

**NOTICE OF DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PARADISE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
October 19, 2020**

Notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Paradise Independent School District will be held on **October 19, 2020** beginning at **6:30 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. Recognition of Guest and Patrons: Policy BED(LOCAL)
5. Presentation to the Family of LO Oats in Recognition of LO's Contributions to the Students of PISD
6. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY  
A thirty (30) minute time period is set aside to allow citizens to address the Board on any subject. No action may take place in response, but the Board may consider future action.
7. BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD
  - A. EVALUATION AND PLANNING
    1. Informational Items
      - a. District Reports
        1. Enrollment
      - b. Child Nutrition
      - c. First State Bank
      - d. Athletic Request
      - e. October Donations
      - f. Staff Christmas Dinner
  - B. REGULAR BUSINESS
    1. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Time is set aside preceding the action agenda to allow citizens the opportunity to comment or raise issues concerning items that will be considered for action by the Board.  
Persons desiring to address the Board must complete a Speaker Registration Card and submit it to the president. Individual time limits are five (5) minutes.
    2. Consent Agenda
      - a. Approve Minutes of Previous School Board Meeting(s)

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# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Paradise ISD

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Paradise ISD was held Monday, September 21, 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  
Scott Cox  
Russell Read  
Renea Remmele

Not Present: Susie Burt

### **Others Present:**

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

**Guests Present:** Avery Bill, Justin Dagley, Chad Cox, Mike Leasor and Pat Sanford

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 Opportunity: None

Closed Session: The board entered into closed session at 6:31PM for board evaluation purposes. The board reconvened at 7:37pm.

Enrollment: Dr. Uttley reminded the board that our hold harmless ADA for the first 4 weeks of school set by TEA is 1,216. TEA will fund schools for the first 12 weeks based on this hold-harmless ADA figure. Our actual ADA, through the first 5 weeks of school, is 1,166. Our budget was built on an ADA of 1,146. As of 9/18/2020 our enrollment is 1,217.

Child Nutrition: On Tuesday, September 8, 2020 Paradise ISD implemented the All Students Eat Free program from initiated by the USDA to ensure all children have access to nutritious food as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Paradise ISD has opted to take advantage of this program through the Texas Department of Agriculture. Our meal counts have significantly increased across all campuses since this program began. All meals are reimbursed at a rate of \$2.3750 for breakfast and \$4.1525 for lunch. This program will continue until December 31, 2020, or until funding runs out.

September Donations: Dr. Uttley reviewed the list of generous donations from our community businesses and community members.

Dress Code: Dr. Uttley discussed the letter received from the ACLU that was sent to many school districts across Texas and the letter from our attorney addressing that letter.

Meeting with the City: Dr. Uttley shared information with the board about a meeting he had with the Mayor of Paradise, the City Manager and the City Engineer. Hickory Street was one topic of conversation where the City informed Dr. Uttley that they plan to widen the current portion of Hickory Street to match up with the width of the new portion of the street due to this being the entrance into developments by Parr and Lambert. The City will need our assistance through the use of easements to our property. They will bring back more information in the next few months as they continue to do preliminary work on this project.

The sewer plant was also discussed. The City is discussing the feasibility of taking over the sewer plant. If the City moves forward with this, the engineer will be gathering information from PISD to complete a necessary study. More information to come over the new few months on this topic as well.

Impact of COVID-19 on Student and Staff Absences: Dr. Uttley presented numbers to the board of students and staff who have been sent home by our nurses due to sickness/possible COVID-19 concerns.

### **Regular Business**

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Scott Cox 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 6-0.

Second Public Comment (agenda item): None

### **Discussion and Action Items**

Review of the District's 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Investment Report: Dr. Uttley presented Mrs. Mathis' report of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter investment report. There is no need for action by the Board, as this is informational only.

Information and discussion concerning Use of District Facilities: Representatives from PYRA met with Dr. Uttley requesting to use PISD district facilities for basketball practices and Saturday games. Cleaning fees would be charged after Saturday game days to stay with our already established cleaning procedures due to COVID. The board discussed this with Dr. Uttley weighing all options and decided that this gym usage would benefit our students. The board would like to give first priority to PYRA and secondly to other organizations as long as the teams consist primarily of PISD students.

Information and discussion concerning Naming of District Facilities: The board continued the past discussion on the naming of facilities. The board decided that considering the limitation of the number of buildings/facilities that PISD has, it would be best to not name facilities after an individual, but that a plaque in memory of would be a better choice. It was discussed that when these situations arise, a plaque would be provided by the board and would be presented at a board meeting. When requests are brought to the board, the board will vote and decide on the plaque wording and will follow up with a presentation to the family of the honoree at a later board meeting date.

