agreement. This program will be used to document, manage, track, and report data for the BIL/ESL, Section 504, and RTI programs. Because the SuccessEd program is tied to eSchool, the students' data and records will automatically follow the students when they move between schools and from one grade to the next – something that is difficult for staff to do efficiently at this time.

The cost of this purchase is \$45,884.00 which will be paid through state bilingual funds and state compensatory funds.

O. Approval of Purchase of Classroom Children's Dictionaries for 11 Elementary Campuses

The Board approved the purchase of Classroom Children's dictionaries for eleven elementary campuses from Mackin Educational Resources from Burnsville, Minnesota at a cost of \$30,594.20. The Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) funds will be used for this purchase.

For the Spring 2018 STAAR assessments, TEA changed its Dictionary Accommodations Policy making it a requirement that students taking the STAAR Reading and STAAR Writing assessments in grades 3-5 must now be provided a dictionary as part of the 2018 TEA Dictionary Policy and not as part of the Accommodations Policies.

P. Approval of Purchase of Materials that Support the Leader in Me Initiative at Ten Elementary and Two Middle School Campuses

The Board approved the sole source purchase of materials that support the Leader in Me initiative at ten elementary and two middle school campuses. The purchase includes student activity guides, student journals, teacher editions, and classroom posters.

Franklin Covey updated the materials and therefore campuses were in need of revised materials. Four middle school campuses that are in their first year of implementation received supporting materials as part of the grant; however, two of the middle schools needed additional student journals due to an increase in enrollment.

The total cost of this purchase is \$48,991.00. Funding is allocated in the Title IV Federal Grant.

Q. Approval of Renewal of the School Messenger Emergency Notification Service for the District

This item was pulled out for discussion by Dr. Richard Rivera.

- R. Approval to Accept a Grant for \$11,800 from the First in Texas Foundation for Weslaco ISD’s First Lego League Robotics Teams

The Board accepted the “First in Texas” grant awarded to Weslaco ISD by the First in Texas Foundation in the amount of \$11,800 which consists of 9 laptops valued at \$5,400 plus \$6,400 for supplies for Weslaco ISD’s First Lego League Robotics Teams.

The FIRST in Texas Foundation is a 501 c (3) non-profit organization that supports FIRST Robotics teams and events across Texas with a focus on increasing accessibility for low-income and underrepresented students. FIRST participants are significantly more likely to attend college, major in science or engineering, and be outstanding future employees and citizens. FIRST in Texas mission is to increase access to FIRST Programs in Texas. FIRST in Texas vision is that every Texas student has the opportunity to participate in FIRST Robotics.

- S. Approval of Extension of Proposal Awards:

1. Pizza Products (Proposal #17-12-20)

The Board approved the award extension for pizza products to Little Caesar’s Pizza and Domino’s Pizza as follows:

PIZZA A (for resale)		
Vendor	Cost per Pizza	Award Status
Domino’s Pizza	\$ 6.49	Primary Vendor
Little Caesar’s Pizza	\$ 8.00	Secondary Vendor

PIZZA B (not for resale)		
Vendor	Cost per Pizza	Award Status
Little Caesar’s Pizza	\$ 5.00	Primary Vendor
Domino’s Pizza	\$ 6.49	Secondary Vendor

2. Fencing Supplies and Equipment District-Wide (Proposal #17-12-22)

The Board approved the award extension for fencing supplies and equipment to the following vendors:

Vendor	Location	Award Status
Bell Fence Supply	La Feria, Texas	Primary Vendor
Hurricane Fence Company	Harlingen, Texas	Primary Vendor

Fencing supplies will be purchased on an as-needed basis with quotes being obtained from all primary vendors at the time the item(s) are needed if the purchase is estimated to be over \$300. If the item(s) cost is under \$300, then only one quote from any of the two primary vendors is required. The total amount of purchases for one year cannot be determined now since it is not known how much each department or campus will purchase.

T. Approval of Proposal Awards:

1. Welding Supplies and Equipment (Proposal #18-12-12)

The Board approved the award for Welding supplies and equipment to the following vendors:

Vendor	Location	Award Status
Airgas	McAllen, Texas	Primary Vendor
Alamo Iron Works	Brownsville, Texas	Primary Vendor
American Industrial Supplies & Tool Repair, Inc.	Pharr, Texas	Primary Vendor
Praxair Distribution, Inc.	Pharr, Texas	Primary Vendor
United Welding Supply	Edinburg, Texas	Primary Vendor

Welding supplies and equipment items are for the repair and maintenance of the district's facilities and for the CTE welding classes throughout the school year.

Items will be purchased as needed and quotes will be obtained from any one of five (5) primary vendors at the time the item(s) are needed. However, if the total item cost is over \$3,000, then quotes need to be obtained from at least three (3) of the approved vendors listed.

