

### Board Meeting

#### **ITEM 4. AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE, EXECUTE, AND AMEND A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR UPGRADES TO THE SWIMMING POOL FACILITIES AND REPLACEMENT OF THE RUNNING TRACK AT STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL**

How are these types of campus improvements identified and prioritized? How many other schools have pools and/or tracks that need replacement?

The needs for these types of improvements are identified through the periodic facilities condition assessments, analysis of work order requests, and HISD staff input. They are prioritized by administration using several factors and criteria.

#### **ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF A BUDGET INCREASE AND AUTHORITY TO AMEND THE CONTRACT WITH RICE AND GARDNER CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR FACILITIES ASSESSMENT AND CAPITAL PLANNING SERVICES**

Will a final report include recommendations for retrofitting buildings for safety issues? Will recommendations be prioritized (by parameters set by HISD)? Will this report be incorporated into other safety (ex. presence of lead on campuses) reports to create a comprehensive look at facilities needs and priorities?

Yes, a final report will be issued. The parameters for prioritization will be developed by the HISD Security Committee and District executive leadership. This data will be coordinated with other data regarding District facilities conditions.

Why isn't this going back out for bid? Seems like there have been too many years for us not to consider what other vendors can provide the services and how well suited the current vendor is for the work.

The deadline for districtwide safety and security assessment report was relatively short and did not permit sufficient time for the request for qualification (RFQ) procurement process. Additionally, the districtwide facilities condition assessment is an update of previous assessments and data. RGCI's familiarity with the MOCA database system, institutional knowledge of our facilities, and available resources were the most effective method of executing this work.

Can the board get a copy of the previous assessment?

The current assessment data is available on the HISD Construction Services Dept. website (<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/198332>).

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#### ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF VENDOR AWARDS FOR PURCHASES OVER \$1,000,000

##### Which schools are impacted by the glass and fencing requests?

The glass and fencing projects awards are utilized as we receive requests for repairs/replacements/installations for glass and fencing. Schools and departments will be able to utilize project 23-04-04 for districtwide fencing services and project 23-04-10 for glass purchase, installation, supplies, and equipment.

##### What is the amount of the needed increase in spending for the project 19-10-13? How many schools are impacted and are any projects over 25% of the allocated increase?

The District made it a priority to fill teacher vacancies. This additional expenditure allowed us to recruit teachers in multiple markets and funded a strategically targeted digital recruitment campaign for high priority positions.

#### ITEM 10. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION CREATING AN EXCEPTION TO HOUSE BILL 3.

Please describe what the alternative standard for compliance with HB3 (armed security officers) is that is described in the agenda item in the packet and why delegation to the superintendent to adopt the same is needed. Please describe the funding and personnel limitations that the district is facing in relation to HB3.

The statute envisioned that districts would be unable to comply with HB3 at the time the law went into effect. To that end, the Legislature allows for Good Cause Exceptions where districts explain what prevents them from meeting the letter of the law, particularly because of a lack of funding or qualified personnel. In Houston ISD's situation, both parameters prevent us from meeting the HB3 parameters now.

##### Is there a recommendation for the Board to consider for 23-24 that would fully fund the requirements outlined in HB 3? Aside from a possible lack of available officers, what other factors would prevent us from fully funding this requirement now?

No, the recommendation is for the Board to approve the resolution for a good cause exception. The limiting factors driving the need for the exception are available officers and funding. The district has adopted additional safety measures to increase the safety of students. Those measures will be specified in closed session; it is not appropriate to signal the district's specific security measures to the public. In general terms, we are increasing security measures and adding new tools to ensure the safety of students and staff.

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How many police officers do we currently have on the force and is it only one officer per middle school and high school campus? On average, how many elementary schools are assigned to one officer?

The district has added personnel to increase the safety of students and staff. Those measures will be specified in closed session; it is not appropriate to signal the district's specific security measures to the public. In general terms, we are increasing security measures and adding new tools to ensure the safety of students and staff.

As part of HB 3, were any funds given to district and if so, how much per campus?

According to the bill, each district is appropriated “(1) \$10 for each student in average daily attendance, plus \$1 for each student in average daily attendance per every \$50 by which the district’s maximum basic allotment under Section 48.051 exceeds \$6,160, prorated as necessary; and (2) \$15,000 per campus.”

Approximately 160 additional officers would need to be hired to staff elementary schools barring a good cause exception. Approval of the exception would allow us to implement an alternate plan. We will seek the exception and submit an alternate plan to the Board.

