

# Bronte ISD Board meetings held

## March 18, 2020

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2020, at 7 pm. Those in attendance included board members Blake Braswell, Josh Schoenfield, Terry Queen, Ashley Braswell, Jodie Arrott, David McWright, and John Seales; administration members Tim Siler, Doug Kuhlman, and Jennifer Englert; and guest Rebecca Siler.

The meeting was opened at 7:01 pm with prayer by David McWright.

A quorum was established at 7:02 pm with seven members present.

The minutes were presented and read. A motion was made to approve the February minutes as presented by Josh Schoenfield and seconded by Terry Queen. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

There were no audience items.

A motion was made by David McWright to approve the bill listing as presented. He was seconded by Josh Schoenfield and the motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

## Principal's Report

Ms. Englert gave an update on elementary activities. Plans were put in to place to instruct remotely. All students were contacted and all but six families have responded. There will be an attempt to contact those families in person. Almost all families have internet access. Ms. Englert advised on a possible pass/fail grading system. Teachers are expected to be available during normal business hours (utilizing Google Classroom, YouTube, Dojo, Seesaw, etc.). The teachers are asking for pictures of handouts to be sent back after completion. Ms. Englert is very impressed with the teachers use of technology. She has been able to Zoom with the teachers.

Mr. Kuhlman gave an update on secondary activities. They are in the same position as the elementary. There is a learning curve with the technology aspect, but the teachers are using Google Classroom and images of handouts sent back from students. They haven't been able to get in touch with approximately six students. WiFi is available outside of the school if the person is close enough. UIL activities have been suspended and there will be no prom taking place April 6 as scheduled.

## Superintendent's Report

Mr. Siler advised that he has had daily phone conferences with DHS, CDC, TEA, and the Region 15 Service Center. The decision to close the school was based off of the travel survey sent out. The virus can take up to 14 days to show and the survey determined some student travel was concerning. School can possibly reopen on April 6. Breakfast and lunch are being provided to students this week. TEA says schools can give one weeks worth at a time but Mr. Siler isn't sure BISSD will do that. At-will employees have still been coming to work. Maintenance is doing thorough cleanings with a bleach/water mix. The main goal is to limit contact with the

building and with others. The fact that BISSD has medically fragile students and high-risk staff have led to these decisions. Mr. Siler advised it could possibly be months of this kind of learning. Bronte ISD has been in contact with AT&T, Verizon, etc. to see about hot spots for students without internet. Mr. Siler praised the teachers for doing a fantastic job. As teachers will have to come up to the school eventually, a schedule will be put in place to have small numbers come at a time, with cleanings following. Those who have any symptoms will definitely not be allowed in the building. Mr. Siler has authority to put staff in 'administrative quarantine', where they will not be allowed on campus at all. Schools will still be getting state funding currently, but if the government

shuts down, this could possibly change, which is very concerning. A doctor at Shannon is recommending closing schools until May 1. The CDC is recommending no groups over ten, so it could be a possible liability issue if school was to open due to the number of people at the school. There are conversations taking place regarding class rank, graduation, and other end of year activities. Mr. Siler has no idea currently what finances will look like next month. If UIL does not continue, there will possibly be money that can be moved around as needed.

Discussion was held regarding action to adopt revisions to Board Policy FNF (Local). This action is regarding implementing drug testing for students who participate in extracurricular activities. Jodie Arrott made the motion to approve and was seconded by David McWright. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

David McWright made a motion to approve 2019/2020 budget amendments and was seconded by Josh Schoenfield. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

Terry Queen made a motion to approve the 2020/2021 school district calendar, seconded by David McWright. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

Mr. Siler recommended offering one-year term contracts to both principals. Jodie Arrott, seconded by Ashley Braswell, made a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

Discussion was held regarding possible adoption of a resolution addressing payment and leave for personnel, purchasing and procurement authority, and other operation issues related to the emergency district closure. This also included authorizing the superintendent to apply for waivers in regard to Covid-19, and authorizing the

superintendent flexibility in other operational issues in order to accommodate school closures due to Covid-19, and to continue to provide instruction to district students. A motion was made by Jodie Arrott to approve the above items and she was seconded by Ashley Braswell. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0.

David McWright made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Terry Queen seconded. The motion passed. Ayes - 7, Nays - 0. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

## April 16, 2020

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting on April 16, 2020, at 7 pm. Those in attendance included board members Blake Braswell, Josh Schoenfield, Terry Queen, Jodie Arrott, David McWright, and John Seales; and administration members Tim Siler and Jennifer Englert.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of 0.250000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.250000 per \$100
NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.244189 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.252836 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.418853 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2020 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on September 02, 2020 at 9:30AM at THE OLD JAIL ANNEX 601 CHADBOURNE ST. ROBERT LEE TEXAS.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

**YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:**

$$\text{property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

**The members of the governing body voted on the proposed tax increase as follows:**

**FOR:**  
 PAT STEPHENS  
 ROBERT ROCK  
 NOEL TINKLER  
 BEVERLY BURDETT

**AGAINST:**

**PRESENT and not voting:**

**ABSENT:**  
 JUDITH ANDREWS

**The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.**

**The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT this year:**

	2019	2020	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.250000	\$0.250000	decrease of \$0.000000 OR 0.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$59,449	\$58,933	decrease of -0.86%
Tax on average homestead	\$149	\$147	decrease of -\$1 OR -0.86%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$694,515	\$716,053	increase of \$21,538 OR 3.10%

**For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for WEST COKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT at (325) 453-2614 or cokecotax@yahoo.com.**