

**NOTICE OF DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PARADISE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
August 24, 2020**

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Paradise Independent School District will be held on **August 24, 2020** beginning at **6:35 PM** in Junior High Cafeteria  
338 School House Road  
Paradise, TX 76073.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon any formal action are as follows:  
(Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice).

*All items(s) on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted with one motion and a majority vote of the governing body. There will not be a separate discussion of these item(s) unless a member of the governing body or a citizen requests, in which event these items(s) will be removed from the order of business and considered in normal sequence on the regular agenda.*

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, ESTABLISH A QUORUM
2. INVOCATION
3. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY  
A thirty (30) minute time period, limited to three(3) minutes per person, is set aside to allow citizens the opportunity to comment or raise issues concerning non-agenda items.  
Delegations of more than five (5) individuals shall appoint one person to present their views before the Board.  
No action may take place in response, but the Board may consider future action.
4. BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD
  - A. Evaluation and Planning
    1. Informational Items
      - a. District Report
        1. Enrollment
        2. Preliminary FIRST Rating
        3. August Donations
  - B. Regular Business
    1. Recognition of Guests and Patrons
    2. Consent Agenda
      - a. Approve Minutes of Previous School Board Meetings

2

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Paradise ISD

---

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Paradise ISD was held Monday, July 20, 2020, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Junior High Cafeteria, 338 School House Road, Paradise, Texas 76073.

### **Board Members Present:**

Homer Mundy, Board President  
Dr. Shannon Caddell, Board Vice President  
Dr. Heath Smith, Board Secretary  
Russell Read  
Renea Remmele

### **Not Present:**

Susie Burt  
Scott Cox

### **Others Present:**

Dr. Paul Uttley, Superintendent  
Dr. Joyce Hardy, Asst Superintendent  
Robyn Gibson, Special Programs & HR Director  
Summer Mathis, CFO  
Mark Mathis, High School Principal  
Nicki Carter, Junior High Principal  
Kristin Gage, Intermediate Principal  
Melissa Cota, Elementary Principal  
Greg Fletcher  
Janice Clark, Superintendent Secretary

**Guests:** Austin Jackson with Wise County Messenger.

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by board president, Homer Mundy.

Invocation: The invocation was led by Dr. Paul Uttley.

First Public Comment (non-agenda item): None

### **Discussion and Action Items:**

Presentation of a Level III Grievance in Closed Session in Accordance with Sections 551.074, 551.082 and 551.0821 of the Texas Government Code: The board entered into closed session at 6:31pm. Dr. Uttley came out of closed session at 6:50pm. The board reconvened at 6:54 pm.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the Level III Grievance: A motion was made by Dr. Shannon Caddell and seconded by Russell read to uphold the administration decision as presented in closed session. Motion carried 5-0.

Information and discussion concerning the 2020-21 Student Handbook: Dr. Uttley presented the Student Handbook for the 2020-21 school year. Principals reviewed and made changes to the model provided by TASB. No action is needed as this is informational and does not required approval by the Board.

Information and discussion concerning the Naming of District Facilities: Dr. Uttley explained to the board that this discussion was needed by board members but no action is needed at this time.

Scott Cox joined the meeting via phone and microphone at 6:55pm to participate in this discussion.

The discussion centered around if the board would like to begin a practice of naming facilities after people who have been long term influences to Paradise ISD either currently living or who have passed away? It was decided that if there is a person within the community who has made a significant impact to PISD, that either a plaque would be placed in a specific building to honor that person or a scholarship would be created in memory of such person(s).

Scott Cox left the meeting via phone at 7:05pm.

July Donations: Dr. Uttley reported that \$500 was received from Walmart for the volleyball program, and our PTO donated \$1785 for water bottle fillers at the JH. Dr. Uttley thanked our community for always being so generous.

Second Public Comment (agenda item): None

**Regular Business:**

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Renea Remmele to approve the consent agenda which includes the previous board minutes, the lists of bills, finance report, cash receipts report, tax collection report and investment report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Information and discussion concerning the 2020-21 Student Handbook: Dr. Uttley asked Mr. Mathis to review the highlights of the Student Handbook for the 2020-21 school year. All of our principals worked together to review and make changes to the model provided by TASB. No action as needed as this is informational and does not required approval by the Board.

Information and discussion concerning the Opening of School for the 2020-21 School Year: Dr. Uttley went over the list of questions asked on the parent survey that was sent out on June 5, 2020. Survey response numbers were reviewed with the board and with all other pertinent information dealing

Tax and Budget Calendar: Dr. Uttley presented the budget timeline to the board. Key dates are as follows:

- July 20<sup>th</sup> - Regular Meeting
  - Budget Workshop
  - Agenda item to approve Proposed Tax Rate
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Receive Certified Taxable Values from the Appraisal District
- August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am
  - Publish the required legal notice in the paper (10-30 days prior to the Public Hearing).
- August 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Public Hearing at 6:30pm
  - Regular Board Meeting at the conclusion of the Public Hearing
    - Adopt the tax rate and budget
    - Approve all budget amendments to close out the 2019-20 fiscal year

Budget Workshop: Dr. Uttley discussed what was being looked at to prepare for the budget for the 2020-2021 school year.

