

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Bastrop Independent School District**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bastrop Independent School District was held on **Tuesday, December 16, 2008**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at **Cedar Creek Middle School, 125 Voss Parkway, Cedar Creek, Texas 78612.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Allen, President
Jim Mills, Vice-President
Karen Halladay, Secretary
Johnny Sanders
John Eaton
Glenn Peterson
Sophia Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Johnathan Overall
Candi Wilson
Lisa Peavy
John Apostalo
Felicia Womack
Feng Johalling
Cheryl Robinson
Martha Nickel
Mike Pawlik
Evelyn Weilert
Julie Johnson
Jerry Acevedo
Larry Overall
Dena Zavala
Hector Zavala
Sandy Angeley
Hector Zavala, II
Andrea Perez
Natalie Thompson
Melissa Salinas
David Castor
Michael Wyatt
Layli Pham
Suzanne Aronson
Vanessa Ryan
Victor Guajonto
Sean Apostalo
Marianne Byrd

ALSO PRESENT:

Roderick Emanuel, Superintendent
Betty Richardson, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Barry Edwards, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources
Sandra Callahan, Chief Financial Officer
Henry Gideon, Chief Operations Officer
Donald Williams, Exec. Director of Community Services
Lori Gracey, Ex. Director of Technology/CATE
Jennifer Womack, Director of Curriculum & Assessment
Tessie Young, Director of Programs
Lacey Padgett, Director of Human Resources
Sherri Gilmore, Ex. Director of Special Education Coop
Gerald Perry, Director of Athletics/Head Football Coach
Thomas Dowdy, Director of Maintenance
Bryan Doyle, Director of IT Services
Lauri Anzaldua, Communications Coordinator
Sarah Belcher, Community Ed Specialist
Shevis Moore, EMC/Safety Officer
Albert Gaines, Director of Child Nutrition
Dr. Celina Estrada-Thomas, Bastrop High School Principal
Robert Washington, Student Services Coordinator
Jim Hallamek, Cedar Creek Middle School Principal
Shawn Adams, Cedar Creek Intermediate Principal
Deborah Mayer, Emile Elementary Principal
Mary Hernandez, CCMS Dean of Instruction
Sherri Schwab, Cedar Creek Middle School Asst. Principal
Richard Battle, Bluebonnet Elementary Principal
Terrell King, Bastrop High School Asst. Principal
Nancy Barrientos, Adm. Asst. to Superintendent
Mirella Spalding
Andrew Perez
Lawrencece Perez
Mary Castor
Betty Wyatt
Sheri George
Micki Gilbert
Christian Chambers
Caleb Davis
Jim Clark
Bruce Jerpseth
Ginni Smith

Sherrri Bryant
Kimberly George
Elizabeth Duggan
Kendra Creighton
Stacy Thompson
Tony Salinas
Martha Sherwood
Courtney Adams
Keaton Pawlik
Kayla Pawlik
Sean Connor
Lee Poplinski

David George
Penny Lambright
Chris Duggan
Jake Creighton
Gerald Ronje
Janet Eaton
M. Reardon
Cherie Pawlik
Sydney Wallace
Denise Shaw
Don Loucks
Josie Guajardo

1. Opening, Presentations & Open Forum

A. Meeting Called to Order

President Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum of Board members was present. The meeting was duly called and notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Glenn Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

Glenn Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

D. Opening Prayer

Glenn Peterson offered the opening prayer.

E. Student Speaker on Character Education Trait for December - Perseverance

Cedar Creek Middle School 8th grader Keaton Pawlik spoke to the Board on Perseverance. Keaton's parents, Cherie and Mike Pawlik were introduced.

F. Special Presentations

1. Presentation of Plaques to Campuses for Receiving Gold Performance Acknowledgements

Superintendent Emanuel presented principals from Bluebonnet Elementary, Emile Elementary, Red Rock Elementary, and Cedar Creek Middle School a plaque for their campuses receiving Gold Performance Acknowledgements. Sherrri George accepted the award for Red Rock Elementary.

G. Open Forum

There were no requests to speak in open forum.

2. Cedar Creek High School Configuration Presentation and Discussion

A. Presentation on Cedar Creek High School Configuration

President Allen stated that the board challenged the administration to gather information from other districts on how new high schools are opened. He explained that there is additional money involved no matter which option is

chosen. President Allen stated that no decisions have been made yet about the configuration for the new high school, and he encouraged comments and questions following the presentation. President Allen assured the audience that the board would make a good decision that fits for Bastrop ISD in January 2009.

