



Board Meeting

H I G H L I G H T S

Board meeting held on June 22, 2009 at David G. Burnet Center
406 Barrera. • San Antonio, TX 78210

Teach For America proposal

The Board approved entering into negotiations with Teach For America for a contract for the recruitment and placement of 50 teachers per year for a three-year period. A cohort of 50 teachers would be hired and assigned to campuses with the greatest demonstrated need based on various considerations. Teach For America will also provide intensive new teacher training and support for these teachers during their first two years of employment with the District. The proposed cost to the District is \$3,000 per teacher per year for up to two years of employment.

Employee Salary increase tentatively approved

The Board voted to approve a salary increase for all SAISD employees for the 2009-2010 school year, contingent on rulings by the Department of Education and the Texas Commission of Education that the stimulus funds in Bill 3646 may be used for salaries. Under the District proposal, employees on the teacher scale would receive, on average, an increase of 4.9 percent, with a minimum of \$2000, and all other employees would receive an increase of 4.9 percent of the pay grade midpoint.

Innovative music program to expand from two high school campuses to four

Trustees were updated on the proposed expansion of the Music Production course which was piloted last year at Brackenridge and Jefferson High Schools. This innovative program uses state-of-the-art technology and software to teach students skills that are relevant to musicians who produce music for soundtracks, composing and other relative industries. The program proposed to expand to the Edison and Highlands campuses for the 2009-10 school year.

Board approves proposed expenditures of SAISD federal stimulus funds

Trustees approved initial expenditures using the expected Federal Stimulus funds. Title I funds of approximately \$1.8 Million would be used for math and reading Tier 2 interventions, including the purchase of the Voyager Math program for grades 2-8, Agile Minds for grades 9-12. SAISD expects to be awarded \$22,529,994 in Title I and \$11,843,111 in IDEA-B funds from the Stimulus package. IDEA-B funds are estimated to be spent on the following:

- Autism evaluation and training
- Professional learning initiatives
- Positive behavior support initiatives
- Special education data systems
- General Education Connection (GEC) Program and technology
- Life Strides hygiene and safety equipment
- Adult student transition program

- Services to support other Special Education Functions such as deaf education, Braille technology, speech and language services, early language and literacy, therapeutic services.

Renewal agreements for the 2009-10 school year

- The San Antonio Education Partnership (SAEP): SAEP provides college readiness opportunities for SAISD high school students, including the awarding of SAEP scholarships
- City Public Service Distinguished Fellows Program: this program allows high school students who plan to pursue a college degree in engineering or mathematics to take college-level courses in mathematics and science
- Students Partnering for Undergraduate Success (SPURS): 11th grade AP students and staff at Brackenridge, Edison, Highlands and Fox Tech High Schools work with the University of Texas at Austin students and staff to learn critical reading skills needed for success in college
- Chem-Bridge: this program provides high school students with two college chemistry courses from the UT-Austin Chemistry Department which are taught using the Internet
- To provide academic services at the following facilities/programs: Roy Maas Youth Alternatives-The Bridge; Healy Murphy, The Children's Shelter, Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center and the Bexar County Juvenile Justice Academy
- The Children Shelter/Project MAS (Mothers and Schools): to provide Compensatory Education Homebound Instruction (CEHI) for pregnant and postpartum students

A number of District purchases were approved including:

- Voyager V-Math accelerated intervention program materials
- Edusoft Assessment Management system
- Algebra I and geometry supplemental instructional materials
- Kitchen equipment such as convection ovens and steamers
- Voyager reading intervention program materials
- Special Education Student Information System

Highlands High School to pilot Collaborative Dropout Reduction Program

Trustees approved a memorandum of understanding in connection with Project CONNECT, a collaborative dropout reduction program that coordinates the efforts of SAISD; Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department; Family Violence Prevention Service, Inc.; Alamo Colleges and the City of San Antonio. Highlands High School received a \$250,000 grant to implement this program designed to address 9th grade students who have received or are on the verge of receiving a truancy warning letter and over-aged 9th grade students with a history of attendance problems.

Financial Services

- The Board approved the recommended list of qualified investment brokers/dealers for 2009-2010 who meet the requirements of SAISD and the Public Funds Investment Act to be able to provide investment advice and deal in investment transactions with the District
- The Board approved the renewal of the contract with Garza/Gonzalez & Associates to provide external audit services. Federal law requires that the Board have the District's fiscal accounts audited annually at the District's expense by a Texas certified or public accountant holding a permit from the State Board of Public Accountancy

Facilities

- The Board approved a contract with DBR Engineering to replace the underground piping and feeders at Irving Middle School.

- A contract was approved by the Board with USA Environmental, LP for the installation of environmental physical controls at Brackenridge High School to remove the top 12 inches of top soil where the former school building was located and replace it with 12 inches of clean soil.

Ancillary benefits program for District employees approved

The Board approved the purchase of benefits and a personal line programs to include:

- Optional short and long term disability insurance
- Basic life and AD&D insurance for all active full-time employees
- Optional employee and eligible dependent vision insurance
- Optional employee and eligible dependent group auto and homeowners insurance

Board approves new campus appointments

Several personnel assignments were approved for the next academic school year. For a listing of these assignments go to the following URL:

http://www.saisd.net/main/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=129&tmpl=component&format=raw&Itemid=160

For more information, please visit www.saisd.net

Board of Education

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