

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
February 27, 2001
5:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Dr. Charles Roark, President
Ms. Ada Gonzalez, Vice President¹
Mr. Richard Telles, Secretary
Dr. Gene Finke
Miss Leonor Garcia
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Dan Weaver
Dr. Gilberto Anzaldúa, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Dr. Roark. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Rosales.

Awards to February Employees of the Month (Item #1)

Mr. John Gable, metal shop vocational teacher, Jefferson High School, was recognized by the Board of Trustees as February's Certified Employee of the Month; and Ms. Donna Herriman, campus special education aide, Fannin Elementary School, was recognized as February's Non-Certified Employee of the Month. Each was presented with an engraved plaque and a check in the amount of \$150.00.

Public Forum (Item #2)

There were no speakers on Open Forum.

Item Withdrawn

It was announced that item no. 3, C., 3., Water and Punch Bid #06-01 (\$48,500.00), had been withdrawn from the agenda.

Consent Agenda (Item #3)

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion as follows:

- Mr. Weaver - Item 3, B., 3., Approval of Budget Amendments – Carl Perkins Basic Grant - Career and Technology Education Budget Transfer (\$40,000.00)
- Item 3, C., 1., Bids and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval – Additional Expenditure Request for Library Book Bid #52-00 (\$125,000.00)

¹ Ms. Gonzalez departed the meeting at 7:36 p.m., during the closed meeting on Item #16, A.

Dr. Roark - Item 3, D., Extension of Building Lease Agreement with River Oaks Properties, Ltd. for Dyer Street Warehouse, #L-003 (\$93,259.92)

Dr. Finke - Item 3, A., Approval of Minutes

1. January 9, 2001, Board Technology Committee Meeting and January 23, 2001, Board Finance Committee Meeting
2. January 9, 2001, and January 23, 2001, Meetings of the Board of Trustees

Questions on Approval of Minutes (Item #3, A.)

Dr. Finke referred to the minutes of the January 9, 2001, Board meeting and a statement included in the minutes that the contract for Districtwide exclusive beverage services would be brought back to the Board on either January 23 or February 13, 2001. He inquired about when the item will be brought back to the Board.

Dr. Anzaldúa advised that he anticipated the item will be brought back to the Board at the March 13, 2001, Board meeting.

Questions on Approval of Budget Amendments – Carl Perkins Basic Grant – Career and Technology Education Budget Transfer (\$40,000.00) (Item #3, B., 3.)

Mr. Wever questioned the transfer of \$40,000.00 from an administrative account to an instruction account. Ms. Rosa Gandara, Director, Career and Technology Education, advised that the funds should have been budgeted in the Function 11 account but had been placed in the Function 41 account in error.

Questions on Bids and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval – Additional Expenditure Request for Library Book Bid #52-00 (\$125,000.00) (Item #3, C., 1.)

Responding to a question from Mr. Wever, Ms. Sharon Carr, Facilitator, Library Learning Resources, advised that Library Book Bid #52-00 is for book purchases throughout the District and not just for the libraries. Other curriculum areas take advantage of the discounts and services and “piggyback” on the bid. Ms. Carr stated that the amount spent out of the \$125,000.00 will be less the amount anticipated for the Barron Elementary School library.

Questions on Extension of Building Lease Agreement with River Oaks Properties, Ltd. for Dyer Street Warehouse, #L-003 (\$93,259.92) (Item #3, D.)

Dr. Roark questioned the rationale for extending the lease on the Dyer Street Warehouse facility. Mr. Hector Martinez, Associate Superintendent of Operations, advised that the material currently stored at the facility cannot be accommodated at the James Gamble Facility and the need for additional warehouse space. Mr. Nicholas Corona, Executive Director, Facilities, Maintenance and Construction, added that the official records and miscellaneous materials stored at Education Center-Downtown also need to be relocated to the Dyer Street warehouse facility.

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved as listed including any recommended vendors for any amounts indicated.

A. Approval of Minutes

1. January 9, 2001, Board Technology Committee Meeting and January 23, 2001, Board Finance Committee Meeting
2. January 9, 2001, and January 23, 2001, Meetings of the Board of Trustees

The Board approved the minutes of the January 9, 2001, Board Technology Committee meeting; the January 23, 2001, Board Finance Committee meeting; and the January 9, 2001, and January 23, 2001, meetings of the Board of Trustees.

