



CARROLL

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

4.5.10 School Board Meeting Summary

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 19, 2010

Trustees Approve GMP For Stadium Project

Carroll School Trustees approved a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$6,754,581 million for a technology Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) and a 1,600-seat expansion project at Dragon Stadium. The total project includes monies from two different propositions in the May 2009 bond election approved by Carroll voters.

Proposition 1 was for technology infrastructure and a DRC; that portion is projected to cost about \$3 million. Proposition 3 was for \$4.6 million to include a 1,600 seat expansion, additional restrooms, concessions and parking. That part of the project has a GMP of \$3.7 million. School officials had already acted on the turf replacement for the stadium last summer.

The general contractor for the project is Gallagher Construction Services. Construction is set to begin immediately, but will not disrupt graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2010. Architect John Haugen said the stadium should be substantially complete and ready to occupy by the first Dragon home football game.

Board Approves License Plate Agreement

The Carroll Board became the first K-12 public school district in the state to enter into a five-year marketing agreement with My Plates for a state-issued Dragon license plate. The school district will receive a 10% commission on all the Carroll Dragon license plates sold once the design has been approved by the state of Texas. The money will go toward daily expenses to help pay for supplies, teacher salaries and utilities.

My Plates officials said they approached the district because of its tradition and loyalty to the Dragon logo and brand. Trustees said they had a hard time finding a down-side to the agreement, which was reviewed and recommended by the school's attorney. School officials say they are hoping the license plates will be available for Dragon fans, alumni and employees in early August.

Sample Design For Carroll Dragon License Plate



The Dragon plates will cost \$55 for one year, \$195 for five years and \$295 for ten years. CISD will receive the commission at the initial purchase and every time a buyer renews. Personalizing the license plates costs more, and those funds go to the State of Texas. For more information about the company, visit myplates.com. Orders, however, will not begin until state approval is complete.

Board Actions

- **The Board approved a three-year Advertising and Promotional Agreement with Roxann Taylor for the exclusive right to sponsor the Carroll school calendar.** The agreement also makes the local realtor a Platinum sponsor of the We Care employee appreciation program, a member of the Dragon Green Pages online directory and sponsor of 12 eBlasts each school year. The three-year agreement will bring \$44,500 to the district's general operating fund.
- **Trustees gave their approval to a standard Advertising & Promotional Agreement between Daktronics, Inc., Carroll ISD and future scoreboard sponsors.** The contract will serve as a model agreement as Daktronics secures advertisers for a new proposed video scoreboard at Dragon Stadium. The Board also authorized Carroll Superintendent David Faltys or his designee, the Executive Director of Communications & Marketing, to sign those sponsor agreements that are in excess of three years (but not more than 10 years) or are in excess of \$20,000. Exclusive agreements would still come before the Board for a separate vote.
- **Trustees approved teacher contracts and hirings as presented by the Administration.** Those hired included Grant Garrett (CHS Social Studies Teacher), Amy Maddox (CHS Social Studies Teacher) and Reigan O'Quinn (CES Science Teacher). Also hired was Dorita Sanchez (CHS nurse) for a one day a week position.

Presentations & Discussion

Trustees heard a presentation on the district's new **2010-2011 Fundraising Policies & Procedures**. Julie Thannum, Executive Director of Communications & Marketing, has been working with the Financial Services Department to streamline the fundraising procedures and more effectively communicate them via a new manual for employees and support groups. Thannum said the district is not planning sweeping changes, but rather hopes to provide a web site and manual that will answer questions related to raising funds for CISD. The only real change for employees is a one-page document to gain pre-approval for fundraising projects and a post-fundraiser evaluation form to be filled out and turned into Purchasing Administrator Barbara Unkle, who will serve as the district's contact for fundraising questions or concerns. One of the biggest changes is the implementation of a new fundraising application and fee for the companies wishing to do business with CISD. District officials had first proposed a \$100 fee for a three-year Dragon Fundraising Card. But after receiving input from focus groups, opted to reduce the fee to \$50. The card will not guarantee company representatives time to meet with Administrators, club sponsors, PTOs or Booster Clubs, but it will be a first step in allowing school officials to monitor and to do business background checks on potential fundraising companies.

Trustees also met in a workshop setting to discuss the **2010-2011 Preliminary School Budget** and the district's ongoing Expenditure Reduction Plan. Superintendent David Faltys reviewed the Administration's overall plan for involving employees and parents in the budget process. School employees at each of the district's 11 campuses and all departments participated in a series of meetings to give input on revenue enhancement and expenditure reduction ideas last fall. Parents and taxpayers were then given an opportunity to share their ideas through an online survey. Thannum presented Trustees with results of the

survey, taken by about 270 people over a two-month period. Parents made up most of the respondents, giving input on ways to increase revenue and to curb spending. The Administration gave Trustees an update on various revenue enhancement ideas being implemented and/or considered.

Dr. Faltys then walked Trustees through a four-tier process to reduce expenditures and increase revenues. Tier 1 items include central administration cuts, as well as supply and travel cuts on a per capita basis on each campus. Tier 1 also includes a budget freeze for the 2010-2011 school year. This simply means that campuses and departments can expect no new monies for the coming year and allotments are likely to go down over 2009-2010 levels. Tier 1 items represent about \$1.1 million in reduced spending, but include the possibility of eliminating some student transportation or using triple staggered start times to save fuel, driver and busing costs.

Trustees then discussed Tier 2, which includes budget reduction and revenue enhancement ideas. Tier 2 items are more difficult to narrow down as far as actual financial impact. They include implementation of the new Dragon credit card, a video scoreboard at Dragon stadium, reinstatement of a student participation fee, recycling and a stricter hiring/rehiring review process before vacancies are filled. Tier 2 also includes elimination of bank or reserved teaching units, a tighter staffing plan and an early resignation incentive, among other ideas. At their March 29 meeting, Trustees had already agreed to a 2010-2011 staffing plan that called for the reduction of 13.5 teachers because of a decrease in enrollment. They also voted March 29 to eliminate the three bank units (reserve teaching units).

Tier 3 items, according to Superintendent Faltys, impact the classrooms by changing the school schedule, eliminating teaming, increasing class sizes, limiting course offerings and/or restructuring CARE, Quest and possibly even elementary science lab program. None of the items on Tier 3 involve the elimination of programs, but rather a "retooling" or restructuring of the way CISD is currently delivering instruction. Depending on Board action, CISD could save as much as \$1-\$3 million in Tier 3 actions.

Tier 4 items include a tax ratification election, administrative and paraprofessional cuts, the loss of some extracurricular and co-curricular activities and travel and a restructuring of secondary electives, art, music, English as a Second Language, dyslexia and the technology labs. Administrators also mentioned the sale of Carroll Intermediate and a shift of the fiscal year as strategies for one-time savings. Decisions in Tier 4 could result in savings of from \$150,000 to \$5 million in operating expenses.

Trustees spent a lot of time discussing the cost of transporting students who live within two miles of their home campus and whether or not they should reinstate a student participation fee. They asked the Administration to come back at the April 19 meeting with more information on various items in Tiers 1-4. The ER process is a multi-year budgetary plan that calls for zero-based budgeting in year two. The district faces a \$4 million budget shortfall this year and will utilize fund balance to make up the difference. Trustees tasked the Superintendent with coming up with an expenditure reduction plan in an effort to address the deficit budget.

Information about the district's ongoing ER process, along with results of the public survey, is available on the district's website. Simply click on the ER icon on the right side of the page to learn more about the 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget.

Trustees adjourned the April 5, 2010 meeting at 9:16 p.m.