

SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

The Plano Board of Trustees met Tuesday, September 19, 2006, with the following members present: Duncan Webb, presiding; Missy Bender; Lloyd Jenkins; Mary Beth King; Brad Shanklin; Melody Timinsky; John Muns; and Superintendent Doug Otto.

President Webb called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. in the hallway outside the Trinity Room at the Sockwell Center, 6301 Chapel Hill Boulevard, Plano, and stated that the meeting has been duly called and notices posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551. Mr. Webb announced that the Board will convene in a closed session to consider 1) the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; 2) Personnel: Resignations, employment, evaluation, appointment, assignment, termination, non-renewal, additions and extension and/or renewal of contracts of individual teachers, individual administrators, superintendent, and individual support staff; 3) Private consultation with attorney regarding pending litigation; 4) To discuss purchase, exchange, lease, sale, or value of real property; 5) School children; School district employees; disciplinary matter or complaint; and 6) Deliberation regarding economic development negotiations. The closed session was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

The regular meeting was reconvened in the Dallas Room at 6:15 p.m. with all board members present

Area Assistant Superintendent for the East Cluster Jeff Bailey introduced the first work session topic, a report on the middle school schedule currently being implemented at Armstrong and Bowman Middle Schools. Donella Chenault, principal at Armstrong Middle School, and George King, principal at Bowman Middle School, provided the rationale for this revised schedule and outlined sample schedules including how the math block lesson is structured. Mrs. Chenault pointed out that Armstrong, in its second year of this schedule, had progressed from Academically Acceptable to Recognized, had met AYP both in 2004-05 and 2005-06, had the greatest percent increase among all the PISD middle schools in grade six math TAKS in various populations. In addition, student performance was constant in social studies and had increased in reading and writing. Mr. Wilson indicated that Bowman Middle School, in the first year of this schedule, has set similar goals.

Mr. Bailey then introduced Karen Noble and Mariciela Helm, principal and assistant principal at Mendenhall Elementary, who presented information on the Governor's Educator Excellence Awards Program established by House Bill 1 as a teacher incentive program. This program rewards campuses that are high achieving and have high percentages of educationally disadvantaged students. Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Helm explained the extensive process required as part of the \$75,000 grant application.

Associate Superintendent for Technology and Academic Services Jim Hirsch introduced Jim Wussow, executive director of secondary curriculum, who updated

the Board on the recent State Board of Education hearings regarding the new requirement for a 4th year of math and science. Dr. Wussow outlined some of the major points he made as part of his testimony and stated that official approval of this requirement will be voted upon on November 17. Current 8th graders entering the 9th grade next fall would fall under this new provision.

Mr. Hirsch then introduced Jayne Cantwell, executive director of elementary curriculum, who provided a report on various early intervention programs available to certain students. Although these programs may have different criteria or target different needs, all help students be better prepared for kindergarten and beyond. Several elementary principals expressed their belief that the early childhood programs are of great benefit to these children.

Karla Oliver, executive director of community and governmental relations, reviewed two options for a school calendar for 2007-08. Although many of the features are the same, Option 1 has a Monday start and Option 2 has a Wednesday start. Board members discussed the various aspects of the calendars, suggested other possibilities, and requested that Option 1 be submitted on the October 17 board meeting for further discussion and consideration.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Duncan Webb, President

Lloyd Jenkins, Secretary