

SSISD board to consider final settlement in SSMS damage

Written by From Staff Reports
Monday, 14 April 2014 13:16

An iPad pilot program, district UIL, activities of the School Health Advisory Council and Head Start are among the items to be discussed Monday at Sulphur Springs' school board meeting.

Trustees for Sulphur Springs Independent School District have a full agenda at their April meeting, which begins at 6 p.m. April 14, in the board room at the Administration Building, 631 Connally St.

Two items deal specifically with work at the middle school. Trustees will be asked to consider approving a "compromise, settlement and release agreement authorizing final payment for restoration services" at the new middle school — this involves work conducted after a leak caused water and mold damage at the new facility. Also, the board will be asked to consider a proposal to be presented by Superintendent Mike Lamb for repairs to middle school and high school gym floors.

Another action item involves facilities upgrades. Submitted for board consideration was a proposal for energy management system upgrades for Douglas Intermediate and Sulphur Springs Elementary campuses and SSISD Administration Building. Last summer, the board approved Honeywell Energy Management systems for Austin Primary, Early Childhood Learning Center and the high school and tech center. Work at two of those campuses is complete and the third is in progress.

The three campuses to be considered Monday night utilize a hybrid emergency management system with web-based access and controls like the new system at other campuses, but they operate on a DOS-based system for which equipment can no longer be purchased for repairs.

The ideas for those was to stockpile replacement parts as long as they last or until they can be replaced with the new Honeywell equipment.

SSISD Director of Plant Operations Dale Guest recommends making that conversion now, completing the conversion to the new system district-wide. Currently, the district has budgeted funds that would cover half the cost for the final three campuses.

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School administrators will first discuss an iPad pilot program involving participating third through fifth grade teachers during the administrative reports portion of the meeting. Then, trustees will later be asked to consider approving the purchase of iPads for grades three, four and five.

The board also will be asked to approve purchase of graphing calculators, an item to be presented by Lamb.

Mary Lou Foster and Jeff Sant will update trustees and administrators on the five activities the School Health Advisory Committee have sponsored this year. Then, Foster will present to the board for approval a list of people they recommend to serve on the committee for the 2014-15 school year.

The agenda also lists for board consideration and approval the annual Head Start Refunding Application; Texas Association of School Boards Policy Manual Update 99; and a contract with Rutherford, Taylor and Company PC for the annual financial audit; and the consent agenda which includes tax credits and supplements, delinquent tax collections, financial statements and bills payable for March.

Two seniors have been selected to help open the meeting. Austin Academic Center student Christian Pryor, son of Dale Pryor and Stephanie Taylor, will give the invocation and recite the pledge to the Texas flag. Sulphur Springs High School student Bailie Modesitt, daughter of Rick and Tonya Modesitt, has been selected to lead the pledge to the American flag.

During executive session, the board will discuss and consider changes to emergency procedures, professional employment contracts for 2014-15, hiring a director of maintenance and grounds to replace Dale Guest who is retiring this summer, and any other personnel or real property matters which have arisen or been submitted for board consideration since the March board meeting.

The board meeting will conclude with the board reconvening after the closed session to take action, if any is required, on matters discussed during executive session.

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