

**CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**JANUARY 14, 2021
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Board of Trustees convened in Regular Session on Thursday, January 14, 2021, in the Boardroom of the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District Instructional Support Center, located at 10300 Jones Road, Houston, Texas.

1. Call to Order

1.A. Board President Bob Covey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Bob Covey, Julie Hinaman, Tom Jackson, Dr. John Ogletree, Don Ryan and Gilbert Sarabia. Board member Debbie Blackshear was not present.

Board President Covey recognized CLC members Ryan Irving, Leslie Martone and Stacye Anderson who were in the audience.

Board President Covey recognized Ainsley Grothues, Kirsten Rosaldo, Rowan Franks and Jillian Schulze with the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council.

1.B. Tim Gould, Lead Pastor of the Houston First Church of God, delivered the invocation.

1.C. The following Cypress Ridge High School AFJROTC cadets, under the direction of Haider Khan, Lt. Col., United States Air Force (Retired), presented the colors for the meeting: Cadet Hanna Estrada, Cadet Gwenevere Thomas, Cadet Donny Ho and Cadet Jovanni Martinez.

2. Vision and Mission Statement

2.A. Board President Covey read the District's Vision and Mission statement for the benefit of the audience.

Board President Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Recognitions** portion of the agenda.

3. Recognitions

3.A. In honor of Texas School Board Recognition month, Superintendent Dr. Mark Henry thanked the Board of Trustees for their dedication, leadership and continuing service to the students, staff, parents/guardians and the Cy-Fair community.

Dr. Henry introduced Morgan Yates, representative for Commissioner R. Jack Cagle, who presented the Board of Trustees with a proclamation recognizing and commending the Board for their investment in the education of students.

Dr. Henry introduced Leslie Martone, President, Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce, who thanked the Board of Trustees and Dr. Henry for their service to the community and for making all the right decisions during this unprecedented year.

Dr. Henry announced that in appreciation for the Board members, the Cy-Fair High School Chorale, under the direction of Nicholas Likos, prepared a special virtual fine arts performance of "Jubilate Deo" by Peter Anglea. (The virtual performance was aired for the Board members and the audience.)

Next, a virtual "thank you," prepared by the Cypress Ridge High School audio/video production students, was aired for the Board members and the audience.

Dr. Henry thanked the CFISD Culinary Academy East students, under the leadership of their teacher, Randi Richards, for preparing delicious treats for the Board members in appreciation of their service.

Dr. Henry announced, before moving on, that he would like to thank the Board secretary, who is also his secretary, Holly Reichert, for her service. Dr. Henry continued by thanking all of the CFISD campuses and the community programs department for creating all the wonderful decorations, posters, gifts, letters, cards and books. Dr. Henry shared how many of the decorations were designed for the 2021 Board Recognition month theme, "Navigating to Success."

Dr. Henry made remarks and announcements including the honors and achievements earned by staff and students in recent weeks.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Public Comments** portion of the agenda.

4. Public Comments

4.A. Patrons who have duly registered per policy BED (Local) may address the Board and make public comments on an agenda item during or before the board's consideration of the item. The Board may allow public comment on agenda items at all meetings. The Board will continue with the remaining agenda after the registered patrons have had an opportunity to speak. (To participate, registration is between 5:30 and 5:50 p.m. on the day of the Board meeting at the entrance to the CFISD ISC Boardroom.)

1. The Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council presented the Board members with gifts. Girl Scout Ainsley Grothues spoke to the Board on behalf of her fellow Girl Scouts.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Board Comments** portion of the agenda.

5. Board Comments

5.A. Any Board member may make a comment during this portion of the agenda, without prior posting being required. Comment items may not pertain to the character of any students, staff or Board member and may not be discussed or deliberated upon at this meeting.

Board member Julie Hinaman shared her appreciation for all the posters and books being donated to the library in honor of the School Board. "Being able to serve on the School Board for CFISD is truly an honor and a privilege. It is the best gift of all, being able to be a part of the Cy-Fair ISD family to serve the students, staff and employees of the school district. Thank you for that privilege."

Board member Dr. Ogletree shared that he is in his 5th term of serving the Cy-Fair district. Dr. Ogletree stated that it is always refreshing and always a blessing to have someone appreciate what you do. "I would do it without any appreciation, but thank all of you, all the schools and all the organizations that show us some love. God bless you."

Board member Don Ryan echoed what Ms. Hinaman and Dr. Ogletree said and added how nice it is to have a Board like the current Board that is so cohesive, that has no agenda. "In fact, the only agenda we have is for our students." Mr. Ryan went on to say how nice and very much appreciated it is to be recognized because there are times that the Board is not recognized in the way you might think, especially when having to rezone families. Mr. Ryan shared how he agreed with Dr. Henry about recognizing Holly Reichert. "She is the glue that keeps us together. She does a great job. Collectively, we are so thankful for her. And we are so grateful for our administration. We deal with policies and procedures, but all the success we've had from the beginning of this year to where we are today is because of our administration. They do a great job with the day-to-day operations. Thank you all, this means a lot."