No award amounts are listed because it is not known what items or quantities of items will be purchased throughout the year nor from what vendor will they be purchased from.

2. Engine Lathes and Milling Machines (Proposal #18-12-13)

The Board awarded the Engine Lathes and Milling machines proposal to MSC Industrial Supply from Harlingen, Texas. The total purchase amount will be \$89,079.77 and will include equipment, delivery, setup and training. The equipment will be used at the Career Technical Education (CTE) Department for the expansion of the advanced manufacturing program. This program requires specific equipment to stay in sync with the advanced manufacturing curriculum that is offered to the students.

U. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Board approved the budget amendments as presented.

1. State Compensatory Fund - To Reclassify Funds to Hire Consultants to do On-Site Professional Development for the Language Arts Department: \$10,300
2. Horton AEP – State Compensatory Fund to Reimburse Teachers for Travel Expenses: \$360.00
3. State Comp. Dept. – State Compensatory Fund to Record Roll-forward for the State Compensatory Fund: \$1,567,740

V. Approval of Monthly Tax Adjustments for November 2017

The report for the November monthly tax adjustments was not received.

ITEM PULLED OUT FOR DISCUSSION:

Q. Approval of Renewal of the School Messenger Emergency Notification Service for the District

This item was pulled out by Trustee Dr. Richard Rivera.

The recommendation from administration is to approve the one-year renewal of service for the School Messenger emergency notification service for the district from the sole source vendor West Interactive Services Corporation from Scotts Valley, California. This system is used for emergency notification to parents and staff. The system is also used for making routine notifications and attendance calls. School Messenger uses their own equipment in the clouds and their own phone lines to make unlimited calls and unlimited emails. The system also has the capability to make the calls in different languages if needed. The cost of this service for one year is \$26,543.80.

Questions from Dr. Richard Rivera:

- › “Who monitors the system?”
 - Mr. Carlos Martinez, Mr. Juan Ruelas, and other staff members monitor the system.
- › “What kind of emergency calls were made?” (Almost 1200 emergency calls were listed on the report)
 - Different options can be selected when making the calls; for example, emergency, non-emergency, or general. According to Mr. Martinez, most of the emergency calls were due to power outages and no water at the campuses.

Mr. Caballero informed the Board that during the hurricane, as a parent, he received messages on his phone in regard to early release and school closure.

- › “Are there any companies in Texas that provide this service?”
 - As per Mr. Martinez, West Interactive Services Corporation has provided this service to the District since 2013. Campuses have not addressed any complaints and staff is satisfied with the system. The district is also able to add social media at no extra cost. The cost of the renewal amount of \$26,543.80 has not increased.
- › “Is a TIPS hotline provided?” Dr. Rivera commented that there is always information provided by students that can be useful.

According to Mrs. Sue Peterson, Mrs. Norma Brewer set up a hotline on the district’s website this fall for students to report bullying, drugs, or anything on campus. Principals, counselors, and social workers know that it is available and have been asked to share.

- › “Are parents aware of the hotline?”

Mr. Caballero stated that he attended a parent meeting at Cuellar Middle School and the principal shared information on all the resources available to parents and students and this item was also addressed.

- Mr. Caballero wanted to know if the concern/tip remains at the campus level or shared with administrative staff as well.

According to Mrs. Peterson, the principal receives notification and information is also shared with other administrators to ensure that someone sees the report immediately.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to approve the renewal of the School Messenger Emergency Notification Service for the District. Andrew Gonzalez second the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Board President informed the Board that an out-of-valley trip request for migrant students was included as an addendum for board approval. The information was not provided in Friday’s packet.

ADDENDUM: OUT-OF-VALLEY TRIP REQUEST FOR MIGRANT PROGRAM

- Twenty-two junior and senior migrant students from Weslaco High School and Weslaco East High School enrolled in the CTE course “Project Based Research” will attend an out-of-state college trip to Boston, Massachusetts, New York, and the surrounding areas on May 18-23, 2018. The students will tour Boston Dynamics and several universities that have some of the strongest engineering programs in the country.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the trip request as presented. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. Discussion Items:

A. First Reading of Policy Update 109 from Texas Association of School Boards (TASB)

TASB Policy Update 109 was presented for first reading at the December 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting.

Update 109 encompasses changes in law from the 85th Legislative Session that have an immediate effect on the governance and management of the district. The update contains 17 local policies of which thirteen (13) have been replaced, three (3) have been added, and one (1) has been deleted. The local policies require close attention by the administration and the Board.

