

WALNUT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Minutes
February 22, 2022

Present: Randy Clark, Roxi Castillo, Cindy Phillips, Virginia McNairn, and Supt. Ken Kemp


Absent: Shane Foster and Robert Morrison

1. Call to Order and Declaration of Forum: Randy Clark
2. Invocation: Virginia McNairn
3. Pledge to the American Flag: All
4. No audience
5. Motion made to approve the Consent Agenda by Roxi Castillo
 - A. Minutes of January 22, 2022
 - B. Finances: all areas reviewed; funds available: \$1,646,406.12
 - C. Delinquent taxes collected: \$.38
 - D. Jan/Feb monthly bills
 - E. No budget amendment

Second by Cindy Phillips; all voted in favor.

6. Adjustments to the school calendar due to bad weather and Covid were reviewed.
7. Ice machine and dishwasher repaired. Internal & external doors have been repaired and each classroom can be locked from the inside.. Exterior door near the superintendent's office may require additional changes. Exterior door to the auditorium can be opened and closed after many years of disrepair.
8. Motion made by Virginia McNairn to approve the lease of an unleaded fuel tank with Sunco. Second by Roxi Castillo; all voted in favor.
9. Motion made by Roxi Castillo to approve new bank signatures. Second by Cindy Phillips; all voted in favor. Two Board officers must sign all bank transactions.
10. Motion made by Virginia McNairn to adopt a resolution adjusting the wording of the superintendent's contract to allow stepends to be included as creditable compensation for TRS purposes. Second by Roxi Castillo; all voted in favor.
11. State Comptroller's Preliminary Property Tax Value Study reviewed.
12. Consensus of the Board allotted Supt. Kemp leeway to act as needed in regard to E-rate and current proposals.
13. Motion made by Roxi Castillo to approve purchase of 40 Chromebooks to replace present outdated ones. Second by Cindy Phillips; all voted in favor. Chromebooks will be purchased with grant money.
14. Personnel
 - A. No action required
 - B. Supt. Kemp presented with regret the resignation of Barbara Smith, an employee of 35 years.

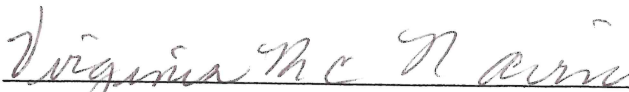
15. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Enrollment: 56 - 92.44% attendance of the 4th six weeks, annual attendance - 95.98%
 - b. Sports banquet in the planning stages.
 - c. Planning a means of recognizing outstanding reading achievements.
 - d. Various certification of staff and superintendent presented.
16. Evaluation of the first year of Supt. Kemp's leadership was very positive. Many positive changes were noted as well as appreciation for his actions and his presence as leader of Walnut Bend Isd. Changes requested: regular updates on student's progress, communication by letter to parents and community due to the lack of electronic communication by some, and changes in board packets, including the possible use of the old chromebooks..
17. **Executive Session to discuss personnel issues was called at 9:22 and returned to Open Session at 9:40.**
18. No action required following Executive Session
19. No student transfers
20. Due to Spring Break, it was the consensus to schedule March 29th as the next Board Meeting.
21. Motion made by Virginia McNairn to approve Letter of Intent to Approve the Renewal District of Innovation Plan Proposal that must be sent to the Commissioner. Second by Cindy Phillips; all voted in favor. Appropriate Committee approval has occurred.
22. No additional business: adjournment: 9:45



President

3-29-22

Date



Secretary

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
WALNUT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Walnut Bend Independent School District (“District”) is authorized by Texas Education Code § 11.151 to govern and oversee the management of the public schools in the District; and

WHEREAS, Walnut Bend ISD endured unusually inclement weather and rampant illness during the 2021-2022 school year and, for the safety of all students and staff, closed school facilities because of bad weather and large outbreak of COVID during January and February 2022; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of employees were directed to not come to work on those weather affected days or days closed due to rampant illness and the Board believes there is a public purpose for paying employees for missed work days that will not be made up; and

WHEREAS, the decision was made to seek any applicable waivers from the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”) and pay employees for work days missed due to the emergency closure of school facilities;

WHEREAS, the Board believes the public purpose for payment of employees for the work days missed increases morale, reduces employee turnover, reduces the District’s exposure to possible unemployment or Fair Labor Standards Act claims, and results in equitable treatment of all employees.

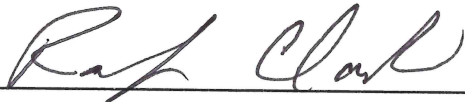
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WALNUT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees finds that the public interest was served by paying employee who were idled due to the unexpected closure of the District due to bad weather or rampant illness for missed work days that will not be made up.

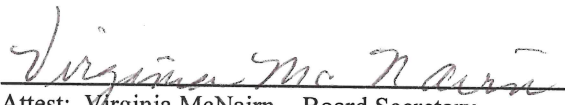
RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby ratifies the decision of the Superintendent to pay employees for a regular duty day pursuant to Walnut Bend Board Policy for the unexpected closure of the District due to bad weather or school closings due to illness, including those employees who were idle and not working those days that will not be made up.

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees further ratifies that (1) the paying of employees served a public purpose, (2) the terms of the payments pursuant to District policy provides for sufficient control over the expenditure to ensure a public purpose is served, and (3) the District will receive a return benefit from the payment of employees.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of March 2022 by the Board of Trustees for the Walnut Bend Independent School District.



By: Randy Clark, Board President



Attest: Virginia McNair, Board Secretary