

MINUTES OF THE
Special Meeting of the
DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Douglas High School
November 21, 2008
3:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees:

Teri Jamin	President
Cynthia Trigg	Vice President
Thomas Moore	Clerk
Karen Chessell	Member
Sharla Hales	Member
John Louritt	Member
Keith Roman	Member

***Minutes Approved
December 9, 2008***

Present:

Personnel:

Carol Lark	Superintendent
Nancy Bryant	Assistant Superintendent, Education Services
Rich Alexander	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Holly Luna	Director of Business Services

Cynthia Trigg led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Trigg provided information regarding Public Comment for attendees.

Ms. Jamin arrived at 3:07 p.m.

Mrs. Chessell moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mr. Moore.
Motion carried, 6/0.

Mrs. Hales arrived at 3:09 p.m.

1. Administrative Budget Reduction Process

Carol Lark, Superintendent, invited Board members to ask questions throughout her PowerPoint presentation, provided in a workshop format, to inform Trustees of Tier 1 recommendations for budget cuts. Suggested cuts within Tier 1, of \$3,000,000, were noted as not having been prioritized. A total of three tiers were slated to be recommended to the Board at the February 10th Board Meeting for final decision

making. The process used by the Leadership Team and Classified Supervisory personnel to come to consensus for level one was provided. The reasoning for planning three levels of budget cuts was necessary due to the fluctuation of State shortfall projections. Mrs. Lark stated the legislative session would not close until June, and any personnel notices would need to be provided to employees prior to receiving final budget reduction information from the State.

Following Mrs. Lark's presentation, additional questions from Board members were addressed. Future workshops would be scheduled to update Trustees as the Leadership and Classified Supervisory team reached Tier 2 and 3 recommendations.

2. Public Comment

Mrs. Jamin called for public comment at 4:27 p.m. A number of comments were made by teachers, parents, and students in support of continuing the Gifted and Talented program. A comment was made by a former computer aide in support of eliminating the Gifted and Talented program, as the disruption to an entire class for a few students was stated as a strain on the group engaged in the classroom.

A statement was made regarding the impact, repercussions, and unintended consequences with the reduction of support staff.

The time of this meeting, 3:00 p.m., was noted to be a difficult time to meet for individuals who were working.

An elementary teacher asked the Board to revisit the field trip policy due to this item being listed on the first tier cuts, in order to continue to provide course enrichment for students.

It was suggested that expenses involved with testing be reviewed and a determination made as to whether or not there were testing redundancies, due to District mandated MAP testing. A review of the competency process was requested by a teacher, as the administrative needs were stated to be time consuming.

A comment was made in support of not totally eliminating middle school sports, but to instead explore "Pay for Play."

Mrs. Lark stated that this meeting was organized as an informational workshop for the Board although, she anticipated scheduling a Town Hall Meeting in the near future.

Mrs. Jamin called for comments from Board members at 5:00 p.m. General comments were made regarding items listed in the presentation.

Board members offered input on a pending law suit seeking to overturn the Board's decision to eliminate the Early Retirement Program, filed by the Certified and

Classified unions, noting that should this case be dropped, \$320,000.00 dollars could be saved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Submitted by,

Carolyn Moore
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:

Clerk of the Board

Note: Upon approval by the Board of Trustees in a public meeting, these minutes become the official minutes of the meeting held on the above date. Board minutes are kept on a permanent basis and are available for public review in the office of the Superintendent.