The recommended changes to local policies address the following topics:

Board member requests for records and visits to campuses	Cameras in special education classrooms
Security of polling places	Parental notification of certain educator misconduct with students
District investments	Transportation funding for areas with a high risk of violence
Criminal history for contractors and subcontractors	Student issues, including attendance, bullying, mental health, and lice notification
Prepaid meal card/accounts for students	Refusing entry to or ejecting persons from district property and visits by sex offenders to district premise
Board delegation of certain termination actions	Responding to Public Information requests; and
Employee standards of conduct, including electronic communications with students	Opportunities for patriotic society representatives to speak to students
Possession of firearms on locked vehicles in district parking areas	

The second reading and final approval will be presented to the Board at the Regular Board Meeting scheduled on January 15, 2018.

B. Interim Financial Report for the Three Months Ended November 30, 2017

The Board acknowledged the Interim Financial Reports for the three months ended November 30, 2017 as prepared by the Business Office.

Mr. Andres Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, presented the following report.

Source	Budget	Received & Receivable	Variance	Percentage
5700 Local Source	26,383,577	2,373,093	(24,010,484)	8.99%
5800 State Source	130,985,911	42,099,148	(87,886,763)	32.90%
5900 Federal Sources	14,712,629	1,673,508	(13,039,121)	11.37%
Totals	172,082,117	47,145,749	(124,936,368)	27.40%

- A total of 27% has been collected.
- Expenditures: \$170,473,939
 - › District has spent \$39,214,015 which represents 23.00%.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know if any of the accounts were under budget or over budget for the three-month period ending November 30th.

Mr. Sanchez pointed out that the following accounts were over by a little.

- 34 – Transportation: Purchase of fuel
- 35 – Food Services: Services for ACE afterschool program
- 36 – Co-Curricular: Expenditures are higher due to the amount of trips at the beginning of the school year

Dr. Rivera asked staff to monitor Function 11 to ensure that the principals were getting what they needed for the students.

Staff will need to cut back on spending, or find more money because the cost for construction projects going out for bids will probably increase due to all the catastrophic events (fires, hurricanes, etc.) that have occurred in the different states.

C. Acknowledgement of Hidalgo County Tax Office Collection Report for November 2017: Current Taxes and Delinquent Taxes

The collection report for the month of November was not received by the Hidalgo County Tax Assessor Collector. The report will be presented at the January Board Meeting.

D. Announcement of Continuing Education Credit for Board Members

As required by the State Board of Education (SBOE), the following rule for announcing board member credit is as follows:

- Annually, at the last regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held during a calendar year, the current president of each local Board of Trustees shall announce the name of each board member who has completed the required continuing education, who has exceeded the required hours of continuing education, and who is deficient in the required continuing education as of the date of the meeting. The President shall cause the minutes of the local board to reflect the information and shall make this information available to the local media. (TAC A, Section 61.1(j).

Listed below are the different types of training required by the SBOE:

Tier I: First year board members must attend an orientation to the Texas Education Code as part of their Tier I requirement. Experienced board members must attend the Update to the Texas Education Code.

Tier II: Board members, along with their superintendent, shall meet on an annual basis and complete the required team-building session and assessment of their continuing education needs.

Tier III: First year board members must complete 10 hours of continuing education hours as part of their Tier III requirement. Experienced board members must complete five (5) additional hours on an annual basis.

The following chart reflects credit hours earned by each board member from January 1, 2017 through December 1, 2017.

Board Member	Tier I (Orientations) New Board Member Training	Tier II (Teamwork) Team Building/ Goal Setting Session	Tier III (Continuing Education Hours)	Total
Caballero, Oscar	N/A	6	24.50	30.50
Gonzalez, Daniel Andrew	N/A	6	21.25	27.25
*Kennedy, Patrick B.	1.5 hrs. completed 2/10/17 2.0 hrs. completed 12/15/16	6	13.00	20.50
Lopez, Erasmo	N/A	6	24.00	30.00
Nieto, Isidoro	N/A	6	28.00	34.00
Rivera, Richard	N/A	6	31.25	37.25
Rodriguez, Jaime	3.50	6	12.00	24.50

* Mr. Kennedy completed his new board member training in two sessions: December 15, 2016 and February 10, 2017. The two hours completed in December 2016 were posted by TASB as part of last year's report.

This information shall be made available to the local media.

XI. Discussion and Possible Action Items:

A. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Change the Regular Board Meeting Scheduled on January 8, 2018

The Superintendent recommended that the Board consider changing the date of the originally scheduled board meeting in January. In January, the second Monday of the month is January 8th, which will be the first day staff will return to work after the Christmas break. In order to allow staff time to prepare the agenda items to be presented for approval, the Administration recommended that the Board change the date of the Board Meeting to Monday, January 15, 2018.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to change the date of the Regular Board Meeting in January to Monday, January 15, 2018. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Annual Financial and Compliance Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2017

State law requires that school districts submit a Financial Audit Report to TEA by January 28, 2017. The Annual Financial and Compliance Audit report is based on GASB 34 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34 Basic Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments).