Barry Edwards presented information on the proposed CCHS configuration. Mr. Edwards reviewed the planning process. He explained that the 2001 demographic study supported the need for a new high school, and in 2007, voters approved bonds for the new high school, a new performing arts center, and a new multi-purpose athletic stadium. He reported that the performing arts center and the stadium would open in 2009 and the new high school in the summer of 2010.

Mr. Edwards presented a student cluster population map and reported that the current boundary lines successfully splits the district in half; therefore, there would be no change to the current boundary lines.

Mr. Edwards stated that the first configuration scenario would open Cedar Creek High School as a 9th grade only campus. He explained that 2009-10 Cedar Creek Middle School 8th grade graduates would be the first freshman class at CCHS, and every year, one grade level would be added at the school. Mr. Edwards added that students that reside in the CCHS attendance zone that were in grades 10-12 would continue to attend and graduate from Bastrop High School. Under this scenario, Bastrop High School would remain a small 5A high school. Mr. Edwards reviewed 9th grade course offerings at CCHS. He reported that the estimated budget impact of the 9th grade only scenario was approximately \$1.7 million above and beyond current expenditures.

Mr. Edwards presented the second configuration scenario which was to open CCHS with 9th & 10th grades only. He reported that CCHS would have no varsity athletics with this scenario, and Bastrop High School would then be a large 4A school. Mr. Edwards explained that 2009-10 CCHS 9th graders would attend Bastrop High School for one year and then move to 10th grade at CCHS. In addition, Cedar Creek Middle School 8th grade graduates would attend CCHS. Mr. Edwards added that students residing in the CCHS attendance zones that were in grades 11 and 12 would continue to attend and graduate from Bastrop High School. This scenario also includes adding one grade level each year. Mr. Edwards reported that this scenario would be the most cost effective, with the estimated budget impact of \$2 million.

The final scenario presented was to open CCHS with grades 9 – 12. Mr. Edwards reported that under this scenario, both BHS and CCHS would be small 4A schools. Mr. Edwards reviewed course offerings and explained that there would be differences in course offerings at the two high schools with this scenario. He went on to say that some programs cost too much to operate at both campuses, so CCHS will offer some courses, and BHS will offer some of the courses. Mr. Edwards reported that the estimated budget

impact of opening the new high school with grades 9 – 12 would be \$3.2 million.

B. Community Comments and Questions Concerning the Cedar Creek High School Configuration

Mr. Emanuel reviewed frequently asked questions. He reviewed budget information for the opening of the new high school over a four year period. Mr. Emanuel reviewed results of a student survey asking students if they would prefer to stay at Bastrop High School or move to Cedar Creek High School when it opens. Mr. Emanuel introduced CCMS Principal Jim Hallamek, who served as the moderator for the evening.

1. How will the grade levels be done? When will that be voted on?

The Board will vote on the configuration at the January School Board meeting.

2. Why are the stadium and performing arts center being completed earlier than the high school?

A lot more planning is involved and it takes longer to build a high school.

3. I am an eighth grader at CCMS. My friends and I talk about CCHS during lunch and we strongly think it should open 9th & 10th grades only.

4. Will I be able to attend the new school? (asked by a current BHS student)

You will be able to attend the new school if the board votes to open the school with grades 9-12.

5. If the school opens with freshmen only on the first year, will the selection of elective courses available be limited? For instance, how many different language courses will be offered?

That depends on the enrollment numbers. There will have to be enough students sign up for the courses.

6. Could part of the new high school be a “magnet school” with very high standards and a very rigorous curriculum?

This has been discussed; however there are no plans for a magnet school at this time.

7. Since Bastrop High has a separate 9th grade campus, is it really that disruptive to move the Bastrop High 9th graders class to Cedar Creek High?

No, it would not be disruptive. The 9th grade students have not been on the Bastrop High School main campus.

8. Students excelling in athletics & UIL activities would not be able to participate in Varsity competition until their Jr. year – thus depriving these students of potential scholarships. How would these students be handled?

It depends on what scenario is decided upon. If the new school opens up as a 9th grade only, varsity competition would begin the junior year and if the school opens as a 9-10, varsity competition would begin senior year. Some sports could have a varsity schedule. As far as recruiting, if a school wants to find you, they’ll find you. Decisions will need to be made

by parents and students depending on the opening configuration. The district is faced with a tough decision athletically.