B. Approval of Budget Amendments

The Board approved the following amendments to the 2000-01 fiscal year budget:

1. Fannin Elementary School Budget Transfer (\$3,000.00). The purpose of this item is to amend the Fannin Elementary School budget in the amount of \$3,000.00. Rod Wiggs, Principal at Fannin Elementary School, requested this amendment in a memo dated January 25, 2000. The amendment transfers funds from Staff Development Professional Services to Instructional Supplies to purchase reading materials for the Accelerated Reading Program.
2. ESEA Title 1, Part A – Fannin Elementary Budget Transfer #2 (\$6,000.00). The purpose of this item is to transfer funds in the amount of \$6,000.00. Rod Wiggs, Principal at Fannin Elementary School, requested this amendment in a memo dated January 25, 2001. This amendment will transfer funds from Substitute Teacher Salaries to General Supplies for the purchase of instructional supplies.
3. Carl Perkins Basic Grant – Career and Technology Education Budget Transfer (\$40,000.00). The purpose of this item is to transfer funds in the amount of \$40,000.00. Rosa Gandara, Director, Career and Technology Education, requested this amendment in a memo dated February 9, 2001. This amendment will transfer the amount budgeted for the work study program from the General Administrative function to the Instruction function.
4. State Compensatory Education (SCE) – Beall Elementary School Budget Transfer (\$4,000.00). The purpose of this item is to amend the Beall SCE budget in the amount of \$4,000.00. Gloria Vega, Principal at Beall Elementary School, requested this amendment in a memo dated January 25, 2001. The amendment transfers funds from Staff Development Substitute Teachers to Instructional Technology Equipment. The transfer will allow Beall to open a mini lab where students can learn and apply writing assignments and create Power Point presentations.

C. Bids and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval

The Board approved the following bids and purchase orders to the recommended vendors for the amounts indicated:

1. Additional Expenditure Request for Library Book Bid #52-00 (\$125,000.00) was approved for the additional expenditure on Library Book Bid #52-00 to Follett Library Resources in the amount of \$125,000.00, with the adjusted estimated annual expenditure being \$475,000.00 (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
 2. Police Vehicle Bid #05-01 (\$113,605.25) was awarded to Casa Ford, Inc. on a three-year lease/purchase for a total amount of \$113,605.25, to be expensed in each budget year subject to the approval of each year's funding, with the 2000-01 fiscal year amount being \$37,866.75 (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
 4. Reconditioning and Recertification of Football Helmets Bid #07-01 (approx. \$28,000.00) was awarded to Riddell/All American, the low bidder, under Option 1, for the estimated annual amount of \$28,000.00, based on last year's expenditure, and with the option to extend for an additional 24 months, 12 months at a time (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
 5. Ninth Grade Initiative Computer Lab Furniture Bid #08-01 (\$38,681.00) was awarded to Virco Mfg. Co. in the amount of \$38,681.00, with net terms (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
 6. Reading Materials for the Balanced Literacy Program, Purchase Order No. 206663 (\$83,952.00) was approved for purchase from Rigby Education, the sole source, in the amount of \$83,952.00 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
 7. Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) Demonstration Program, Purchase Order No. 207491 (\$24,446.00) was approved for the Community for Learning Program at the School-Age Parent Center, Purchase Order No. 207491, from Temple University using funds from the Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) Demonstration Program in the amount of \$24,446.00 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
- D. Extension of Building Lease Agreement with River Oaks Properties, Ltd. For Dyer Street Warehouse, #L-003 (\$93,259.92)

The Board approved a 12-month extension to the building lease agreement between the EPISD and River Oaks Properties, Ltd., a Texas Limited Partnership, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney, for the lease of a 31,200 sq. ft. structure located at 5631 Dyer Street (Dyer Street Warehouse #L-003) in the amount of \$7,771.66 per month or a total annual amount of \$93,259.92.

- E. Approval of Telecommunications Transmission System Easement – Portion of Lot 47, Block 22, Sierra Hills Unit Four (Kohlberg Elementary School), #01.515

The Board President was authorized to execute a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Telecommunications Transmission System easement, #01.515, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney, for a Portion of Lot 47, Block 22, Sierra Hills Unit Four, as shown on the attached documentation, which is located on EPISD property at Kohlberg Elementary School.

Mid-Year Review of 2000-01 Campus Improvement Plans (Item #4)

Ms. Linda Corral, Associate Superintendent, West Region, provided information on the process followed on the mid-year review of the 2000-01 Campus Improvement Plans (CIPs). There was discussion on the goals in the CIPs being related more specifically with the District goals and developing campus objectives and timelines that can measure the accomplishments toward the overall District goals. Ms. Corral also reviewed the process followed in evaluating campus principals and their connection to the goals.