This year's audit was conducted by the firm of Noel Garza, CPA. Mr. Noel Garza presented the findings of the annual audit performed for the year beginning September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017.

Mr. Garza presented the following information to the Board:

"In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Weslaco ISD, as of August 31, 2017,

and the respective changes in financial position, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

The firm rendered an Unmodified opinion which is the highest audit opinion that can be issued. There are no findings or questioned costs reported in this fiscal year’s audit.

➤ Financial Highlights:

- District’s net position as of August 31, 2017 was \$94,242,030 – a decrease of \$7,586,879

➤ Balance Sheet for All Governmental Funds

- Total Assets: \$60,005,633
- Total Liabilities: \$7,658,528
- Nonspendable Prepaid Items: \$1,379,451
- Nonspendable Inventories: \$960,789
- Restricted for Grants: \$5,093,955
- Undesignated/Unassigned Fund Balance: \$17,500,000
(To be used at the Board’s discretion in a manner as it sees fit)
- Other Assigned Fund Balance (for construction): \$23,385,542
- Total Fund Equity: \$48,319,737
- Recommended goal is to raise the amount in the Undesignated/Unassigned Fund Balance

➤ Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds (Income Statement)

- Total Revenues received from local, state, and federal sources:
General Fund End of Year: \$166,996,883
- Total Expenditures: \$ 159,717,528
Largest account: Instruction @ \$83,943,245
- Excess Revenues of \$7,279,355
- Bond Proceeds: \$15,020,000
- Transferred out to cover debt/construction: \$5,165,408
- Net Change in Fund Balances: \$2,113,947
- Fund balance increased over the last year by \$2.1 million

➤ Budgetary Comparison Schedule

- Total Revenues Received:
Original: \$168,897,286
Final: \$168,793,036
Actual Amount: \$1,796,153
Variance: shortfall of \$1,796,153
- Total Expenditures:
Original: \$164,3971,286
Final: \$170,405,765
Actual Amount: \$159,717,528
Variance: \$10,688,237 (district realized a savings)
(Expenditures were projected but funds were not spent)

➤ Proprietary Funds: Includes self-funded insurance

- District received \$14,532,843 in premiums.
- District had claims of \$18.6 million
- Claims exceeded revenues of \$4.1 million

Staff will need to go into the general fund to cover the \$4.1 million and present a budget amendment to allow for the transfer.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know how many years the district has gone into the fund balance to cover expenses. Mr. Garza replied that the District transferred over 1 million last year to cover expenses. Due to an increase in medical care, he recommended that staff try to take advantage of the different funding sources available to help cover these costs.

Dr. Rivera also wanted to know how many of the larger school districts had internal auditors and if Mr. Garza recommended that WISD hire one. According to Mr. Garza, the larger school districts have an internal auditor. He stated that WISD has a Compliance Auditor; however, due to staffing restrictions, that position is utilized to manage day-to-day accounting functions and not used to the fullest capacity of a compliance auditor. In the past several years he has recommended that the District hire staffing necessary to alleviate the additional work of the compliance auditor so that the individual can perform the audit function.

In response to Dr. Rivera's inquiry on student activity funds, Mr. Garza and his staff visited one elementary, one middle school, and one high school. They were satisfied with two of the schools but had concerns with one school, which they addressed to staff; however, staff had already identified the issue and had taken steps to correct and make adjustments.

Dr. Rivera commended Mr. Garza for his work and made the motion to approve the Annual Financial and Compliance Audit Report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2017. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve a Procurement Method of Construction for the Improvements to the Girls Athletic Facilities and Boys Athletic Facilities at Weslaco High School and Weslaco East High School Project:
1. Board Determination of a Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project,
 2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, OR Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
 3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

On March 9, 2017, the Board approved PBK Architects from McAllen/San Antonio, Texas, to design the specifications for the construction of the Girls Athletic Facilities and Boys Athletic Facilities at Weslaco High School and Weslaco East High School Project.

Throughout the process of designing the project at both campuses, PBK architects met with both high school principals, athletic coordinators, athletic director, and central office administrative staff to discuss the space needs for the various sports involved at both high schools, modifications needed, and approve the layouts for both high schools improvements.

Administrative staff recommended that the Board approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction for this project, for the Board to make a determination on retaining the authority to rank the proposals or delegate their authority to administration, and to approve the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals as presented.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know the amount budgeted for this project and if the coaches were satisfied with the design. According to Mr. Sanchez, the amount budgeted was \$4.6 million and the actual amount of the project is \$4,662,366. The Athletic Director Oscar Riojas commented that he was satisfied with the project.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to go with the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, delegate the authority to the Administration to rank the proposals to be received, and approve the criteria as presented. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

D. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve a Procurement Method of Construction for the Weslaco East High School Band Hall Addition Project:

1. Board Determination of a Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project,
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, OR Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received; and
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

On May 30, 2017, the Board approved ERO Architects from McAllen, Texas, to design the specifications for the construction of the Weslaco East High School Band Hall Addition Project.

