

HISD Pays \$45,000 In Settlement

It was reported at the Aug. 10 School Board meeting that Hart ISD agreed to pay the Educational Research Institute \$45,000 to settle a matter in which ERI claims Hart ISD used terminology from a grant written for the district by ERI in another grant application from another company.

The budget was amended so as to have funds to pay the settlement.

- In other action, Board members toured the school cafeteria, which has new equipment paid for by a \$35,000 grant from the Texas Dept. of Agriculture.

- Business manager Teresa Montemayor said that the district has been audited by the Texas Education Agency, in what was called a "routine" Title I audit. She is in her third year as business manager, and said that the school had never gone through this audit under the former business manager. She told *The Pulse* that no ad-

verse findings were noted, and the audit has been closed.

- Approved a memo of understanding with Hale County Juvenile Alternative Education program for the 2015-16 school year. Supt. Ken Rosser said that this is the same agreement as in previous years, and the cost is \$25 per day per student. Students mandated to attend the program must get to Plainview at their own expense.

- The board approved the employee handbook, which had no changes from the previous year. Changes to the student handbook included anabolic steroids for secondary students, and foster care for all grade levels. Approval of a change regarding weapons is awaiting clarification from the school's attorney.

- Stipends were approved, which included the signing bonuses for math and science instructors, mentor teachers, PEIMS coordinator, dyslexia coordinator, extracurricular

sponsors, etc.

- Employed Erin Sprague as a fifth-grade teacher.

- It was noted on the school calendar that Labor Day will not be a school holiday, but Columbus Day will.

Board members present were President Elodia Rodriguez, Martha Gonzales, Erasmo Mata, Raul Gonzalez, Vickie Chavez and Angelica Ramirez. Steven Reyna was absent.

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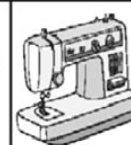
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