

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
October 29, 2002
5:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Mr. Dan Wever, President
Dr. Gene Finke, Vice President
Mr. Sal Mena, Jr.
Dr. Charles Roark
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Richard Telles
Mr. Charles L. Tafoya, Acting Superintendent
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

Absent: Miss Leonor Garcia, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Mr. Wever. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Luis Villalobos, Executive Director, Communications and Business Partnerships.

Intradistrict Transfer Appeal – V. R. (Item #1)

Mr. Tafoya stated that the intradistrict transfer appeal for V. R. was originally presented to the Board on October 22, 2002. He advised that the Board requested additional information on issues relative to the student's performance at her home school (Rivera) and a determination on whether there was a need for special education services.

Ms. Gloria Boyer, Director, Pupil Services, provided additional information on the administration's denial of the intradistrict transfer of V. R. to Western Hills Elementary School. She reviewed the action plan developed by the administration and staff at Rivera Elementary School to ease the transition of V. R. to her home school; recommendations from V. R.'s physician; a progress report from the end of the third week of the second grading period; and the ARD (admission, review, and dismissal) committee notice. Ms. Boyer advised that it was still the administration's recommendation that the child continue at Rivera Elementary School, her home school, where her sister also attends.

Ms. Carol Bludworth, Principal, Rivera Elementary School, advised that V. R. is making progress and that she and her sister are both doing well.

It was moved by Mr. Wever and seconded by Dr. Finke that the Board uphold the administration's decision to deny the intradistrict transfer of V. R. to Western Hills Elementary School for the 2002-03 school year. Upon the vote, the motion carried with Mr. Telles voting against the motion and Dr. Roark voting "present."

Consideration and Action to Retain the District's Forensic Auditors, Marcus, Fairall, Bristol & Co., LLP and Edge, McLagan, Nugent & Co., P.C., to Review Financial Issues Related to Employee Cost Sharing Level for the Health Benefits Plan Previously Approved by the Board of Trustees (Item #2)

Dr. Finke provided the rationale for the Board considering a review of employee cost sharing into the Health Benefits Plan, which was based on information presented at the October 22, 2002, Board meeting by Ms. Frances Wever, President, El Paso Federation of Teachers and Support Personnel. He reviewed the discussion of the Board Investigative Services Committee meeting, which was held prior to the Board meeting, to hire the District's forensic auditors to conduct a review of the disputed issues.

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board engage the District's forensic auditors, Marcus, Fairall, Bristol & Co., LLP and Edge, McLagan, Nugent & Co., P.C., to review and report back to the Board on financial issues regarding the employee cost sharing level into the Health Benefits Plan which was previously approved by the Board of Trustees, subject to the precise cost and scope of the engagement to be defined by the Board Finance Committee at a future meeting, and with the cost, scope of work, and any required budget amendment being brought back to the Board for approval at the November 12, 2002, Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Date Approved: March 11, 2003