ERO Architects met with Weslaco ISD staff on several occasions to discuss: 1) the space needs, 2) the space layout to maximize building use and efficiency, and 3) approve the layout for the new band hall building. The Schematic Design Phase of this project was approved by the Board on November 13, 2017.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know how the size of this band hall compared to the one at Weslaco High School. According to Mr. Sanchez, the band hall addition at East High School will be a little smaller, but since the existing band hall will be utilized, the overall sq. ft. is more than the one at Weslaco High School.

The amount budgeted for this project was \$5 million; the estimated project's construction cost is \$5,342,200. The architect fee is 6% of the construction cost which is \$320,533. Funding for this project will be obtained from the Local Maintenance Fund's Fund Balance assigned for Facilities or Other Needs. The completion date for this project is November 26, 2018.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the competitive sealed proposals method of construction, allow staff to rank the proposals to be received, and approved the criteria and points to be used for ranking the proposals. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve to Modify the Contract with Rike Ogden Figueroa & Alex Architects to Add the Design of the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center

On September 25, 2017, the Board approved a contract with Rike Ogden Figueroa & Alex Architects (ROFA) of McAllen, Texas, to design the plans and specifications for the improvements

of two (2) projects needed for the CTE-Early College High School courses: 1) Advanced Manufacturing Technology Shop at the Joe Calvillo CATE Complex, and 2) Welding/Woodworking Shop at the Pete Abrigo Ag Farm.

The Administration requested that the Board add the design of the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center to the existing contract. Dr. Canales commented that the purpose for the storage building is to provide a safe environment free of toxins in the contexts of the Aquatic Center.

The preliminary cost range estimate for this project is \$100,000 plus approximately \$12,750 for architect fees (7% of construction cost) and engineering consultants. Funding for this project will be obtained from the Local Maintenance Fund's Fund Balance assigned for Facilities or Other Needs.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez made the motion to modify the contract with Rike Ogden Figueroa & Alex Architects to add the design of the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center as presented. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve the Schematic Design Phase and the Design Development Phase of the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center

On April 18, 2017, the Board approved Rike Ogden Figueroa Alex (ROFA) Architects, Inc. of McAllen, Texas, to develop the plans and specifications for the construction of a Chemical Storage building at the Aquatic Center. Currently, the chemicals are stored in the pump room where the ceiling is open to the roof deck with the metal structure of the building exposed. Over the years, the chemical has caused dangerous corrosion that has resulted in expensive repairs.

According to Mr. Humberto Rodriguez, AIA with ROFA Architects, the Chemical Storage Building is needed for the purpose of storing the required pool chemicals, primarily muriatic acid and chlorine tablets. Mr. Rodriguez met on two separate occasions with Weslaco ISD staff, Swimming Coach Alejandra Trevino, and Athletic Director Oscar Riojas to discuss the needs and define the scope of work for this project.

Mr. Rodriguez provided the following information on the work scope of the project:

- Storage Building will be located on the north side of the parking lot.
- Block material will be used on the interior and brick material on the exterior to match existing design.
 - › Regular brick and block will be installed up to four (4) ft. with a screen brick wall above to allow natural ventilation going through.
- The use of metals will be minimized to prevent corrosion.

The Board President addressed his concern on the exposure of chemicals to wind driven rain. He pointed out that chemicals are now packed in paper bags and once they get wet, it creates a reaction and starts to rust the building.

Mr. Rodriguez informed the Board that the doors and frames will be fiberglass and the hardware will be stainless steel. The roof will consist of a concrete slab on top with columns on the corners and it will have an overhang around the perimeter so the water can shed out.

Mr. Lopez suggested that a fiber mesh material be used on the concrete to increase the life of the building.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the schematic design phase and design development phase of the Chemical Storage Building for the Aquatic Center. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- G. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval to Modify the Contract with ERO Architects of McAllen, Texas for the Design of Roofing Improvements District-Wide to Only the Following Four Campuses: Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall and Gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall and Gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's Old Band Hall

On February 13, 2017, the Board approved a procurement method of construction for the roofing improvements project needs known at the time. Due to budget constraints, the roofing projects were separated into two groups: 1) roofs needing repairs within the next 12 to 24 months, and 2) roofs needing repairs within 36 to 48 months.