9. **I would like a more complete explanation of budget impact (i.e. of my concern is difference in teachers from 9 & 10 opening to 9-12 opening total \$674,000). This is a major portion of the difference. If student to teacher ratio remains the same. \$674,000 for 11 & 12 to attend CCHS. Comment - I will have a junior for opening year. I support a full 9-12 opening to quickly reduce overcrowding and send my junior to high school close to home. The cost would only be reduced for 2 years of which would exclude 10-11 juniors & seniors of the benefit of the new campus. Barry Edwards would be glad to meet with the author of this question to discuss this in more detail.**
10. **Students were surveyed at CCMS and BHS students that live in Cedar Creek. What were the student's desires regarding CCHS?**
The survey results were reviewed.
11. **If opened as a 9th or 9th & 10th grade campus, does that mean the athletics program will not be UIL sanctioned?**
Football is tied into a 2 year commitment. Varsity competition could begin in 11th grade. If the school opens as a 9-12, both schools would play varsity competition. Neither school would survive this scenario
12. **Would it be cheaper to open 9th - 12th rather than to open 9th - 10th?**
No
13. **Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't the main reason that we asked for a bond to be approved by Bastrop County taxpayers the overcrowded classrooms at BHS? We are still overcrowded and many teachers have difficulty maintaining a learning environment. We need a new high school with grades 9-12 for the benefit of ALL of our children.**
14. **If majority students want to go to CCHS but cannot, is there any way that we can go? (asked by a current BHS student)**
It depends on which scenario is voted on.
15. **In the 9th only scenario in order to offer a full range of electives, will some teachers be assigned to both BHS & CCHS and travel between?**
This could happen.
16. **The proposal for the opening for the grades 9-12 in this presentation seems to be very discouraged. I am a student at Bastrop High School and through my experience so far for I have been on main campus and west campus is that we are very crowded and overpopulated. A lot of the classes have already been over filled because of the request for the classes. Most parents that voted for the bond, especially in the Cedar Creek area, were expecting all of their children to go to CCHS, such as my parents. When the school opens I will be a junior and because of the discouragement, I would more than likely not be**

able to go to a high school that is walking distance from my home.

17. Will there be a principal for each grade level?

Regardless of which scenario is decided upon, Cedar Creek High School will have a campus principal.

18. The enormous amount of time wasted by students in transportation from Cedar Creek to Bastrop should be taken into consideration favorably to open Cedar Creek High School to as many grades as possible.

19. In the 9-12 arrangement, what would be the pros and cons if any? And, how did Northeast ISD fare? Is 9–10 phase in more cost effective, and if so, in what ways?

We have to look at fiscal responsibility and look at what's best for kids. The 9-10 phase-in would be the more fiscally responsible scenario. Northeast ISD had no other option – they are a fast growing district and open a new high school every 2 years.

20. My question is in regards to security for the new school and the new stadium. Who will provide the security and how much security will be needed since these will be considered rival schools? We usually have 7 officers at football games – is that going to change?

We will continue to use SRO's and will be budgeting for additional SRO's as we grow. In addition, BISD is utilizing technology by having up to 200 cameras at the new high school and stadium.

21. Does the \$3.2 million 9-12 opening factor in cost reductions at BHS? How much would be saved from BHS?

Yes, it has been factored in. Staff would be reduced and with the phase in, the district would increase ADA each year. That is the only way school districts get new money. Two small schools would be more costly than one large school.

22. There has been nothing mentioned about transportation costs reduction, reduced bus accidents, behavior problems due to overcrowding (which is highly publicized) or academic performances. Aren't these problems that need immediate attention? Won't these problems be reduced by opening a 9-12 campus in 2010? And aren't these reasons more important than cost?

Those are reasons that we will certainly consider. Of course fewer students at our campuses should decrease discipline problems and academic performance should improve. Our #1 concern is doing what's best for our students.

23. What impact will the vote of parents to open 9-12 grades have on the BISD Board?

No decision has been made at this time, however we asked for input and will compile the information and the board will take everything into consideration when making their decision.

24. What are the demographics of the Cedar Creek area?

It is projected that there will be 1,267 high school students in our western attendance zone in 2010. The demographics are similar to the current demographics at CCMS.

- 25. If CCHS starts out with 9th grade only, will the students be able to play sports? How many staff members will we hire? And will we be able to afford it along with the school, the taxes, etc.?**

Yes. 54 staff members will be hired and we will be able to afford it.