Ms. Marsha Lawler, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CI&A), commented on the planning process for the revised and expanded version of the District Improvement Plan. She advised that the expanded version uses the Board goals and objectives and meets all requirements of law and policy.

Approval of Innovative Course, *Internet Essentials I (i-net+ certification)*, at Center for Career and Technology Education (CCTE) (Item #5)

Ms. Rosa Gandara, Director, Career and Technology Education, provided information on a proposed new course, *Internet Essentials I (i-net+ certification)*. She stated that the course will be held for three hours per day and will allow the students to gain i-net certification, which will assist them in gaining employment.

It was moved by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the innovative course, *Internet Essentials I (i-net+ certification)*, which will be implemented during the 2001-02 and 2002-03 school years at the Center for Career and Technology Education (CCTE), allowing students the opportunity to seek certification in a recognized, vendor-neutral Internet certification program.

Request for Waiver from Texas Education Agency – Center for Career and Technology Education (CCTE) (Item #6)

It was moved by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the request from the Center for Career and Technology Education (CCTE) to request a waiver from the Texas Education Agency to extend the class time to three hours and credits awarded to 3 for the course *Business Image Management and Multimedia* allowing students the opportunity to intern in businesses throughout the community.

Approval of Software and Instructional Materials for Advanced Reading Centers Supported by Ninth Grade Success Initiative Grant Funding (\$201,135.00) (Item #7)

Ms. Marsha Lawler, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CI&A), provided information on the Language Arts portion of the Ninth Grade Success Initiative, which is the second major strand in the Success Initiative. She stated that the advanced reading centers are modeled after a program at one of the District's high schools and that the materials that apply to the original model will be copied in the Language Arts portion and distributed to the participating schools.

There was discussion on the grant participants; Chapin High School having been included in the grant; the student participants being selected through pre-screening tests; the support to be provided to students that do not respond to the Language Arts program; and the continued communication needed between central administration and the campus staff involved in the reading portion of the initiative.

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the purchase of software and instructional materials for Advanced Reading Centers using Ninth Grade Success Initiative Grant funding be approved from the following vendors in the amounts indicated: Steck-Vaughn, \$48,235.00; Bruce McComas, \$123,200.00; and Jamestown Publishers, \$29,700.00, for a total amount of \$201,135.00 (copy of tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Approval of Submission of Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board Non-Competitive Grant for Texas Public Schools (PS9) – Bradley, Hillside, Lindbergh, and Putnam Elementary Schools; and Franklin and Irvin High Schools (Item #8)

Mr. Yinuo Du, Executive Director, Technology and Information Systems (TIS), provided information on the proposed non-competitive technology grant from the Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board and reviewed the process followed by the schools to apply for the grant.

There was discussion on the 10 percent cash match required from the District and the amount of local funds indicated in the grant application; the use of existing, in-kind equipment as part of the cash match amount; and tabling further discussion on the item until the TIS staff person responsible for the grant application is contacted for clarification of the cash match amount.

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Wever, and carried unanimously to table item no. 8, Approval of Submission of Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board Non-Competitive Grant for Texas Public Schools (PS9) – Bradley, Hillside, Lindbergh, and Putnam Elementary Schools; and Franklin and Irvin High School, until later in the meeting until the responsible TIS staff person is contacted to provide clarification on the in-kind cash match amount noted in the grant application.

Approval of 2001-02 Instructional School Calendar (Item #9)

Ms. Alicia Ayala and Mr. Eric Winkelman, Co-Chairpersons, Districtwide Educational Improvement Council (DEIC) Calendar Committee, provided information on the development of the school calendar. They advised that input was provided by the El Paso Consultation Association, campus principals, Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), and the Superintendent's Cabinet.

Discussion followed on the administrative exception made during the 2000-01 school year for the appropriate employees to celebrate Yom Kippur, which was the only Jewish holiday that fell on a week day during the 2000-01 school year; the Jewish religious observances for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Passover being on week days during the 2001-02 school year; and exceptions being made to allow employees to celebrate those religious days.

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the 2001-02 instructional school calendar as presented, including the administrative exception for the three Jewish holidays Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Passover (copy attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Status Report on Compensatory Hours Accrued as of December 31, 2000, and Approval of Continued Use of Compensatory Time Program (Item #10)

Mr. Joe Loya, Associate Superintendent, Finance, provided information on the compensatory time accrued as of December 31, 2000. He advised that the payment of these compensatory hours paid as overtime would be approximately \$25,000.00. He requested that the Board approve the continued use of the compensatory time program in lieu of paying direct overtime and stated that a revised policy will be brought back to the Board.