- Cost estimated for Group 1 (15 locations/roofs): \$1,800,000
- Cost estimated for Group 2 (10 locations/roofs): \$3,950,000

A thorough evaluation was conducted by ERO Architects of the condition of the roofs in Group 1. The evaluation report showed that the roofs were more damaged than originally estimated and therefore the cost for roofs in Group 1 would be \$13 million. Since staff allocated only \$2.2 million from the \$17 million proceeds of the Maintenance Tax Note loan, Administration ranked the roofs in repair priority order and recommended that the Board modify the contract with ERO Architects for the design of roofing improvements to include the following roofs: 1) Airport Elementary, 2&3) Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, 4&5) Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, and 6) Weslaco High School's Old Band Hall.

Mr. Americo Garza, Director of Energy Systems/Maintenance and Operations, informed the Board that rather than patching up areas on the roofs, district staff prefers to replace the entire roofs on these six buildings and hopefully replace more roofs in the next few years. Staff is currently looking into an inexpensive solution to seal the roofs of the campuses that are not part of this project, until additional funds are available to do the entire roofs.

The school attorney asked the Board if they wanted to include a clause in the contract to specify if they want to utilize the same architect to perform the work on the next phases of the project, or if they are going to determine the architect at a later date when they move forward on the other projects.

The Board President wanted to know if there was a possibility of getting the drawings and the designs finalized and then bid out the projects as the money becomes available in order to save some time on the process.

Mr. Sanchez replied that the district would have to pay 70% of architect fees upfront for having the drawings ready to go out to bid. He informed the Board that the district should have \$1 million at the end of the year which could be used to do one more school. Staff is hoping that IFA monies will become available in the next two years and thus be able to do the remaining campuses with those funds.

Dr. Rivera commented that the roofs were a priority because he did not want kids exposed to mold due to all the leaks. He stressed the importance of replacing the roofs on all the buildings and stated, "The roofs to me are more priority than fences and pavilion - things of that nature."

Mr. Lopez preferred to revisit this item in order to come up with a better plan or look into borrowing some money. He stated, "To say that we need \$13 million and we're only going to do \$2 million of repairs is difficult to swallow." He suggested that they find additional funds to add a few more schools to this project.

Dr. Jaime Rodriguez said that the roofs that were prioritized will still need to get done, but if the Board does not take action to approve this project, the work will just be delayed. He asked if they could approve this project and then add additional roofs as they come up with the funds. Andrew Gonzalez did not want to prolong this project due to the recent heavy rains. He concurred with Dr. Rivera on the roofs being a priority but preferred that the Board take action on this project at this time. He suggested they meet to discuss what they can do about the other schools.

The school attorney informed the Board that the architect had proposed a modification of the agreement that would make these projects Phase I and then continue to serve as architect for Phase II as needed. They are not proposing to cease being contractually obligated to the rest of the project.

Dr. Rodriguez made the motion to modify the contract with ERO Architects of McAllen, Texas for the design of roofing improvements district-wide to only the following four campuses: Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's band hall and gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's band hall and gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's old band hall as presented. Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

H. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of a Procurement Method of Construction for the Roofing Improvements Project at the Following Four Campuses (Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's Old Band Hall):

1. Board Determination of Procurement Method of Construction that Will Provide the Best Value to the District for the Project
2. Board Determination to Retain the Authority to Rank the Proposals to be Received for this Project, or Board Delegation of Their Authority to the Administration to Rank the Proposals to be Received
3. Approval of Criteria and Points to be Used for Ranking the Proposals

The Administration recommended that the Board approve the Competitive Sealed Proposals Method of Construction for this project.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the Competitive Sealed Proposals method of construction to allow staff to rank the proposals to be received, and approved the criteria and points to be used to rank the proposals. Oscar Caballero seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

I. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve the Schematic Design Phase and Design Development Phase for the Roofing Improvements Project at the Following Four Campuses: (Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's Old Band Hall

Mr. Jerry Garcia and Mr. Jose Rios from ERO Architects presented the schematic design phase and design development phase for the roofing improvements project at the four campuses.

Cuellar: Gymnasium & Band Hall

› Gymnasium

- Objective is to remove the roof all the way down to the tectum system and start from scratch
- Integrate gutter system
- Add access ladder from existing roof down below to higher roof on the section of the gym

› Band Hall

- Remove the roof on the band hall and bring up to code
- Remove dead man ladder on east side and provide a roof access hatch for accessibility
- Continue structural work and get all other defined items taken care off on the roofs

› Close to finalizing the documents; specifications are 50% complete

B. Garza: Gymnasium & Band Hall

- Modify existing metal roof system on existing gym and band hall
- Provide a complete overlay with multi-ply system
- Work on structural attachments
- Provide 3 accessible ladders for that area (proposing aluminum-type ladders)

WHS: Old Band Hall

- Existing system will be torn down all the way down to the deck and new multi-ply system will be installed.
- Three (3) RTU units previously installed with curb adapters will be lifted up to be re-sealed and set back down again.
 - › Mr. Garcia suggested putting the correct curb on the units.
He will provide and alternate to see if it is justifiable to do without having to incur any additional cost.