Information and discussion concerning Ticket Sales for Basketball: Dr. Uttley shared with the board that PISD Administration office has handled \$19,000 worth of ticket sales for football and volleyball. Basketball has many more games so an online sales forum will need to be utilized. Ticketer is a forum being considered and would cost the district a small amount annually plus there is a cost to purchase 4 scanners. Mr. Bryant feels that the technology department can handle any necessary adjustments to ensure that Wi-Fi is available at the gyms. There is a small percentage of each ticket sales that will carry over to the consumer, but it is small as compared to some of the other online ticket sales programs we have reviewed. There are many benefits and flexibilities with using this online system, one of which is being able to purchase tickets at the door using a QR scanner.

Information and discussion concerning the Second Reading of TASB Update 115: The board reviewed the highlights of update 115. Our practice is to adopt these types of changes after the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading, which puts us on a path to adopt this update during our October meeting.

Information and discussion concerning Asynchronous Learning: The principals reviewed numbers of asynchronous learners on their campuses. All campuses have had a reduction in asynchronous learners since the first week of school. Canvas has had several technical issues that have had to be worked out for asynchronous learners and for teachers. Mr. Rutledge is meeting with asynchronous teachers weekly for Canvas support and principals are also meeting with teachers regularly to address any issues. It was discussed that SPED teachers, asynchronous teachers and teachers of record are all working together to ensure the success of our asynchronous learners. There have been several other programs such as Clever, Eduphoria and Kami that have assisted teachers and students with the asynchronous process. It was explained that all campuses are preparing for full online learning in case the need arises.

Information and discussion concerning PISD's Asynchronous Learning Plan: Dr. Uttley reminded the board that back in July they authorized him to submit an asynchronous plan to TEA when it was finalized. Dr. Hardy has worked extremely hard to ensure that this plan meets all the TEA requirements. The plan was submitted on 9/15/20. TEA will now review the plan and advise if any changes are required.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning the Purchase of Technology Equipment: Dr. Uttley provided information from Mr. Bryant related to the rationale as to what technology equipment is needed and why. The technology equipment purchase plan spans two years, but initially this year the cost of needed equipment is \$72,514.50.

A motion was made by Russell Read and seconded by Scott Cox to purchase staff computers in the amount of \$72,514.50. Motion carried 6-0.

Consider and take appropriate action concerning a Contract for Appeal of Audit Services with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L. P., Attorneys at Law: Dr. Uttley shared with the board

that PISd has had a contract with this firm since 1999. Due to some legislative changes, some additional wording is now required for the contract. The audit on the 2016-2017 year performed by this firm will generate some additional revenue for PISD at approximately \$26,000 with the firm receiving 7.5% as their fee.

A motion was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Dr. Shannon Caddell to authorize the superintendent to sign the Contract for Appeal and Audit Services with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. Motion carried 6-0.

**Future Agenda Items:** The next regular board meeting will be held October 19, 2020.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Heath Smith and seconded by Russell Read at 8:55pm. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVED THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020

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- b. Approve Bills, Finance Reports, Investment Reports and Tax Collection Report
- 3. 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.
- C. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS
  - 1. Presentation of the District's Required Safety Audit
  - 2. Information and discussion concerning PISD's Asynchronous Plan
  - 3. Information and discussion concerning the Annual Cost to Operate the Sewer Plant
  - 4. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Adding a Sub-Account to the District's Main Bank Account
  - 5. Consider and take appropriate action concerning the Resolution for Wise County Extension Office Adjunct Faculty Appointment Agreement
  - 6. Consider and take appropriate action concerning Policy Update 115, affecting (LOCAL) policies:
    - BF(LOCAL): BOARD POLICIES
    - DIA(LOCAL): EMPLOYEE WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION,
    - DMD(LOCAL): PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS AND VISITATIONS
    - EI(LOCAL): ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
    - FB(LOCAL): EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
    - FD(LOCAL): ADMISSIONS
    - FEB(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING
    - FFG(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
    - FFH(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION
    - FMF(LOCAL): STUDENT ACTIVITIES - CONTESTS AND COMPETITION
    - FNG(LOCAL): STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - STUDENT AND PARENT COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES
    - GF(LOCAL): PUBLIC COMPLAINTS
  - 7. Consider and take appropriate action to set the day to Canvass the November 5th Election Results
  - 8. Consider and take appropriate action concerning the 2020-21 School Calendar
  - 9. Consider and take appropriate action to Hire a District Nurse at Paradise Elementary
- D. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
- 8. CLOSED SESSION - Texas Government Code 551.001 et.seq.
  - A. Personnel: Texas Government Code: 551.074 Discussing personnel
- 9. ADJOURNMENT

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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.*