There was discussion on the responsible and efficient way compensatory time is being managed; compensatory time being managed at the unit/campus level; the continued use of compensatory time; and Board policy calling for no more that 20 hours of accrued compensatory time per employee.

Dr. Roark questioned the legality of continuing the use of compensatory time if no action is taken at tonight's meeting. Mr. Safi referenced Board Policies DEA (Local) and DEC (Local) and advised that both policies are in place and authorize compensatory time.

Proposed Additional Reorganization of EPISD Administrative Services (Item #11)

Dr. Anzaldua presented the proposed additional reorganization of EPISD administrative services. He reviewed the elimination of the regional concept and the creation of instructional levels, with Associate Superintendents being assigned to each level. Mr. Enrique Gallegos would be assigned to elementary schools, Mrs. Linda Corral to middle schools, and Mr. John Doran to high schools. The District's focus will remain on centralizing curriculum and improving support for the schools. Ms. Marsha Lawler, currently Associate Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, will be transferred to head External Funding. Dr. Charlotte Craigo, currently Executive Director, Staff Development, will be transferred to head Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. The number of Team Leaders, currently at the Regions, will be reduced from ten to six and assigned to the level structure, for a savings of approximately \$208,000.00. The restructuring of Human Resources will continue to focus on customer service and efficiency. Three new positions of Community Liaisons will be established to serve as ombudsmen, one for each level, at a cost of \$110,000.00. Dr. Anzaldua stated that any and all management positions that are vacant will be evaluated for necessity or whether there is duplication of duties in other units, with any unnecessary positions being eliminated. Dr. Anzaldua advised that this new reorganization will be effective June 1, 2001.

There was discussion on more Team Leaders being assigned to the larger Elementary School level; the rationale for June 1 as the starting date for the reorganization; and administrative contracts starting on July 1 and salary schedules being set before July 1.

Mr. Safi reviewed the contract year for administrators; the 45-day deadline before the last day of instruction to give notice of nonrenewal; and the 45-day deadline before the first day of instruction for the unilateral resignation day, the date by which a teacher or term contract administrator can resign without penalty. Mr. Safi advised that normally the resignation day is around July 1 and recommended that the effective date for the reorganization be June 30 or July 1.

Discussion continued on planning for three special study sessions with the Board on centralized curriculum between now and April; the new Community Liaison/Ombudsman positions and the need to provide equal services to all the District's students; the responsibilities of the Ft. Bliss liaison and the additional duties associated with the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) and the Partnership in Education programs; and the need to allow the Superintendent the opportunity to proceed with his reorganization and report back to the Board.

Approval of Revision to EPISD Probationary, Continuing, and Term Contracts for Employment (Item #12)

Ms. Glenna Archer, Interim Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, reviewed the revisions to the Probationary, Continuing, and Term Employment Contracts. A sentence is to be added at the end of the Paragraph 2 regarding prorating days on duty and salaries for employees that are hired after the beginning of the school year. Ms. Archer stated that Paragraph 4 regarding health care insurance is to be deleted in entirety.

It was moved by Ms. Gonzalez, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the revisions to all EPISD Probationary, Continuing, and Term Employment Contracts as recommended and presented by the administration (copy of the contracts attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Item Withdrawn

It was announced that item no. 13, Approval of Resolution Designating Temporary Investment Officer and Resolution Amending Authorized Representatives for the Texas Local Government Investment Pool (TexPool), had been withdrawn from the agenda.

Approval of Budget Amendments (Item #14)

Questions on Approval of Budget Amendments – Increase of 2000-01 Budget to Pay Accrued Overtime (\$596,809.00) (Item #14, B.)

Mr. Wever questioned whether this money is what was paid out for accrued compensatory time. Mr. Joe Loya, Associate Superintendent, Finance, advised that the \$596,809.00 was out of the \$1.5 million carried forward in this year's budget as a designated Fund Balance amount and paid in December 2000. He added that after the payroll was run, the exact totals were known, with specific dollar amounts, per unit and by function. This budget amendment will allow the funds to be transferred to cover those expenditures.

Questions on Approval of Budget Amendments – Increase of 2000-01 Budget to Pay Open Purchase Orders at August 31, 2000 (\$1,362,750.00) (Item #14, C.)