Airport Elementary School

- Multi-ply system will be installed
- Provisions are being made: structural, electrical, and mechanical
- Specifications are 50% complete - pending legal language
 - › Working with district staff to see what other items they want to include in the documents and what items they plan to take care of themselves

Mr. Garcia mentioned that the Board will need to decide if they want to bid out the projects independently or all together. The warranty for the roofs is 25 years.

Dr. Rivera wanted to know if staff was satisfied with the schematic design. According to Mr. Americo Garza, Director of Energy Management/Maintenance and Operations, staff is satisfied with the schematic designs as presented.

The architect fee will be 6% of the construction cost. Funding for this project will be obtained from the General Fund's Fund Balance assigned for Facilities or Other Needs. The estimated substantial completion of these projects is August 17, 2018.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the Schematic Design Phase and Design Development Phase for the Roofing Improvements Project at the following four campuses: (Airport Elementary, Dr. Armando Cuellar Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, Beatriz G. Garza Middle School's Band Hall & Gymnasium, and Weslaco High School's Old Band Hall. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- J. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve the Design Development Phase for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Shop at the Joe Calvillo CATE Complex & the Welding/Woodworking Shop Improvements Project at the Pete Abrigo Ag Farm Complex

On March 9, 2017, the Board approved Rike Ogden Figueroa Alex (ROFA) Architects, Inc. of McAllen, Texas, to develop the plans and specifications for the construction of two (2) district projects:

- 1) Joe Calvillo CATE Complex remodeling of one shop for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Course
- 2) Pete Abrigo Ag. Farm Complex remodeling of an existing building for the Welding and Woodworking Courses

Mr. Humberto Rodriguez, AIA with ROFA Architects, held several meetings with Weslaco ISD staff to discuss the equipment that will be placed in the two buildings.

Mr. Rodriguez provided the following information on the projects:

- Preliminary mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design work is under way.
- Remodeling of Advanced Manufacturing Technology Course Shop
 - › Matching veneer to existing exterior
 - › Possibly accent the fill-ins with a particular color
- Welding/Woodworking Shop
 - › Site Plan is situated
 - › Working on parking lot to make sure it meets ADA compliance
 - › Met with city personnel on submitting all requirements
 - › Reviewed classroom space, outdoor storage, existing elevations, and proposed elevations
 - › A 6 ft. chain link fence will be installed.
- ROFA Architects is adhering to the schedule provided by the district.

Questions/concerns addressed by the Board:

- Exposure to wind driven rain
 - › Chain link fence will be on south side
 - › Prevailing winds will come in from southeast
 - Engineers are looking into providing additional exhaust
- “Is staff happy with design?”
 - › According to Mrs. Sandra Avila, Director of Career and Technology, staff has met several times and they have made improvements to the design every single time. They are happy with the design presented.

Mr. Rodriguez informed the Board that they will encounter wind driven rain unless the building is enclosed.

Mr. Lopez questioned the possibility of adding an addendum for canopies to provide additional cover. Mr. Rodriguez reminded the Board that the building is 18 feet high; therefore, any addition will have to be placed up high to provide coverage. Another possibility would be to extend the walls all the way to the top and enclose the entire building.

Andrew Gonzalez also suggested that a cover could be placed at an angle to deter some of the rain to prevent students from being harmed from falling debris.

According to Mrs. Avila, STC has a comparable building at their campus. Through discussion with a department chair at STC, it was suggested that it be left open because the exhaust was not necessary.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the Design Development Phase for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Shop at the Joe Calvillo CATE Complex & the Welding/Woodworking Shop Improvements Project at the Pete Abrigo Ag Farm Complex as presented. Oscar Caballero seconded the motion.

Dr. Rivera suggested that a workshop be held in the future so that the Board can look at all the facilities to determine which projects are more important. He supported this program but questioned which project was more important, the roofing project or this project.

Board President Erasmo Lopez mentioned that a Facility Committee Meeting is held once a month to discuss the needs of the district. This project was discussed and ranked on top because it is needed to accommodate the growth of students in this program. According to Mr. Lopez, the needs of the district are much more than what is financially available at this time.

Mr. Caballero commented that he would also like to meet in a workshop setting every two or three months to discuss the needs of the district.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Andrew Gonzalez and seconded by Oscar Caballero to approve the Design Development Phase for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Shop at the Joe Calvillo CATE Complex & the Welding/Woodworking Shop Improvements Project at the Pete Abrigo Ag Farm Complex as presented.