Board member Gilbert Sarabia shared how this is his first year on the Board and how he has found that even with this difficult year, he has found nothing but helpful people. "Negativity doesn't exist with the Board or the people we work with." Mr. Sarabia went on to say how positive everything is and "we're going to get it done." He wanted to commend his fellow Board members on their warmth and helpfulness. "I appreciate that, and I am honored to serve the community."

Board member Tom Jackson announced that he would share the following words from Dr. Ogletree: "We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of

now.” Mr. Jackson went on to say how we honored the man who said these words this month – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. And more than that, we honor his ideals and his words that he spoke so many years ago that are still very true today. Mr. Jackson shared how he completed a campus visit to Gleason after the last Board meeting and expressed his appreciation to the teachers of Gleason’s pre-K and kindergarten students as they all had their masks on. Mr. Jackson shared how he enjoyed watching them walk down the hallways with all their masks on, observing all protocols. “I never thought that it could be possible, and I know if it happens at Gleason, it happens at all our elementary schools, so a tip of the hat to our elementary teachers who have been able to have our youngest observe all the protocols which is so important, particularly at this day and time.” Mr. Jackson expressed his gratitude for the Board recognition and all that everyone has done for the Board. He had this to say: “What you do for the district, from senior management to campus leadership to our staff and our teachers, is truly remarkable. This district is very very special.” Mr. Jackson also thanked Board members who would be putting in 200 to 300 extra hours this year, going above and beyond. He shared how Mr. Covey serves as an officer on the TASB Board of Directors and makes numerous trips to Austin each month to fulfill his obligation on behalf of students throughout the entire state. He also shared how Ms. Hinaman is participating in Leadership TASB with a commitment of 200 to 300 hours. “It is much appreciated.” Mr. Jackson gave a “tip of the hat” to the girl scouts. “You are a critical piece of the puzzle, and even though recruitment this year has been non-existent, your presence tonight reminds us of what you do and how it impacts academic attainment going forth.”

Board member Bob Covey expressed how fortunate and blessed he feels to work with the people in the district, with the superintendent and his A team, all the staff who work on campuses with the students, everyone. “You just can’t say enough good stuff about what goes on inside Cy-Fair. Do we have our struggles, yes; do we have our challenges, yes; but do we really address them and try to make them better, yes.” Mr. Covey expressed how proud he is of the Board of Trustees and echoed what Mr. Ryan said about being as cohesive as they are with the one goal, the students. “That’s exactly what we are here for and that’s who we serve and that’s who we want to see be as successful as they possibly can be. So being on this Board is an honor.” Mr. Covey announced how thrilled he was that everyone in the audience was here to celebrate with the Board tonight. “Thank you very much.”

Board member Dr. Ogletree commented that Monday is Martin Luther King Day and commended the Board for the steps they have taken for equity and to accomplish the goal to have all of our schools “No Place for Hate” schools. Dr. Ogletree would quote Martin Luther King as being appropriate in this season in our nation where hate is prevalent, “Returning hate for hate only multiplies hate and leads to a deeper darkness of a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that.” Dr. Ogletree then expressed his hope that, as a community, as a school district, we will strive to be a place where love abounds.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Citizen Participation** portion of the agenda.

6. Citizen Participation

- 6.A.** Patrons who have duly registered per policy BED (Local) may address the Board regarding matters of concern/interest to the district, other than the character of any student, staff or Board member. The Board may not act upon any matter that is not listed under the action item portion of the agenda. (To participate, registration is between 5:30 and 5:50 p.m. on the day of the Board meeting at the entrance to the CFISD ISC Boardroom.)

There was no Citizen Participation this evening.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Public Hearing** portion of the agenda.

7. Public Hearing

- 7.A.** The Board held a public hearing to discuss the 2019-20 annual report describing the educational performance of the district and of each campus in the district. Dr. Linda Macias and Dr. Ashley Clayburn gave a brief presentation on the 2019-20 annual report.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the **Reports** portion of the agenda.

8. Reports

8.A. The administration provided an oral report on the continued implementation of the Safety and Security Action Plan to improve the safety and security of all facilities, focusing specifically on the work of the MHIT. The MHIT gave a brief presentation on the Safety and Security Action Plan.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would proceed with the following **Non-Consensus Action Items**.

9. Action Items – Consensus

9.A. The board will consider approving the minutes of the December 10, 2020 Board Work Session.

9.B. The board will consider approving the minutes of the December 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

Mr. Covey asked if any Board member would like to remove one or both items for further discussion. Since no further discussion was necessary, Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve the consensus items as recommended or amended.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to approve.
Board member Julie Hinaman seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would review and discuss the following **Non-Consensus Action Items**.