- 26. In regards to the student survey: Your slide shows that all BISD students were asked the question. How many of these are only in the CCHS area? Could you survey those in attendance tonight for their choice?**

Only Cedar Creek students were surveyed.

- 27. In the last several years we have seen district administrators add portables and such for administrative staff. If we cut the duplicate overhead at the top, then wouldn't that create a cost savings and allow opening 9-12 grades?**

Administrative costs at BISD are lower than the state average.

- 28. The ultimate board decision will be based on a 9, 9-10, or 9-12 vote by each member?**

Each board member will cast a vote and the majority will win. The Superintendent will make a recommendation and the Board will vote on the configuration at the January 20th School board meeting.

- 29. I'm an 8th grader at CCMS. I would love to go to CCHS because I think that the new high school would be a lot safer to be at than BHS. Do you think that CCHS will be a lot safer to attend than BHS?**

Both high schools will be safe.

- 30. Will Coach Perry continue to be the districts' Athletic Director?**

Coach Perry will continue to serve as the district's Athletic Director and each campus will have a coordinator.

- 31. Are School Board members elected by districts? How many board members live in the Cedar Creek area?**

No, School board members are elected at large. Currently, there are 5 members that reside in Cedar Creek and 2 that reside in Bastrop.

- 32. If the school is ready to open to 1,500 students, then why not open to capacity?**

That is one option that will be considered in January.

- 33. So is it true that the only way for CCHS to have a varsity football**

team the first 2 years is to open 9-12?

Yes, that is correct.

- 34. If Bastrop ISD has an open transfer policy, how could it be disruptive to any student?**

Our hope is that it is not disruptive. On the athletic side, there are very strict guidelines. If we open the school with grades 9-12, our current information indicates that athletically, we will not be able to support two schools. We are working hard to increase participation in our athletic program. UIL discourages opening the new high school with grades 9-12.

35. CCHS participation in athletics and band and other extracurricular will increase due to ease of transportation to a nearby campus.

Mr. Eaton polled the audience on how many would vote for an increase in their tax rate for opening the new high school with grades 9-12. A few members of the audience raised their hands. David Castor asked if the Board had previously discussed a tax increase and Mr. Eaton answered no. Mr. Castor stated that he gave the district his vote and his money and the school should be opened as a 9-12 campus. Mr. Eaton stated that at the June Board meeting, a demographic presentation showed that growth is not continuing the way it was in the past. An audience member stated that she was concerned with taxes and added that the more businesses that Bastrop attracts, the better the tax base. She stated that the tax base would help alleviate the tax impact on the citizens, and added that Bastrop needs more businesses with higher paying jobs.

President Allen thanked the audience for their attendance and comments and questions. He reiterated that the Board is faced with a big decision, adding that community input was very important. In addition, he commented that the Board must also take in account the research that has been done and presented over the past several months.

Mr. Sanders commented that regardless of which configuration is decided on there would be a dramatic decrease in the overcrowding at Bastrop High School. Mr. Sanders reminded that it took the district four tries to pass the bond for the new school, and added that no matter what decision is made, not everyone will be satisfied.

The board took a break at 8:16 p.m. The board reconvened at 8:32 p.m.

3. Public Hearing

A. Public Hearing on 2007-2008 Academic Excellence Indicator Report

The Public Hearing on the 2007-2008 Academic Excellence Indicator Report (AEIS) was opened at 8:32 p.m. Mrs. Richardson explained that the AEIS Report pulls together a lot of information on students, staff and the districts' finances. Mrs. Richardson reviewed student information including student attendance, AYP standards, SAT and ACT scores, completion rate, college readiness standards, and the percent of students enrolled in higher education institutions.

Mrs. Richardson reviewed the districts' demographics and reported that there are 13 factors that can classify a student as "at-risk". President Allen asked Mrs. Richardson to supply those factors at a future meeting. BISD staff and financial information was reviewed. President Allen called for comments or questions from the board or audience members. There being no comments or questions, the Public Hearing was closed at 9:00 p.m.

4. Superintendent's Report and Board Discussion

A. Curriculum Report

1. **Draft of 2008-2009 District Improvement Plan**

Betty Richardson presented a draft of the 2008-09 District Improvement Plan. Mrs. Richardson reported that the plan was aligned with the Board goals and the Superintendent's objectives and would be brought back to the Board for approval in January. She added that Campus Improvement Plans would be brought to the Board in January as well.