Consider and take appropriate action to set Board date for Public Hearing on Proposed Budget on August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm: A motion was made by Russell Read and seconded by Dr. Heath Smith to set the date and time, for the Public Hearing for the 2020-21 Tax Rate, as August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action to Adopt a Proposed Tax Rate Based on Certified Estimate of Taxable Value of Property for Truth in Taxation Publication: A motion was made by Renea Remmele and seconded by Dr. Shannon Caddell to adopt a proposed tax rate of \$1.27 based on the certified estimate of taxable property in the District, and authorization was given to the superintendent to take any and all action necessary to ensure that the appropriate truth in taxation notices are filed and hearings held as a result of our adoption of this proposed tax rate. Motion carried 5-0.

Order of Election 2020: A motion was made by Dr. Shannon Caddell and seconded by Dr. Heath Smith that the Board call for an election to be held on November 3, 2020. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the 2020-21 Student Code of Conduct: A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Russell Read to approve the 2020-21 Code of Conduct as presented by the administration. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning Extracurricular Participation during the 2020-21 School Year: Dr. Uttley presented his opinion on the fact that students who wish to be in an extracurricular activity must attend school in person. He expressed several concerns if our board allows students to attend school virtually and at the same time participate in extracurricular activities.

A motion was made by Rusell Read and seconded by Dr. Heath Smith to approve that students who are voluntarily participating in virtual learning not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity, practice, or performance or elective course open only to students participating in a particular UIL activity for the grading period in which the student is receiving all-remote instruction. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the 2020-21 Extracurricular Code of Conduct: A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Renea Remmele to approve the

Extracurricular Code of Conduct, with the addition of fulltime in-person attendance, as a requirement for extracurricular participation during the 2020-21 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning Cafeteria Meal Prices for 2020-21: Dr. Uttley explained to the board that the Paid Meal Equity provision of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires schools to annually assess their prices with the end goal of all paid lunch prices at least equaling the free reimbursement rate minus the paid reimbursement rate. There is an Excel-based tool with user instructions that helps School Food Authorities determine the current average price for paid lunches and the new average paid lunch price requirement. After plugging our numbers into the Excel-based tool, the calculations are: Required New Average Price: \$3.05

A motion was made by Dr. Shannon Caddell and seconded by Russell Read to raise the meal prices, for the 2020-21 school year by \$.05 for all grade levels which will result in the following meal prices for the 2020-21 school year: Elementary-\$2.95 Intermediate-\$2.95 Junior High-\$2.95 High School-\$3.30. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the 2020-21 T-Tess Teacher Appraisal Calendar: Dr. Uttley explained that Mrs. Cota, Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Carter, Mr. Mathis and Mrs. Young will serve as the primary appraisers. Dr. Hardy and Mrs. Gibson will not typically do appraisals, but they are listed for emergency situations.

A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Renea Remmele to approve the T-TESS calendar and appraisers, as presented by the administration, for the 2020-21 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

Property and Casualty Insurance: Ask Dr. Uttley what to put here... We are getting price quotes at the moment with Higginbotham to see if their premium prices are more in line with what we were expecting to have to pay next year. Information, no action at this time.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the Asynchronous Instructional Plan for the 2020-21 School Year: Dr. Uttley provided TEA's remote options for remote learning and discussed difference between Synchronous and Asynchronous learning

A motion was made by Renea Remmele and seconded by Dr. Heath Smith to authorize the superintendent to submit the Asynchronous Learning Plan for PISD to TEA, when it is finalized. Motion carried 5-0.

TEA is saying that if a student was homeschooled or at a private school in the previous year and they choose to learn virtually, we will not receive funding on them while during virtual learning. Dr. Uttley requested from the board their support if he could revoke transfer student application that fall into this situation.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning an MOU with Wise County Regarding COVID-19 Relief Funding:

A motion was made by Renea Remmele and seconded by Dr. Heath Smith to authorize the superintendent to enter into an MOU with Wise County concerning the COVID 19-Relief Funds (CRF) as described in an email from the Wise County Office of Emergency Management dated 7-14-2020. Motion carried 5-0.

Future Agenda Items: The next Regular Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 24, 2020 immediately following the Public Hearing at 6:30pm.

A motion was made and seconded by Renea Remmele Heath Smith to adjourn at 9:24pmpm.  
Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2020

---

---

- b. Approve Bills , Financial Reports and Investment Report
  - C. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Time is set aside preceding the action agenda to allow citizens the opportunity to address the Board on agenda items. Individual time limits are three (3) minutes.
  - D. Discussion and Action Items
    - 1. Information and discussion concerning COVID-19
    - 2. Information and discussion concerning the First Week of School
    - 3. Information and discussion concerning the 2019-20 Accountability Results
    - 4. Information and discussion concerning the First Reading of TASB Update 115
    - 5. Information and discussion concerning the Resolution for Wise County Extension Office Adjunct Faculty Appointment Agreement
    - 6. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Budget Amendments for the 2019-20 School Year.
    - 7. Consider and take appropriate action to approve the 2020-21 Budget
    - 8. Consider and take appropriate action to Adopt the 2020-21 Tax Rate
    - 9. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Property and Casualty Insurance for the 2019-20 School Year
    - 10. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Amended Order of Election for November 3, 2020 Election
    - 11. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Policy FFAC (LOCAL)
    - 12. Consider and take appropriate action concerning the Attestation for Synchronous Learning
    - 13. Future Agenda Items
  - E. CLOSED SESSION - Texas Government Code 551.001 et.seq.
  - F. Closed Session
5. ADJOURNMENT

---

Robert Criswell,  
SUPERINTENDENT

***If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D & E.***