Where is the \$15 million coming from to hire additional police officers and how many are we looking to hire? By what date?

The amount is based on a calculation that will be shared in closed session.

The alternate safety plan should be submitted for review by the public in a redacted or summarized fashion.

The specific details of the alternate safety plan will be discussed in closed session to ensure student safety; however, the superintendent will address broad safety measures the district is taking in open session.

#### ITEM 11. REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY DK(LOCAL), ASSIGNMENT AND SCHEDULES

No waiver necessary please remove or split the vote into two. I discussed previously that we should not plan to operate on a waiver mindset. Either the change is implemented on emergency or in standard progression.

While we understand and agree with the Board's position to limit the number of policies that are considered without a second reading, it will remain necessary, in the short term, to advance policy changes more efficiently to provide clarity for staff and the administration as we work to ensure HISD is staffed appropriately for the needs of students in our buildings. We have committed to right-sizing the staff in our buildings and to ensuring that every HISD student learns in a classroom with a highly

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effective teacher. In the case of DFBB(LOCAL), we have made minor change to reflect changes in DK(LOCAL).

As noted in the prior discussion on this point, the board continues to discuss the changes in two board meetings which honors the intent of the policy. The specific language of BF (LOCAL) states: “Proposed local policies or amendments introduced and recommended to the Board at one meeting shall not be adopted until a subsequent meeting.” Thus, there are two meetings between when the proposal is introduced and when the Board votes to make it final.

**Please explain the need for these policy changes. How do these policy changes tie to improvement of student outcomes in the district?**

Both policy changes speak to placement of teachers in the excess pool. It is critical to modify these policies now to allow the administration to effectively manage the quality of teachers in our schools beginning this school year. The work to adjust school staffing to account for the number of students is happening now and it is important the Superintendent has the tools he needs to ensure the campuses are appropriately staffed.

**Can the board have a list of titles considered contract positions? If a teacher requests a reassignment, will they be placed in the excess pool, or can only a principal move a teacher to excess pool?**

A response to these questions will require additional time and will be provided to the board prior to the September 14 regular meeting.

#### **ITEM 12. REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY DFBB(LOCAL), TERM CONTRACTS: NONRENEWAL**

**Please explain the need for these policy changes. How do these policy changes tie to improvement of student outcomes in the district?**

Both policy changes speak to placement of teachers in the excess pool. It is critical to modify these policies now to allow the administration to effectively manage the quality of teachers in our schools beginning this school year. The work to adjust school staffing to account for the number of students is happening now and it is important the Superintendent has the tools he needs to ensure the campuses are appropriately staffed.

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Please provide more clarification on the "Place of Excess Pool." By reading item 11, it seems we are looking at those placed in an excess pool and not reassigned to a campus. Is this correct?

A response to these questions will require additional time and will be provided to the board prior to the September 14 regular meeting.

#### **WORK SESSION BUSINESS ITEM 1. CONSIDER AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO INITIATE THE PROCESS OF DESIGNATION AS A DISTRICT OF INNOVATION.**

Why is District of Innovation status an important tool for the district to consider? What are the aspects of a DOI that the Superintendent believes would most support the students in the district?

DOI status will allow the district flexibility to meet the unique needs of all students. The district will provide additional information as the DOI process continues. At this stage, the Board is voting to explore the DOI process. If the Board votes to explore the DOI designation, there will be a public hearing on whether the district should move forward. Once that public hearing has been held, the board will then determine whether it moves the DOI process forward and it will create a DOI Committee to vet the plan. It is at that stage in the process, once the community has had an opportunity to provide input, that specifics parameters of the plan are set.

Should the verbiage of the resolution be changed with respect to the composition of the 15-member committee, specifically the reference to each trustee district? Or will the committee still be formed this way? What is the ideal timeline for decision making regarding a DOI proposal? (It would be helpful to see a suggested timeline of events to outline expectations for the Board and community.)

Changes were made to this portion of the resolution. The updated language set forth that the Board will create a committee and is silent about the membership. The membership of the committee is not specified by statute, so the board has options in setting the committee members.

This states that DOI approval will allow access to additional state resources. Please explain what additional resources would be obtained.

To respect the DOI process and the community's right to have its voice heard, the Superintendent will provide a preview of why the DOI designation would be a positive step for the district. However, specifics of the plan are to be developed after the public hearing and after the Board has voted to move the process forward.