Mr. Eaton stated that there are only two months to execute the plan and asked who set the timetable for the planning cycle. Mrs. Richardson answered that she follows the TASB timeline. Mr. Eaton asked if there was a 5-year vision and plan in place. Mrs. Richardson stated that there was a 3-5 year plan; however there is no vision statement for 5 years out. Mr. Eaton stated that this accounts for unpredictable results, adding that he would like a 5-year plan in place and a planning timeline. Mr. Eaton volunteered to work with the Superintendent on this and asked for this item to be placed on the January agenda.

Mr. Eaton commented that there are some systemic issues and a couple of items to consider implementing within the improvement plan that may require a Board policy change. Mr. Eaton asked if Pre-AP courses are open enrollment and Mrs. Richardson answered yes. Mr. Eaton stated that AP classes have specific criteria in order to be in the AP classes, adding that it's not just a parent's choice if a student is enrolled in an AP course. He went on to say that TAKS results may indicate that the district is moving kids through the system whether they fulfill the academics or not, adding that this needs to be remedied.

The next issue that Mr. Eaton addressed was block scheduling. He stated that recent studies show that block scheduling is not generating results that tradition scheduling is generating with one exception – exceptional students. Mr. Eaton would like for the district to re-evaluate the effectiveness of block scheduling. Mrs. Richardson stated that scheduling was an administrative procedure, not a Board policy. Mr. Sanders asked for a report on block scheduling versus traditional scheduling, including budget impact, extra teachers, etc. Superintendent Emanuel stated that with traditional scheduling you will save money, but not initially.

Mrs. Richardson reported that there are campus requirements to remain in Pre-AP classes. Dr. Thomas added that there is a parent/student/teacher conference before they remove students from pre-AP classes. Dr. Thomas reported that all 9th, 10th and 11th grade students recently took the PSAT test and the data shows there should be more students in pre-AP classes. Mr. Hallamek stated that he would like to teach students how to succeed in rigorous classes, and does not want students to run away from challenges. Mrs. Richardson agreed that the more that we can challenge and motivate

the better. She went on to say that the rule is, if a student wants to challenge the course, they can, adding that it is very difficult to set specific criteria. Mr. Eaton would like to discuss this further in January.

Dr. Thomas reported that the high school site based committee is currently studying the block vs. traditional scheduling. She recommended that the district study the scheduling this year and proceed with caution. Dr. Thomas stated that it would be impossible to go to a 7 period day by next year. She stated that with two campuses, the school must have longer passing periods since some students move from campus to campus. Mrs. Richardson stated that the district is also currently studying options at the middle school levels. Mr. Hallamek stated that he would like for all four core subjects to meet daily and is looking at Science and Social Studies meeting daily next year.

B. Employee Opinion Survey Results

President Allen reported that 66% of BISD employees participated in a recent Employee Opinion Survey and the results are posted on the BISD website. President Allen reviewed the survey results and was pleased with the overwhelming participation rate and the positive survey results. He stated that a happy employee is a productive employee. President Allen reported that the survey was anonymous and the results were delivered directly to him. He added that another survey would be conducted at the end of the school year.

C. Financial Report

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

D. Personnel Report

Mr. Eaton reported that he has heard a fear or perception in the community that higher paid teachers will be removed and replaced with less experienced teachers to reduce the budget (overall salary costs). He stated that this was ludicrous thinking and makes no sense. Mr. Eaton asked for a report with a breakdown of resignations – voluntary versus involuntary – in March. Barry Edwards assured the Board that this would never be a method for reducing the budget.

1. Resignations

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

2. Substitutes

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

E. Operations Report

1. Update on Construction Projects

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

2. Discussion of Stone Materials for the Jerry Fay Wilhelm Center for the Performing Arts

Henry Gideon reported that in trying to find a stone comparable to the stone at the Bastrop State Park, the contractors had located a quarry that could produce such a stone, however, the quarries locale was in west Texas and the cost to transport the material was approximately \$92,000

more expensive than a similar stone found in a quarry close by. For the purposes of this discussion, Mr. Gideon pointed out the color was slightly lighter than and not as consistent as the darker redish stone found in use at Bastrop State Park. Because of the difference, Mr. Gideon wanted to get the board's input. Denise Shaw from Pfluger reported that the quarry suggested an alternate stone material that would be within our budget and that the alternate material had been presented to the performing arts center design committee and they were pleased with it. Ms. Shaw asked for Board feedback and Jim Mills inquired about manufactured stone. Ms. Shaw reported that the manufactured stone came in higher than the design teams preferred material and for this application. She stated that the manufactured stone in this application would not be cost effective material for this project. Ms. Shaw reported that the committee members picked the hickory color, and a mock-up would be done to simulate how the materials will go together before the final decision is made. The majority of the Board liked the hickory color.