10. Action Items – Non-Consensus

10.A. The Board will consider approving on first reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
10.A.1. FNF (Local) Student Rights and Responsibilities: Interrogations and Searches (Revise)

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.A. as recommended or amended.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to approve.
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.B. The Board will consider approving on second reading additions, revisions or deletions to district policies:
10.B.1. FB (LOCAL) Equal Educational Opportunity (Revise)
10.B.2. FNG (LOCAL) Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances (Revise)

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.B. as recommended or amended.

Board member Dr. Ogletree made a motion to approve.
Board member Tom Jackson seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.C. The Board will consider approving the Calendar Committee's recommendation for the 2021-2022 instructional calendar.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.C. as recommended or amended.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to approve.
Board member Tom Jackson seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.D. The Board will consider approving the Early Childhood Literacy and Mathematics Proficiency Plans and the College, Career, and Military Readiness Plans.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.D. as recommended or amended.

Board member Tom Jackson made a motion to approve the campus and district performance objectives for the 2020-21 campus and district improvement plans.

Please note that this motion was corrected by Mr. Jackson and was voted on with the proper motion below (after Item 10.E.).

Board member Don Ryan seconded.

Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.E. The Board will consider approving the campus and district performance objectives for the 2020-21 campus and district improvement plans.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.E. as recommended or amended.

Board member Dr. Ogletree made a motion to approve.

Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.

Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

Board member Tom Jackson asked Mr. Covey if he could read the proper motion for non-consensus action item 10.D.

Board member Tom Jackson moved that the Board of Trustees approve, as submitted, the Early Childhood Literacy and Mathematics Proficiency Plans and the College, Career, and Military Readiness Plans.

Board member Don Ryan seconded.

Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.F. The Board will consider approving the HEB and Kroger Pharmacy Affiliation Agreements.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.F. as recommended or amended.

Board member Julie Hinaman made a motion to approve.

Board member Don Ryan seconded.

Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.G. The Board will consider approving the Licensing Agreement between Bridgeland Development, LP and Cypress-Fairbanks ISD for the use of the Bridgeland High School Logos in newsletters, websites and on a water tower to be constructed and conveyed to Harris County MUD No. 418.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.G. as recommended or amended.

Board member Dr. Ogletree made a motion to approve.

Board member Don Ryan seconded.

Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

10.H. The Board will consider approving the granting of a sanitary sewer easement to the Emerald Forest Utility District located along the west property line of the Food Production Center and Falcon Transportation Center and authorize the Superintendent or designee to negotiate the final terms and execute all related documents.

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.H. as recommended or amended.

Board member Tom Jackson made a motion to approve.
Board member Don Ryan seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

- 10.I.** The Board will consider approving construction proposals and contracts paid from Bond Funds to the recommended contractor and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents related to such contract as follows:

10.I.1 2019 Hancock ES Renovation

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.I. as recommended or amended.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to approve.
Board member Julie Hinaman seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

- 10.J.** The Board will consider awarding bids and contracts and/or authorizing purchase orders as recommended in the posted agenda item.

10.J.1. CFISD Isilon Airgap Quote

10.J.2. CFISD VLA VMWare Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) Quote

Mr. Covey asked for a motion to approve non-consensus action item 10.J. as recommended or amended.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to approve.
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

- 10.K.** The district will consider a Level IV appeal (Pineda) of a Level III decision. [This item may be discussed in closed session pursuant to Sections 551.074 and 551.0821.]

Mr. Covey announced that the Board would move into Closed Session on the above non-consensus action item 10.K. after the Superintendent's Briefing portion of the agenda.

11. Superintendent's Briefing

- 11.A.** Superintendent Dr. Mark Henry provided information regarding district events and items of community interest.

Board President Covey asked for a motion to move into Closed Session.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to move into Closed Session.
Board member Gilbert Sarabia seconded.
Motion passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

12. Closed Session

Board members convened in Closed Session at 8:28 p.m. At that time, Board of Trustee Debbie Blackshear and Cy-Fair High School Principal Mike Smith joined the Closed Session via teleconference.

The record will reflect that the Level IV appeal hearing began in Closed Session at 8:43 p.m.

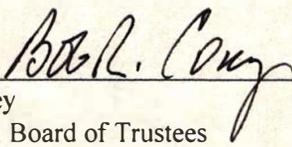
Board President Covey announced that the Board ended its Closed Session at 10:23 p.m. and reconvened in Open Session.

At that time, in reference to non-consensus action item 10.K., Board President Covey asked for a motion to uphold the decision made by the administration at the Pineda Level III hearing.

Board member Don Ryan made a motion to uphold the decision made by the administration at the Level III hearing.
Board member Debbie Blackshear seconded.
Motion passed by a 7 to 0 vote.

13. Adjournment

Board President Covey adjourned the January 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 10:31 p.m.



Bob Covey
President, Board of Trustees



Debbie Blackshear
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Approved: February 8, 2021