

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
June 20, 2000
5:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Dr. Charles Roark, President
Mrs. Ada Gonzalez-Peterson, Vice President¹
Mr. Richard Telles, Secretary
Dr. Gene Finke
Miss Leonor Garcia
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Dan Wever
Dr. Gilberto Anzaldua, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 p.m. by Dr. Roark. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Finke.

Update on 2000 Bond Election (Item #1)

Dr. Anzaldua commented on the age of the majority of the District's facilities and the need for the facilities assessment that is currently in progress to outline improvements needed at each school facility. He advised that the passing of a bond election will provide the funds necessary to address the physical plant needs.

Mr. Luis Villalobos, Executive Director, Communications and Business Partnerships, provided an overview of the 1992 bond election. He reviewed issues that will reflect positively and negatively on the 2000 Bond election; the election logistics; the difference between providing information and promoting the election; the proposed Bond 2000 Committee members and the duties and responsibilities of the Committee; strategies to be pursued; and steps that need to be taken immediately. Mr. Villalobos advised that a bond orientation meeting will be held on July 10, 2000, and he requested that the Board members provide recommendations for the Bond 2000 Committee.

Arrival of Board Member

Mrs. Gonzalez-Peterson arrived at 5:26 p.m.

Discussion followed on individual Board members being allowed to promote the bond issue; the effect on an October bond election if tax bills are received in October and the possibility of December being a better month to conduct the election; and the Bond 2000 Committee recommending an appropriate date for the election.

Mr. Safi advised that generally an election is held on a uniform election date. He reviewed the exceptions and restrictions to the rule and advised that early voting is mandatory.

¹ Mrs. Gonzalez-Peterson arrived at 5:26 p.m.

Dr. Roark commented on the need for the Board and the community to be actively involved in the process; and in order to be involved, they need current and projected demographics, information on the 1992 election results, details on specific renovations at each school and a commitment to those renovations, and a description on how each constituency will benefit from the bond election.

Discussion continued on a timeframe for the projects; the early voting period; the selection process for the Bond 2000 Committee; restrictions on District employees serving on the Bond Committee; reducing the number of people from the business community on the Committee and adding people who are bilingual and with working-class backgrounds, or possibly retaining the business people but adding more parents and students; and the site selection process for new construction. Mr. Hector Martinez, Associate Superintendent of Operations, reviewed the criteria for facilities assessment and educational adequacy.

The following person requested to speak to this item:

1. Mr. Gerald Cheek, spoke about the focus of the bond election being on the students and accountability for the process.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Date Approved: August 8, 2000