

## BOARD OF EDUCATION DOCUMENT 27

The Board of Trustees of the Breckenridge Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, August 10, 2009, 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the School Administration Building, 212 North Miller, Breckenridge, Texas.

The following Trustees were in attendance: Weldon Edwards, Julie Erb, Todd Pennartz, Skip Griffith, and Sandy Morris. Koby Killion and Bryan Woodward were absent.

Mr. Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and established a quorum.

Pledge of Allegiances            Mr. Edwards led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and to the Texas Flag.

Invocation                        Mr. Jennings Teel, Breckenridge ISD Superintendent, gave the invocation.

### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Teel reported the following:

#### Tax Collections:

98% of 2008 taxes were collected through 7-31-09 compared to 97% of 2007 taxes collected through 7-31-08.

#### Announcements:

- ❑ New teachers inservice orientation and substitute teacher training will both be held Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, for new staff and substitute teachers.
- ❑ Convocation will be on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, in Bailey Auditorium. Festivities will begin with a breakfast reception provided by local banks to honor all school employees, followed by the opening ceremonies in Bailey Auditorium.
- ❑ The first day of school for the 2009-2010 school year is Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. We are all looking forward to an exciting year.
- ❑ Two a days began last Monday for football, volleyball, and cross country, and the band is also starting up for the new school year. Coach Fambrough said the team chemistry is good, with currently 76 showing up for practice. Coach Cynthia Cooper, volleyball coach, had 30 plus players show up the first day, with 11 being freshman. Coach Kim Dieterich had around 20-25 girls show up this year. Dane Richardson, band director, had about 43 show up, and his numbers are growing in the lower class levels.

- Open House for the different campuses will be as follows:
  1. High School and Junior High Open House, Meet the Teacher Night is tentatively set for Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5:00 to 6:30 P.M.
  2. East Elementary, Meet the Teacher Night is on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M.
  3. South Elementary, Meet the Teacher Night is on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 to 6:00 P.M.
  4. North Elementary, Meet the Teacher Night is on Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at 6:00 P.M. and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at 6:30 P.M.
- Mr. Teel stated that he will meet at the City Offices tomorrow to discuss plans for City and School Committees to meet regarding joint elections.
- Mr. Teel also stated that he will move to Breckenridge this weekend.
- After a tour of the district this past week with John Richey, Director of District Services, Mr. Teel stated, “Mr. Richey and his staff deserve a “hats off” for all that has been accomplished this summer to be prepared for the new school year.”

Comments from Public	No one signed in for “Audience to Patrons Desiring to Be Heard”.
Consent Agenda 6-A Through 6D #67	<p>Mr. Griffith made the motion seconded by Ms. Morris that the board approve Consent Agenda items 6A thru 6D as listed:</p> <p>6-A Approval of minutes of 7-13-09 regular board meeting</p> <p>6-B Approval of July 31, 2009, district financial reports</p> <p>6-C Approval of scheduling special board meetings for August 25, 2009 and August 31, 2009</p> <p>6-D Approval of transfer students’ applications</p> <p>Mr. Teel asked that the board also approve scheduling an additional special board meeting on September 8, 2009 for a workshop for goals of the district. Only board members and Mr. Teel need to be present at this meeting.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Receive Review of 2008-09 Accountability Results	<p>Linda Sims, BISD Director of Instruction, distributed handouts and reviewed scores and statistics for BISD accountability results presenting comparison figures for BISD, Region 14 and the State.</p> <p>Ms. Sims told those present that 4 of 5 campuses were recognized. Breckenridge High School was acceptable, missing recognized by 5 students in science and too many dropouts also being a big factor.</p>

Page 80  
Breckenridge Public Schools  
Breckenridge, TX 76424  
August 10, 2009

Mr. Dieterich, high school principal noted that dropouts are a big problem across the state. He noted that we all should try to encourage businesses to not hire kids that should be in school. Mr. Dieterich was pleased with 9<sup>th</sup> grade math percentages that improved from 58% to 90%. He also complimented 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders that came to high school, and said that high was close to exemplary in academics, but dropouts were their main problem.

Lee Garner, junior high principal, stated that BJHS was above state and Region 14 in every category. This year science was 83% and kept junior high from the exemplary status. He also said that the last two year's numbers have mirrored each other. Junior high has hired another science teacher and reduced kids in a classroom to 10 per class to help. Mr. Garner also said that he was pleased with the quality of students he received from South Elementary.

Ms. Sims, speaking for new South Elementary principal, Jerry Overman, stated that South Elementary was unexceptable 3 years ago and is now recognized. She complimented the teachers at South for their hard work. They have been remediating and tutoring to find out what the kids don't know. Fifth grade science has gone from 74% to 91% in one year, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade math had gone from 84% to 100%.

Susan Fambrough, North Elementary principal, stated that only 1 student failed reading on her campus, with this percentage remaining the same at 98%. Math went from 85% to 86%. She said that North is revamping the reading instruction, with this being the first year for everyone in the district to use C-Scope, a curriculum program. Math will still be the focus at North. Her campus also breaks out into flexible groups as a learning tool. Ms. Fambrough also voiced her appreciation to East Elementary for preparing the students that came to her campus from East.

