

Boardroom Notes

August 14, 2008

President Jim Ash convened the meeting with Peter Baron, Bowie Hogg, Mike O'Donnell, Wayne Ogle, Gloria Peña, Sherri Wade and Jerry McCullough present.

Action Items

The board approved the following:

- **Rescheduling the Sept. 4 Board meeting to Sept. 11.** The Board's regular September meeting has been rescheduled from the first week of September, which is the week of Labor Day, to the second week.

Discussion Items - 2008-2009 Budget

• President Jim Ash opened the discussion and stated that the special work session was for the Board to have an opportunity to ask in-depth, clarifying questions in review of the recommendations by the FFC and administration. The goal of the work session was for the Board to be ready to take action on the budget at the Aug. 21 meeting.

• R. B. Grisham, FFC spokesperson, thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the district on the community committee. Several members of the FFC were present in the audience to support their recommendations and help answer Board questions. The Board presented questions to the FFC regarding items included in the group's recommendation, including:

- Deferring big ticket items to a future bond election
- Reasoning for not recommending deferral of cafeteria and fine arts tables
- Benefits of propane buses and bus replacement cycle
- Reduction of campus allotments by 10 percent
- Salary increases and how they can be funded
- Possible outsourcing of department operations

• President Ash, on behalf of the Board, thanked the committee for all of their work.

• Associate Superintendent of Finance Steve Brown presented the 2008-2009 Budget Report.

- The preliminary budget presented to the Board in June depicted a \$20.3 million operating deficit.
- Staff found reductions and presented a revised budget with a \$17.9 million deficit on Aug. 7.
- If nothing is changed in school funding or expenditures, the district will drop below the Optimum Fund Balance for the 2009-2010 school year.

• Interim Superintendent Jerry McCullough presented to the Board the administration's recommendations for additional budget reductions:

1. FFC recommendations	\$ 1,513,531
2. Defer purchase of buses to a bond issue	\$ 1,299,073
3. Defer big ticket items to a bond issue	\$ 517,567
4. Hiring review	\$ 4,000,000
5. Reduce maintenance overtime	\$ 400,000
6. Additional department budget reductions	\$ 350,000
7. Additional 20 percent reduction to campus allotments	<u>\$ 787,367</u>
	\$ 8,867,538

• Mr. McCullough concluded the presentation by displaying the cost of salary increases. The Board presented questions to the administration regarding the budget recommendations and asked for additional information on various items in the presented budget.

• After in-depth discussion, the Board reached consensus in regards to the recommended deductions of the FFC and administration, with the exception of items six and seven. The Board requested additional information for further review on those two recommendations.

Non-Agenda Items

President Ash closed the meeting by recognizing the three Arlington ISD alumni that are representing the nation in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games:

- Daniel McCormick – 2004 Lamar High School graduate, Men's Judo: +100kg weight class
- Randi Miller – 2001 Martin High School graduate, Women's Wrestling: Freestyle
- Jeremy Wariner – 2002 Lamar High School graduate, Men's Track: 400m, 4x400m relay