Responding to questions from Mr. Wever, Mr. Joe Loya, Associate Superintendent, Finance, advised that the encumbered dollar value of purchase orders for goods and services as of August 31, 2000, were carried forward to this fiscal year so that the schools would not have to pay for those outstanding purchase orders from this year's budget.

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Dr. Finke, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the following amendments to the 2000-01 fiscal year budget. Ms. Gonzalez was not present for the vote.

- A. External Funding Title I, Part A, Budget Transfer (\$26,548.00). The purpose of this item is to amend the External Funding Title I, Part A, budget in the amount of \$26,548.00. Bob Mena requested this amendment in a memo dated January 17, 2001. The amendment transfers funds within the Title I (Fund 2001) budget in order to pay accrued overtime due to hourly personnel as of August 31, 2000.
- B. Increase of 2000-01 Budget to Pay Accrued Overtime (\$596,809.00). The purpose of this item is to increase the budget in order to pay accrued overtime due to hourly personnel as of August 31, 2000. The total amount of \$596,809.00 was designated in the General Fund balance at August 31, 2000. A Contingency Reserve will be appropriated in Function 11 for \$20,000.00, Function 23 for \$40,000.0, and Function 51 for \$30,000.00.
- C. Increase of 2000-01 Budget to Pay Open Purchase Orders at August 31, 2000 (\$1,362,750.00). The purpose of this amendment is to increase the budget in order to pay for outstanding purchase orders at August 31, 2000. The funds to pay for these purchase orders were encumbered, but the purchase orders remained unpaid at year-end. The total amount of \$1,362,750.00 was reserved in the General Fund balance at August 31, 2000.

Items Withdrawn

It was announced that item no. 15, C., 2, RFP, Bid, and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval – Apple Computer Equipment for Special Education, Purchase Order No. 204030 (\$9,812.00), and item no. 15, C., 3., RFP, Bid, and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval – Apple Computers for Burges High School, Purchase Order No. 206561 (\$6,17.00), had been withdrawn from the agenda.

RFP, Bid, and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval (Item #15)

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the following RFP, bid, and purchase orders be approved to the recommended vendors in the amounts indicated:

- A. Option to Extend Existing RFP – Third Party Medicaid Claims Administration RFP #01-00 (approx. \$56,000.00). The Board approved the first option to extend Third Party Medicaid Claims Administration RFP #01-00 to Intlemed for an additional 12 months beginning February 16, 2001, and ending February 15, 2002, for a fee of 8 percent or an approximate total annual amount of \$56,000.00 (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

B. Football, Cross Country, and Volleyball Equipment Bid #02-01 (\$116,666.90) was awarded to the following vendors in the amounts indicated, with Item #30 being awarded to Athletic Supply, pursuant to the tie-breaking procedures: Athlete's World, Items 10, 13-15, 23, 28, 31, 32, 36, 37, 39, 45, 47-49, 51, 53, 58-60, 68, 70-72, 77, and 80, \$31,142.65; Athletic Supply, Items 1-3, 16, 20, 21, 27, 30, 33, 42-44, 46, 54-57, 67, 73-76, and 79, \$73,218.58; Austin Athletic, Item 63, \$375.00; BSN Sports, Items 18, 19, 50, and 78, \$1,499.85; Gardenswartz, Items 4-6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 34, 40, 61, and 62, \$6,094.56; Healy Mfg., Items 24-26, \$54.12; and Riddell/All American, Items 17, 22, 29, 35, 38, 41, 52, 64-66, and 69, \$4,282.19, for a total amount of \$116,666.90 (copy of bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

C. Purchase Orders for Computer Equipment

1. Printers and Projectors for the Job Embedded Trainees Program, Purchase Order No. 07251 (\$13,150.00), were approved for purchase from MacWarehouse, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$13,150.00 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
4. PC Computers for High School Career & Technology Education Programs, Purchase Order No. 206002 (\$23,483.60), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$23,483.60 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
5. PC Computers for Cordova Middle School, Purchase Order No. 206893 (\$32,296.22), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$32,296.22 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
6. PC Computers for San Jacinto Adult Learning Center, Purchase Order No. 208881 (\$70,750.80), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$70,750.80 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
7. PC Computers for Wiggs Middle School, Purchase Order No. 207739 (\$17,222.70), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$17,222.70 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
8. PC Computers for Elementary Classrooms, Purchase Order No. 207850 (\$10,441.62), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$10,441.62 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
9. Computer Equipment for Henderson Middle School, Purchase Order No. 204590 (\$7,255.00), was approved for purchase from Desert Communications, Inc., the lowest quote, in the amount of \$7,255.00 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

