

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees  
El Paso Independent School District  
April 2, 2002  
5:00 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 Anzaldúa, Superintendent  
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Mr. Wever. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Jack Johnston, Executive Director, Technology and Information Systems.

Update on 2002-03 Instructional School Calendar (Item #1)

Ms. Marsha Lawler, Executive Director for External Funding and the Superintendent's representative to the Districtwide Education Improvement Council (DEIC), provided a brief progress report on the development of the 2002-03 Instructional Calendar on behalf of the DEIC Calendar Committee. She advised that the Calendar Committee continues to recommend Option A, which calls for a start date of August 12, 2002, completing the first semester before the winter holidays, and observing the Texas Education Agency waiver for two additional staff development days. She stated that the calendar proposed by the El Paso Consultation Association (EPCA) calls for a start date of August 19, 2002, completing the first semester after the winter holidays, and the removal of the two additional waiver days for staff development and replacing them with two instructional days.

There was discussion on the proposed holiday on September 16, 2002, and it replacing a proposed holiday in November; the 178 instructional days included in Option A of the proposed 2002-03 Instructional Calendar; the two waiver days for staff development having been approved for a three-year period, which will expire in spring 2003; hourly employees being paid for no fewer days than the preceding year; and the administration reviewing instructional calendars from neighboring school districts to determine how those districts provided 180 instructional days, mandated staff development days, and completing the fall semester before the winter holidays.

The following people requested to speak to this item:

1. Ms. Rosa Fonseca, teacher at Franklin High School, spoke in favor of Option A for the 2002-03 Instructional Calendar and ending the fall semester prior to the winter holidays.
2. Mr. Russell Evans, student at Franklin High School, spoke in favor of Option A for the 2002-03 Instructional Calendar and ending the fall semester prior to the winter holidays.

3. Ms. Frances Wever, President, El Paso Federation of Teachers and Support Personnel, distributed copies of Options A and B of the proposed 2003 Instructional Calendars and a calendar developed by the El Paso Consultation Association (EPCA) and recommended the adoption of the EPCA calendar, which provides two more days on duty for hourly employees.
4. Ms. Andrea Figueroa, President, El Paso Consultation Association (EPCA), spoke in support of the EPCA calendar recommendation and 180 days of instruction.
5. Ms. Jerry Boyer, President, El Paso Classroom Teachers Association, spoke about the work of the DEIC Calendar Committee and in support of Option A for the proposed 2002-03 Instructional Calendar.
6. Ms. Eva Ross, teacher at Moreno Elementary School, spoke in favor of Option A for the 2002-03 proposed Instructional Calendar with the fall semester ending prior to the winter holidays.
7. General Howard Bromberg, Ft. Bliss, spoke about the Army being in favor of a later start date for the fall semester and supported the calendar recommended by the EPCA (El Paso Consultation Association).
8. Mr. Eric Winkleman, Co-chairperson of the Districtwide Educational Instructional Council (DEIC) Calendar Committee, spoke about the committee's work on the calendar and the benefits of completing the first semester before the winter break, staff development, and Option A of the proposed 2002-03 Instructional Calendar.
9. Ms. Sharon Grindstaff, member of the DEIC (Districtwide Educational Instructional Council) Calendar Committee and El Paso Consultation Association (EPCA) and a teacher at Lincoln Middle School, spoke about her personal preference for Option B of the proposed 2002-03 Instructional Calendar, the majority of the DEIC Calendar Committee being in favor of Option A, and her concern with the calendar recommended by the EPCA because semester tests for high school students would be administered immediately after the winter holiday.

#### Item Withdrawn

It was announced that item no. 2, Approval of Year 4 E-Rate Statement of Work #8, E-Mail Project, had been withdrawn from the agenda.

#### Presentation by IBM Global Services on Year 4 E-Rate Statement of Work #1, USF Maintenance (Item #3)

Mr. Jack Johnston, Executive Director, Technology and Information Systems, informed the Board that the USF (Universal Services Fund) Maintenance is the largest of the Year 4 Statements of Work with a value of \$27 million.

Mr. Randall Jurasek, Education Transformation Specialist, IBM Global Services, provided information on the purpose of the USF Maintenance Statement of Work (SOW). Mr. David Tillman, Certified Senior Project Manager for the USF Maintenance Statement of Work, provided an overview of the approach to be taken by IBM and the EPISD. He reviewed the current environment and designing of the infrastructure and discussed the "single point of

contact” for technical support, the centralized services for network maintenance, the mileposts, and the technical support facility on Rio Bravo. He also provided information on the current status of the project and the next steps to be taken.

There was discussion of the backup schedule for the network and 52 schools being funded with Year 4 E-Rate funding and the remaining schools being included in the request for Year 5 funding.

Mr. Jurasek reviewed the benefits of the USF Maintenance to Technology and Information Systems, teachers, parents, students and the challenge to EPISD including service-centric strategy, methodology, networks, governance, Help Desk call management, organization, and technology subcontractors.

Discussion continued on the ownership of the Help Desk at the end of Year 4 E-Rate funding; the cost of the Help Desk in the absence of Year 5 E-Rate funding; a transition plan for hardware, software, procedures, staffing, and service level costs if E-Rate funding does not materialize; the timeline for the centralization of the Help Desk; and the office space being utilized by IBM Global Services.

Report from IBM Global Services on Local Vendor Participation in Year 4 E-Rate Funding Program (Item #4)

Dr. Anzaldua advised that in response to a request made by the Board at a prior meeting, a presentation would be provided on the current status of local vendor participation in the E-Rate projects.

The following person requested to speak to this item:

1. Mr. Tom Paine, Paine & Associates, spoke about using as many local vendors as possible for the e-mail solution, keeping as many dollars as possible in EPISD, and using interns from the El Paso Community College to assist with the project.

There was discussion on the business location of Sun Microsystems; the transfer of skills on USF (Universal Services Fund) Maintenance in the event there is no Year 5 E-Rate funding; and IBM Global Services being a proper steward for the Year 4 E-Rate project.

Mr. John Milota, Program Executive, IBM Global Services, commented on IBM's stewardship of the District's E-Rate project, the anticipated audit from the Schools and Libraries Division upon completion of the program, and the coordination of details and decisions. He reviewed the local and non-local subcontractor participants in key areas of the E-Rate program; the scope of services from the three local subcontractors; and a revised estimate of 28.7 percent local participation in the E-Rate projects due to the Board's decision to purchase Dell products from Dell (direct).

There was discussion on whether Synergy, the landlord of the Rio Bravo facility being occupied by IBM Global Services, is a local company; the process used to select vendors to bid on the network electronics; and the need for more vendor participation in the bidding process for the network electronics.

Mr. Milota reviewed the mixed solution for the E-Mail system through local and non-local vendors; the original estimate for the Lotus Notes solution through DTSI (Diversified Technical Services, Inc); the current plan to implement the iPlanet e-mail package through Sun Microsystems and their local business partner, Paine & Associates; the five components of the E-Mail solution and the need to analyze the revised components to confirm compliance with the Schools and Libraries Division guidelines.

Discussion continued on services proposed by a local vendor not being allowable under E-Rate guidelines; contracting with the local vendor with funds outside of E-Rate; total funds spent for local companies to date; whether local subcontractors being used by out-of-town companies and local branches of regional companies are considered local vendors; and the administration making every effort to use local vendors.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Date Approved: July 9, 2002