Molly Peterson, East Elementary principal, stated that they are doing the same things on their campuses, such as tutoring and using flexible groups. She stated that she and Ms. Fambrough have been working together, and she expects North to be exemplary next year.

There were no questions and no action was required.

Page 81  
Breckenridge Public Schools  
Breckenridge, TX 76424  
August 10, 2009

Receive Report on Drug Program

Linda Sims, Director of Instruction, stated that 2008-09 is the second year for the drug program at BISD. Out of 833 tested, 24 were positive. Twenty students were positive for marijuana, 4 for cocaine, and 3 for amphetamines. Several of the 20 that tested positive for marijuana were repeaters. The district had 8 kids less this year that tested positive compared to last year when there were 31 students that tested positive. On September 3, 2009, the district will have random testing. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> positive test, a student is out of UIL, and the 4<sup>th</sup> time, the student is out for life. The BISD drug policy can be read online at [BreckenridgeISD.org](http://BreckenridgeISD.org). It was also noted that no junior high student has ever tested positive.

Ms. Sims, Mr. Dieterich and the other administrators present agreed that even though the district has 20 kids with drug problems, this drug program creates an open line of communication between the teachers, students and parents. It was noted that students could also go to TSTC for group counseling. No action was required.

Receive Presentation of 2009-2010 Proposed Budget

James Marrs, BISD Business Manager, distributed handouts that detailed the 2009-2010 proposed budget compared to the 2008-2009 budget. He noted to those present that the numbers included all administrators' "wish list", and these figures would have to be cut quite a bit with the decrease in local tax revenue. He stated that certified values are down 50 million from last year, and local tax revenue has decreased by \$344,000, which is mostly due to the decrease in oil income. He explained that the appraisal office tried to offset some of this loss by increasing property values. They must also be within 5% plus or minus of state values.

Enrollment and ADA also decreased which will in turn, decrease state revenues. Budget numbers last year were based on an enrollment of 1518 students; however, Mr. Marrs stated that he is budgeting this year based on a year end enrollment of 1418 students. (ADA per student was \$5100 last year.)

A stimulus of \$471,000 was given to our district to cover \$800 pay raises that teachers will receive. However, as the use of these funds must be documented, Mr. Marris recommended to use this money for other items, such as supplies, etc. so that it would be easier to track. Unfortunately, this stimulus is not a continual thing, but salaries, once increased will remain.

Overall, Mr. Marris stated that revenue was down \$100,000, mostly due to local and state revenue decreases. A worksheet was provided to board members for expenditures that was all non-personnel expenses. Personnel costs are approximately \$2.5 million. Mr. Marris explained that the worksheet of expenses was a "wish list" of all administrators and department heads with no cuts. Mr. Marris will meet with all administrators this week to begin cutting expenses to obtain a balanced budget. Areas of increase in expenses included instructional increase for the C-Scope and Read Right Programs, supplies and Equipment (includes new band uniforms), travel, maintenance and operations(increased utilities and supplies), and student transportation (possible purchase of 2 buses at \$100,000 each). Mr. Marris also told the board members that the final payment had been made on the new Fine Arts Facility, and that he expected the final budget to be close to last year's budget.

In closing Mr. Marris explained that the district should keep 3 months of operating expenses in the fund balance. He stated, that with the state the economy is in, the district cannot afford to adopt a deficit budget.

Mr. Edwards inquired about bus purchases and was informed that the district had been buying a new bus every year except last year. Mr. Richey informed the board that in 1983 the district bought 11 buses; the district still has one of these. The transportation department had to put a motor in a bus last year and it put their budget in a bind. The district currently has 24 buses. Richey explained that in the Spring all of the buses in the yard are in use. He told those present that they should consider purchasing at least one bus a year; otherwise the district might have to hire a mechanic and this would be costly. Richey also stated that at 100,000 miles, a bus should be moved to lesser duty. Mr. Teel informed those present that funding for bus routes

has not been updated since 1982 and the district only receives 68 cents a mile traveled. There were no further questions and no action was required.

Consider Proposed Tax Rate to Be Included in Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Budget and Proposed Tax Rate Publication

Mr. Marrs explained to board members that it was a legal requirement to publish a proposed tax rate in the newspaper, but it was not required for the board to adopt this rate. The current M & O Rate will be \$1.04 and the I & S Rate, which is now 9.9 cents will be dropped to 8.8 cents or 8.3 cents this year. Marrs explained that Terry Sullivan, Stephens County Tax Assessor, is working on the rates. Mr. Marrs recommended to publish \$1.04 and 9.9 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.139. He explained that whatever is adopted can be higher than this, and that the tax rate does not have to be adopted until the end of September. There were no questions and no action was required.

Consider Inter-Local Agreement for Workers' Compensation Insurance for 2009-2010 #68

Mr. Griffith moved and Ms. Erb seconded the motion that the board approve the continuation of the inter-local agreement for workers' compensation insurance with the Texas Public Workers' Compensation Program for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Edwards adjourned the meeting at 7:46 P.M.

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**Weldon Edwards, President**

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**Date**

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**Julie Erb, Secretary**