- K. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Approve the Design Development Phase for the Pavilions at Cuellar Middle School and Mary Hoge Middle School, and a New Canopy and Restrooms for the Science Wing Building at Central Middle School Project

On September 11, 2017, the Board approved Alvarado Architects & Associates, Inc. of Donna, Texas to design the specifications for the construction of the new pavilions at Cuellar Middle School and Mary Hoge Middle School, and a new canopy and restrooms for the Science Wing Building at Central Middle School project.

Mr. Eli Alvarado has held several meetings with Weslaco ISD staff to discuss these projects. Mr. Alvarado provided an update on the work scope of the projects.

Pavilions

- Soils testing of the sites is being conducted and preliminary mechanical electrical and plumbing design work is under way.
- Pavilions will consist of one main court running north and south and two practice courts running east and west. The courts will include lighting, speakers, drinking fountains, and electrical connections. The pavilions will also have a sidewalk along the perimeter.
- Size of Pavilions: 60 X 100 (Includes sidewalk)

The Board President suggested that they look at the possibility of facing the pavilion east and west rather than north and south to provide better shade for the students. Mr. Alvarado pointed out that the pavilions will have a siding that will come down 3 to 4 feet to provide more shade; however, he will run it through the campus administration.

Central Middle School Science Wing

- Restrooms will be located on north side of science wing and include:
 - › 1 Boy's restroom and 1 Girl's restroom
 - › Teacher's restroom (possibly one male and one female or 1 unisex)
- Canopy will connect to main campus
- Exterior: matching existing brick and metal roof
 - › Adding lights along edge of door to allow more light
 - › Round windows will be placed on west side to allow for natural light
- Timeline
 - › Construction Documents – January
 - › Bid project in February
 - › Award project in March
 - › Complete pavilions in the summer
 - › Complete restrooms by September/October 2018

The estimated construction cost of these projects including architect fees at 6% is \$1,200,000.00. Funding for this project will be obtained from the Local Maintenance Fund's Fund Balance Assigned for Facilities or Other Needs.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the Design Development Phase for the pavilions at Cuellar Middle School and Mary Hoge Middle School, and a new canopy and restrooms for the Science Wing Building at Central Middle School Project. Oscar Caballero seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Andrew Gonzalez, Oscar Caballero, Isidoro Nieto, and Dr. Jaime Rodriguez. Dr. Richard Rivera voted against the motion. Motion carried with a 4 to 1 vote.

- L. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield for Third Party Administrator Services

The school attorney recommended that the Board discuss the contract in closed meeting to review recent changes made to the contract and revisit the item after closed meeting to take action.

XII. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 9:05 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- L. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield for Third Party Administrator Services

- A. Personnel Matters (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074)

- 1. Employment of Personnel

- 2. Resignations

- 3. Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074 and 551.071)

- B. Consultation with Attorney Regarding: a) Pending or Contemplated Litigation: b) a Settlement Offer: or c) a Matter in Which the Duty of the Attorney to the Weslaco ISD under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas Clearly Conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Tex. Gov't. Code 551.071)

- 1. Rafael M. Caballero v. Weslaco ISD, Cause No. CL-16-1811-F, before County Court At Law Number 6 of Hidalgo County, Texas

- 2. Discussion Regarding Contract Negotiation with Blue Cross Blue Shield

Dr. Rivera left the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

XIII. Reconvene in Open Meeting:

The Board returned to open meeting at 9:58 p.m. to take action on the following items:

- A. Possible Action, If Necessary, on Items Discussed in Closed Meeting:

- L. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield for Third Party Administrator Services

The Board discussed issues related to contract negotiations in closed meeting as recommended by the school attorney.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to authorize the administration and legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed meeting. Isidoro Nieto seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

1. New Employment

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the contracts for professional personnel as presented.

Name	Position	Location
1. Cavazos, Rene Jr.	Accountant	Business Office
2. Garcia, Diamaris Grisel	6 th Grade Language Arts Teacher	Cuellar Middle School
3. Dr. Carolina Lopez	English Language Arts-Reading Strategist	Curriculum & Instruction

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as recommended by the superintendent. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Resignations

Non-action item.

3. Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074 and 551.071)

Non- action item.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Consultation with Attorney Regarding: a) Pending or Contemplated Litigation: b) a Settlement Offer: or c) a Matter in Which the Duty of the Attorney to the Weslaco ISD under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas Clearly Conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code

1. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Rafael M. Caballero v. Weslaco ISD, Cause No. CL-16-1811-F, before County Court At Law Number 6 of Hidalgo County, Texas

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to authorize the superintendent and legal counsel to proceed as discussed in closed session. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Contract Negotiation with Blue Cross Blue Shield

No action needed. Board action was taken on XIII-L.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.