10. Computer Equipment for Putnam Elementary School, Purchase Order No. 208383 (\$16,485.00), was approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$16,485.00 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
11. Computers for Bowie High School NovaNet Lab, Purchase Order No. 207699 (\$18,226.88), was approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$18,226.88 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Approval of Submission of Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board Non-Competitive Grant for Texas Public Schools (PS9) – Bradley, Hillside, Lindbergh, and Putnam Elementary Schools; and Franklin and Irvin High School (Item #8 continued)

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Wever, and carried unanimously to take from the table item no. 8, Approval of Submission of Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board Non-Competitive Grant for Texas Public Schools (PS9) – Bradley, Hillside, Lindbergh, and Putnam Elementary Schools; and Franklin and Irvin High School.

Mr. Joe Loya, Associate Superintendent, Finance, stated that the Technology and Information Systems (TIS) administrative staff person was contacted and advised that the Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) Fund Board requires at least a 10 percent cash match. The local funds indicated in the grant application for the cash match includes items that have already been budgeted and equipment to be purchased.

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the submission of a grant application to the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) Board for Bradley, Hillside, Lindbergh, and Putnam Elementary School; and Franklin and Irvin High Schools for the enhancement of the Wide Area Network in the amount of \$499,212.00.

Meeting Closed (Item #16)

The meeting was recessed at 7:07 p.m. to a closed meeting by Dr. Roark under Sections 551.071, 551.074, and 551.082 of the Texas Government Code as follows:

- A. Grievance Hearing – Arlene Sonnen, Facilitator, Staff Development
- B. Personnel Appointment – Associate Superintendent, Human Resources
- C. Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated or Pending Litigation
 1. Disputes Regarding Internet Direct Connect Service Agreements with MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. f/k/a MCI Telecommunications Corporation and Cable & Wireless USA, Inc.
 2. Michael T. b/n/f Oralee T. v. El Paso Independent School District; Cause No. EP-00-CA-0252; U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, El Paso Division
 3. Contractual Disputes Regarding the Completion of Moreno Elementary School, #93.734

The closed meeting was opened at 7:14 p.m. The closed meeting ended at 7:46 p.m.

Departure of Board Member

Ms. Gonzalez departed the meeting at 7:36 p.m. and was not present for any subsequent action taken by the Board of Trustees.

Meeting Opened

The meeting was reassembled in Open Session at 7:43 p.m.

Grievance Hearing – Arlene Sonnen, Facilitator, Staff Development (Item #16, A.)

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Telles, and carried unanimously that the grievance filed by Arlene Sonnen be considered timely and that the grievance be remanded back to the Superintendent for consideration.

Meeting Closed

The meeting was again recessed at 7:44 p.m. to a closed meeting under the authority previously cited. The closed meeting was opened at 7:45 p.m. The closed meeting ended at 7:57 p.m.

Meeting Opened

The meeting was reassembled in Open Session at 7:59 p.m.

Personnel Appointment – Associate Superintendent, Human Resources (Item #16, B.)

It was moved by Mr. Rosales, seconded by Mr. Telles, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Mr. Arthur Candelaria, Human Resources Manager at Philips Semiconductor, to the position of Associate Superintendent, Human Resources.

Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated or Pending Litigation - Disputes Regarding Internet Direct Connect Service Agreements with MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. f/k/a MCI Telecommunications Corporation and Cable & Wireless USA, Inc. (Item #16, C., 1.)

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the settlement agreements related to disputes regarding Internet direct connect service agreements with MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. f/k/a MCI Telecommunications Corporation for zero dollars and with Cable & Wireless USA, Inc. in the amount of \$43,666.50.

Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated or Pending Litigation - Michael T. b/n/f Oralee T. v. El Paso Independent School District; Cause No. EP-00-CA-0252; U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, El Paso Division (Item #16, C., 2.)

It was moved by Mr. Telles, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board decline the settlement offer from the plaintiff in the case of Michael T. b/n/f Oralee T. v. EPISD.

Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated or Pending Litigation - Contractual Disputes Regarding the Completion of Moreno Elementary School, #93.734 (Item #16, C., 3.)

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board authorize the law firm of Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi & Galatzan, P.C. and EPISD administration representatives to engage in a pre-suit mediation with the contractor, architect, and their attorneys and representatives in connection with this matter, with the understanding that any settlement be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees and brought back to the Board at a future meeting after the mediation has been held.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Date Approved: March 27, 2001