



Board Meeting

H I G H L I G H T S

Board meeting held on January 26, 2009 at Lanier High School
1514 W. Durango Blvd. • San Antonio, TX 78207

SAISD Celebrates Leadership at a reception recognizing Trustees

“Jazz is alive and well in San Antonio Independent School District.” Dr. Robert J. Duron, Superintendent of schools said as the crowd applauded the Connell MS Jazz Band at the Board reception Monday night. Over two hundred guests enjoyed refreshments, music and listened to students and community members show their appreciation for the board at Lanier HS. The culinary program at Lanier provided the cookies and punch for the guests.

Sam Houston students spoke about the various programs they are benefiting from and thanked the Board for the support of programs such as The MET, athletics, band and CPS Fellows. One Sam Houston HS student expressed her excitement at receiving over \$60,000 in scholarships from SMU.

The Austin Academy Mariachi Band serenaded the Board in a very moving performance during which the musicians played their violins and sang to the Trustees and audience.

Rachel Ponce, long-time community advocate and volunteer spoke very eloquently about the hard work involved in serving as a Board Trustee and committing long hours to achieving the greater good.

At the end of the program, the District presented each Trustee with personalized notepads and a special paperweight engraved with the SAISD logo.

Financial Audit and 2009-2010 Outlook Presented to Board

Each year, the District is required by TEA to have an independent auditor prepare an Annual Financial and Compliance Report. This year’s report is for the year ending August 31, 2008. The audit was conducted by Garza, Gonzalez & Associates who presented their report to the Board at Monday night’s meeting. Once approved, the report is filed with TEA. The auditors announced at the meeting that there were no qualifying reports that would need to be filed with TEA and that all final reported numbers were very close to the District’s projected estimations.

After the audit was approved, Steve Bassett, Assistant Superintendent of Financial Services, made a presentation to the Board that explained the final budget numbers from 2007-08 and updated projections for 2008-09.

After all receipts and deposits were calculated for 2007-08, it was determined that SAISD will be adding \$373,793 to its fund balance to make the ending fund balance \$52.8M. Looking at and accounting for the actual expenditures of the previous year allowed Finance to update their forecasted projections for the next fiscal year. In 2008-09, it is projected that the District’s fund balance will have a deficit of \$3.7M for an ending fund balance of \$49M

E-Rate Contracts for 2009-10 Approved by Board

Marcos Zorola, Chief Information Officer, presented an update to the Board on the E-Rate program. E-Rate is a Federal Communications Commission directed program that provides for

schools and libraries to obtain affordable telecommunications and internet access from the Universal Service Administration Company.

This program requires that SAISD fund 10% of the projects and the program funds the other 90%.

The SAISD Board committed to E-Rate in December of 2007. In 2007-08, the District spent \$1.8M while receiving \$15.8M through E-Rate.

In 2009-10, SAISD plans to invest \$1.1M and will receive \$9.5M from E-Rate.

All monies both from the District and the program have and will continue to fund hardware and infrastructure at the campuses such as:

Local Phone Service	Switches & Wireless Access Points
Cellular Phone Service	Mission Academy, WAN Circuit
WAN Circuits	Mission Academy, Cisco Equipment
Internet Service	Mission Academy, DHCP Server
Cisco SMARTNet™ Maintenance	Panasonic IP-PBX Telephone System
Cisco Routers and Switches	Cabling for High Schools
DHCP Servers	LX Modules
Uninterruptible Power Supplies	

The comprehensive plan calls for the approval of two contracts totaling \$1.1M so that SAISD can apply to receive the planned funding in 2009-10. SAISD will only proceed with these projects if this funding is awarded.

Approved Contracts and Agenda Items

The Board approved the following items that were on the consent agenda:

- An additional \$125,000 was approved to be spent on mechanical, electrical and plumbing services. As a result of various engineering projects, such as E-Rate and capital improvement projects, additional funds were required.
- St. Mary's University will use the Sports Complex in February for the 5th Annual NCAA Division II Softball Tournament.
- The Martial Arts Personal Development Center will use the Alamo Convention Center in March to host the 29th Annual Texas State Karate Championships. Later that month, the convention center will also host the Lone Star High School All-Star Basketball Games. In May, The Alamo City Christian Fellowship in conjunction with H.I.S. BridgeBuilders will host a city-wide prayer meeting
- Alamo Stadium will host the Battle of the Flowers Association in April for their annual Fiesta Battle of the Flowers Band Festival.

Proposed Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone named *Midtown*

The City of San Antonio Housing and Neighborhood Services Department requested that the Board waive the 60 day notice period that the city is required to provide SAISD as they work to designate a Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ). The city is requesting the waiver because of a scheduling conflict that prohibited them from presenting to the Board in December.

In addition to the waiver, the city requested that SAISD appoint someone from the District to meet and speak with the San Antonio Housing and Neighborhood Services Department to fully understand and give input for the plan.

The reinvestment zone would happen over twenty years and could mean approximately \$80M in taxes for the city as well as drainage improvements to Broadway, street and sidewalk improvements, underground utility burial, transportation improvements and other public improvements that will facilitate private development.

Currently, the plan calls for the appointment of members to a Board that would develop and execute the reinvestment zone plan.

The Trustees waived the notice requirement and Mr. James Howard, Board President, requested that an SAISD Trustee be appointed to meet with the city to report back to the Board on the plan's development and what it means for the District.

For more information, please visit www.saisd.net

Board of Education

James Howard, President; Carlos Villarreal, Vice President, Thomas C. López, Secretary; Doug Sellers, Assistant Secretary; Olga M. Hernandez, Member; Eliseo E. Cadena, Member; Angie Ruiz, Member; Robert J. Durón, Superintendent