Mr. Gideon also reported that it would cost the district \$580,000 to widen State Highway 21. Mr. Gideon is in the process of drafting a letter to TxDOT requesting a traffic study at State Highway 21 and McDonald Lane for the feasibility of a traffic signal. Mr. Sanders would like the School Board to go on record that they anticipate deaths if a traffic signal is not installed at this intersection.

Mr. Gideon reported that all construction projects are on schedule and within budget.

3. Durham School Services Safety Report

Information was provided to the Board. Mr. Gideon reported that an intense review is being performed by the corporate leadership at Durham. He stated that there are not a lot of common denominators in the up-tick of recent accidents. Mr. Gideon reported that Durham is in the process of implementing additional programs and making changes with training. He went on to say that he is working on comparable data with other school districts and county data, and there seems to be a spike in general with regards to accidents in the county, probably due to a large traffic increase in Bastrop County. Jim Mills asked if there was an explanation for a spike in accidents in October & November. Martha Sherwood from Durham stated that the only thing they found was that there were several brand new drivers that were trained in the summer and the traffic patterns in the summer were different than the traffic patterns during the school year. In addition, there were no students on the buses during the training. Ms. Sherwood reported that the bulk of the accidents involved new drivers. Ms. Sherwood stated that Durham is increasing training and are evaluating new drivers to show their progression. In addition, new drivers have a "ride along" for at least a week.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Consider Approval of Minutes of November 18 and November 25, 2008**
- B. Consider Approval of Bids**
 - 1. Portable Building Relocation RFB #2009-06**

- C. **Consider Approval of 403(b) Plan Document**
- D. **Consider Approval of Tax Refunds**
- E. **Consider Approval of Revised Adjunct Faculty Agreement and Resolution for Texas AgriLife Extension Agents**

President Allen asked if any member of the Board would like to pull any of the consent agenda items for closer review. There being no requests, President Allen called for a motion. John Eaton moved and Jim Mills seconded to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: the minutes of November 18 and November 25, 2008; the portable building relocation bid to Larry Jollisant, Inc.; the 403(b) plan document as presented; the tax refunds over \$2,500 for Bastrop ISD; and the revised Adjunct Faculty Agreement and Resolution for Texas AgriLife Extension Agents as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Action Items

- A. **Consider Approval of General Fund Budget Amendment**

Sandra Callahan reported that the budget amendment is for 7th and 8th grade laptops that were budgeted in 2007-08 and received and paid for in 2008-09. Karen Halladay moved and Jim Mills seconded to approve the general fund budget amendment as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Information Items

- A. **District-Wide Calendar**

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

- B. **Enrollment**

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

- C. **Report on Board Member Training Received to Date**

Information was provided to the Board. President Allen reported that all board members have met or exceeded their training requirements.

- D. **Discussion on Adopting New Local Board Policy**

John Eaton stated that he and Mr. Peterson would like this item put on the January agenda for consideration. Mr. Eaton read the proposed policy and stated that the policy should not create conflict from anyone and would remove perception why someone in the community might support a candidate. Mr. Sanders commented that he was somewhat offended by the proposed policy, adding that laws would have to be changed. Mr. Eaton stated that he would like an attorney's opinion on the policy, and President Allen stated that it would cost \$185 to get an opinion. He went on to say that he would not get an attorney's advice without the consent of at least four Board members.

Glenn Peterson moved and John Eaton seconded to adopt the following policy: "BISD Board members or candidates seeking a BISD Board of

Trustee position may not accept any financial contribution or material contribution from any persons or firms that do business with BISD. Material contributions include, but are not limited to meet and greet forums, purchase of campaign material, printing of campaign material, installing or uninstalling of political signs, letters to the editor of endorsement, ads, working and or providing telephone canvassing support, etc. Acceptance of such contributions will require the board member to resign from the board or a candidate to withdraw from seeking election.” President Allen called for a vote. James Allen, Jim Mills, Sophia Williams and Johnny Sanders opposed. Karen Halladay abstained from the vote.

MOTION FAILED 2-4-1

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Board Secretary

Board President