

BOARD OF EDUCATION DOCUMENT 18

The Board of Trustees of the Breckenridge Independent School District met in special session on Monday, June 9, 2008, 5:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the School Administration Building, 212 North Miller, Breckenridge, Texas.

The following Trustees were in attendance: Alissa Atkinson, Koby Killion, Mike Herrington, Mark McCullough, Todd Pennartz, Skip Griffith and Bryan Woodward.

Mr. Woodward called the meeting to order and established a quorum.

2008-2009 Budget Workshop

Chandler Snow, Business Manager, reviewed the budget process for the benefit of the new board members, and distributed a power point handout. He explained that the budget process started in January, 2008, and that the budget is a legal authorization to spend money. He explained that he meets with teachers and staff to discuss and make cuts prior to this meeting. Budget must be prepared by August 20th and adopted by August 31st.

The three funds are the General Fund, Food Service Fund, and Debt Service Fund. It is a legal requirement to be budgeted for these funds. State and federal grants are not included in the budget.

The 2008-2009 tax rate will be \$1.04, and the values for 2008 taxes has increased by \$123 million from last year.

Mr. Snow explained that any purchase over \$5,000 is required to be capitalized. He reviewed the expenditures for the general fund and noted that 75% of budget is payroll. He also stated that budget is estimated at 2.8 million versus 2.4 million last year at this time. It was also noted that the district does have a balanced budget. Mr. Snow also explained that PEIMS numbers are used to estimate revenue, and these numbers are based on enrollment.

Discussion was held regarding increasing substitute teacher pay. The cost of required fingerprinting that went into effect January 1, 2008 is \$50.20, which is more than a day's pay for substitutes and some other district personnel. These areas will be reviewed.

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Administrators prioritize needs on their campuses and go over these with the accounting department to begin the budget process. It was noted that there is a constant requirement to update technology, and that payroll is a work in progress until August, due to personnel changes.

Mr. Snow told the Board that BISD has two months reserve in fund balance, and that the district is in good financial shape. He stated that a lot of districts have to borrow to meet payroll while waiting on the receipt of state funds. He also said that it is not uncommon for the food service to be \$20,000 - \$30,000 in the red because it is hard to budget how many meals will be served.

John Richey, Director of District Services, voiced concern over the rising fuel costs, and with the cost of diesel being \$4.10 last month and on a continual rise, transportation expenses would definitely see a substantial rise.

Principals were asked if they had any concerns, and there number one concern was instructional material. Tammy Wallis, North Elementary principal, stated that her campus was trying to add to technology as they could, but they also had to add portable buildings this year because they have added an extra class this year. In Kindergarten thru 4th grade, classes are required to have no more than 22 children in each class.

Brent Evans, South and Junior High principal, stated that South Elementary is in need of a computer lab, but will have to restructure classrooms.

Board member, Mark McCullough, interjected that some schools are going to laptops instead of books for instruction. Alissa Atkinson, board member, stated that she had researched this and that Childress and Floydada are strictly using laptops, and these districts would be glad to talk to our Board. Linda Sims, BISD Director of Instruction, said that BISD is now applying for a grant for 8th graders in order to obtain laptops for all students. In regards to funding for this project, it was suggested by Roberta Brown that the District encourage the Breckenridge Education Foundation to assist with this

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funding. Dwayne Dove, Director of Technology, stated that all teachers have to “be on board” to be trained to go from textbooks to laptops. It was also noted from John Richey who has taught a science course in years past on the computer without textbooks that it was motivating to the kids and resulted in goods scores. The software people train the teachers, laptops are taken home by the students, yet the computers can be locked down if inappropriate website access is attempted. Everyone agreed that with kids already into technology, this would be a good way to teach. Parents and teachers will just need to catch up to the children in the technology area. Ms. Sims said that she would call Childress and talk to them about the program.

There were no more questions on the budget.

Adjournment

Mr. Woodward adjourned the meeting at 6:04 P.M.

Bryan Woodward, President

Date

Skip Griffith, Board Secretary