



**Jacksonville Independent School District
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
February 8, 2011
Minutes**

The Board of Education of the Jacksonville Independent School District, State of Texas, met for a Special Meeting on February 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the JISD Administration Building located at 1547 Pine Street, Jacksonville, Texas.

Present: James Houser, Joe Casey, Jim Tarrant, Dale Jamerson, Jimmy Brown, Todd Travis, and Blaine Verhelle; Superintendent – Dr. Joe Wardell

Absent: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President, James Houser, announced that a quorum was present, that the meeting was duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and in the manner as required by law.

2. DISCUSSION OF PROJECTED STATE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET CUTS AND IMPACT ON JISD BUDGET

Dr. Wardell presented a brief news video regarding the Texas State Legislature and the projected budget cuts in funding for public education. Following the video, he reported that both the Texas Senate and House have presented bills to cut funding approximately \$10 billion over the next two years. He added that there have been indications that the Legislature may choose to use a portion of a \$9.4 billion “Rainy Day Fund” which would ease the budget cuts. Dr. Wardell further reported that there are over \$1.3 billion in reduction cuts proposed for discretionary grants and programs that will also affect JISD. The firm of Moak, Casey & Associates in Austin closely monitors financial projections and decisions made by the Legislature and have predicted for member school districts a range for each district’s budget cuts. For JISD, they have predicted budgets cuts to be in the range of \$2.8 million to \$4 million.

Dr. Wardell also read a quote from Dr. Wayne Pierce of the Senate Finance Committee that stated that some districts which are already funded at low target revenues “have already borne the burden of revenue reduction by being denied adequate revenue for decades”. Dr. Wardell added that JISD is one of the low target revenue districts referred to in that statement and has been underfunded for many years. He urged everyone to contact our congressmen and express concern for JISD being a low target funded district as well as concern for the proposed budget cuts.

Dr. Wardell concluded by showing a timeline of all of the budget planning meetings that have been held by JISD administrators as well as those meetings planned for the near future. He plans to talk to all JISD employees to inform them of the public education funding shortfall so that they will know of probable upcoming changes. He thanked all of the administrators for all of the hard work they have been doing with their campus/department budget plans, and he informed the Board that work on

these plans will continue. He added that the District will probably not know the exact amount of budget cuts for our district for several months.

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE EARLY NOTICE RESIGNATION PROGRAM

Dr. Wardell presented a proposed Early Notice Resignation Stipend Program to the Board for approval. The purpose of this stipend is to assist with the plans for staffing needs for the 2011-2012 school year and to facilitate the budgeting process. The following criteria apply to this proposed stipend:

- An early notice resignation stipend in the amount of \$500 will be offered to the first 50 full-time professionals and the first 50 full-time paraprofessional or auxiliary support personnel who submit an early notice resignation letter, to be effective at the end of their work year.
- The resignation letter must be submitted to Nancy Lee, Director of Human Resources, between the dates of February 9, 2011 and February 25, 2011.
- In order to receive the stipend, employees must complete the terms of their contracts and/or work through the end of their work year.
- If the employee has met all of these criteria and has completed his or her assignment for the 2010-2011 school year, the \$500 stipend will be paid; appropriate deductions will be made as applicable.

It was moved by Jimmy Brown and seconded by Jim Tarrant to approve an early notice resignation stipend be offered to JISD employees.

Yeas: Houser, Casey, Jamerson, Travis, and Verhelle

Nays: None

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the special meeting was adjourned.

James Houser
Board President

Joe Casey
Board Secretary