

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
July 31, 2001
6:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Mr. Dan Wever, President
Dr. Gene Finke, Vice President
Miss Leonor Garcia, Secretary
Mr. Sal Mena, Jr.
Dr. Charles Roark
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Richard Telles
Dr. Gilberto Anzaldua, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m. by Mr. Wever. A moment of silence was held in the memory of Mr. James Francis, a Northeast El Paso resident who was a supporter of education in El Paso, and Mr. Manuel Contreras, Automotive Technician at the Center for Career and Technology Education. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Charles Tafoya, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources.

Approval of Renewal of Agreement with Region 19 Education Service Center for Region 19 Migrant Education Shared Services Arrangement 2001-02 (\$890,655.00) (Item #1)

Ms. Marsha Lawler, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CI&A), provided an overview of the proposed migrant shared services arrangement with Region 19. She advised that services will be provided to school-age children identified as migrant students, as well as to their parents and pre-school-age siblings, and that there will be an increase in funds allocated to the program due to the identification of more students and their families by staff at Region 19.

It was moved by Miss Garcia and seconded by Mr. Rosales that the Board approve the Agreement with Region 19 Education Service Center for a Migrant Education Shared Services Arrangement for the provision of migrant education services for eligible students in the EPISD for the period August 1, 2001, to July 31, 2002, in the pass-through amount of \$890,655.00.

There was discussion on the federal source of migrant funding and the number of students that are served; how funds are dispersed to the four school districts in the shared services arrangement; 10 percent of the allocated funds being placed in a general "pool" to be used for all students; the possibility of the District providing migrant services for its students next year and updated reports being provided to the Board on the impact to the District if it does take over the program.

Upon the vote, the motion carried with Dr. Roark and Mr. Wever voting against the motion.

Approval of Blanket Student/Athletic Accident Insurance, Catastrophic Insurance, and Voluntary Student Accident Insurance (Item #2)

It was moved by Mr. Mena and seconded by Mr. Rosales that the Board award Blanket Student/Athletic Accident Insurance Coverage to Student Insurance, Inc., underwritten by UNUM Life Insurance Company of America, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for coverage of all interscholastic sports, including football, band, cheerleading, majorettes, gym classes, intramural and all UIL non-sport extracurricular activities for an annual premium of \$213,500.00 and a maximum benefit of \$25,000.00, effective August 1, 2001, through July 31, 2002; Catastrophic Insurance Coverage to GM Southwest, Inc.-Life Insurance Company of North America, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for coverage with an annual premium of \$10,500.00, with a lifetime maximum benefit of \$5,000,000.00 and a \$25,000.00 deductible, effective August 1, 2001, through July 31, 2002; Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Coverage to Student Insurance, Inc., underwritten by Guide One Life Insurance Company, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for the three options and benefit schedules presented; and Mutual of Omaha #1 cash benefit for \$600,000.00 for ten years for a premium of \$7,342.00.

The following person requested to speak to this item:

1. Ms. Anna Maynard, Central States of Omaha, spoke about the cash benefit not being available without the \$5,000,000.00 life insurance base.

Ms. Elizabeth Bulos, Director, Employee Benefits, provided information on the \$500,000.00 cash benefit provided with Life Insurance Company of North America #2 for \$1 million at 20 years compared to the \$600,000.00 at 10 years from Mutual of Omaha.

There was discussion on the preference for paying out the catastrophic cash benefits over 10 years as opposed to 20 years; the cash benefit from Mutual of Omaha not being available without the life insurance; determining which is the better plan for the District; and the higher premium amount for the \$1 million cash benefit.

Mr. Mena amended his motion to omit the Mutual of Omaha #1 cash benefit for \$600,000.00 for ten years for a premium of \$7,342.00. Mr. Rosales accepted the amendment. Mr. Mena then withdrew his motion and Mr. Rosales withdrew his second.

It was moved by Mr. Mena, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board award Blanket Student/Athletic Accident Insurance Coverage to Student Insurance, Inc., underwritten by UNUM Life Insurance Company of America, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for coverage of all interscholastic sports, including football, band, cheerleading, majorettes, gym classes, intramural and all UIL non-sport extracurricular activities for an annual premium of \$213,500.00 and a maximum benefit of \$25,000.00, effective August 1, 2001, through July 31, 2002; Catastrophic Insurance Coverage to GM Southwest, Inc.-Life Insurance Company of North America, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for coverage with an annual premium of \$10,500.00, with a lifetime maximum benefit of \$5,000,000.00 and a \$25,000.00 deductible, effective August 1, 2001, through July 31, 2002; Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Coverage to Student Insurance, Inc., underwritten by Guide One Life Insurance Company, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for the three options and benefit schedules presented; and Life Insurance Company of North America #1 cash benefit, through local representative Rick Hernandez, for \$500,000.00 for ten years for a premium of \$12,090.00.

Approval of Moratorium on Offering of Cancer Plans and Intensive Care Riders Through Payroll Deductions (Item #3)

It was moved by Mr. Wever and seconded by Dr. Roark that the Board postpone action on item no. 3, Approval of Moratorium on Offering of Cancer Plans and Intensive Care Riders Through Payroll Deductions, for two weeks.

The following person requested to speak to this item:

1. Ms. Anna Maynard, Central States of Omaha, spoke about a moratorium reducing the benefits to employees and the possibility of outsourcing.
2. Ms. Michelle Dean declined the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Charles Tafoya, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, proposed that the administration work with the vendors to negotiate a recovery of maintenance costs for the program allowing the Board sufficient time to review the entire issue.

There was discussion on the Board's Employee Health/Insurance Committee reviewing the situation and determining the need to issue an RFP (request for proposal); providing the Board a summary on the administrative costs to process and facilitate the claims, payroll deductions, etc.; and information being provided to the Board on problems regarding claims and payroll deductions.

Mr. Mena called for the question.

Upon the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Closed (Item # 4)

The meeting was recessed at 7:25 p.m. to a closed meeting by Mr. Wever under Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Government Code as follows:

- A. Personnel Appointment – Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction
- B. Consultation with Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation – Cecilia M. Chavez, Nora Montez, and Jose Rosales v. El Paso Independent School District; Cause No. 98-3002; County Court at Law No. 3, El Paso County, Texas
- C. Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated Litigation – Contractual Disputes Regarding the Completion of Moreno Elementary School, #93.734

Mr. Rosales recused himself from the discussion of item no. 4, B., Consultation with Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation – Cecilia M. Chavez, Nora Montez, and Jose Rosales v. El Paso Independent School District; Cause No. 98-3002; County Court at Law No. 3, El Paso County, Texas.

The closed meeting started at 7:28 p.m. The closed meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

Meeting Opened

The meeting was reassembled in Open Session at 8:35 p.m.

Personnel Appointment – Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction (Item #4, A.)

It was moved by Mr. Rosales, seconded by Mr. Mena, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Dr. Linda Holman, Principal at Hillside Elementary School, to the position of Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction.

Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Contemplated Litigation – Contractual Disputes Regarding the Completion of Moreno Elementary School, #93.734 (Item #4, C.)

It was moved by Miss Garcia, seconded by Dr. Finke, and carried unanimously that the Board authorize Mr. Anthony Safi and his law firm, Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi & Galatzan, PC to reject the offer of settlement and to make a counter offer in this case.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Date Approved: October 9, 2001