



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the January 23, 2020 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **Pledges**

David Richardson, A.M. Story Intermediate Principal, introduced Story members of the K-Kids Club who led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

### **Spotlight**

PHS Junior Rotarians:

Amy Langley, PHS Interact Sponsor; was introduced by Dr. William Stewart, PHS Principal. Mrs. Langley introduced and shared the accomplishments of Allison Byrd and Jeff Renteria who were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of January. Each student was presented a plaque to commemorate the honor.

PHS Students of the Month:

Jacqueline Gonzalez and Giovanni Garcia were recognized for being named PHS Students of the Month for January. Janice Magee, PHS Math Department Head, introduced Jacqueline; and Julie Waldon, PHS Teacher, introduced Giovanni. Mrs. Magee and Mrs. Waldon shared accomplishments for each of the students. Each student was presented a plaque to commemorate the honor.

School Board Appreciation:

In observance of School Board Appreciation Month, Superintendent Jason Marshall thanked the Board for their outstanding leadership, for working as a team and for keeping their focus on Palestine ISD students and staff. Larissa Loveless, PISD Director of Public Relations, presented a video that featured students thanking the Board for their service. Each campus presented board members with artwork and cards made by students.

### **Public Comment**

There were no requests for public comment.

### **Superintendent Evaluation & Contract**

The Board approved the 2019 Superintendent's evaluation that was previously completed and shared with the Superintendent in closed meeting.

The Board approved to extend Superintendent Jason Marshall's contract one year to include the 2022-2023 school year.

### **Personnel Approved**

Atkinson, Travis	Government/Economics	Palestine High School
Prater, Nathan	Theater	Palestine Junior High School
Wickware, Stephanie	TACE Family Engagement	Palestine High School

### **Financial Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall presented a brief financial report noting the following information:

- As of December, 2019:
  - 1) District received 42.81% of budgeted general fund revenue.
  - 2) District encumbered 37.64% of general fund expenditure budget.
  - 3) District received 52.75% of budgeted prior year tax collections.
- Financial Audit for August 31, 2019 that was on the meeting agenda would need to be tabled and moved to a future meeting due to the district not having received the audit information.

### **Financial Audit Tabled**

The Board approved to table the Financial Audit for Year Ending August 31, 2019 and move the item to a future meeting.

### **Purchase of Real Property**

Superintendent Jason Marshall informed the Board that he had been approached regarding a property (home and 2 acres) that was for sale on Ben Milam Street across from the Palestine Junior High School. Mr. Marshall stated that purchase of the property would provide a renovation project for the PHS Building Trades Program and also provide land for district use. The Board took action to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate the purchase of real property.

### **Consent Items Approved**

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2019
- Bills paid for December, 2019
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations
  - HPZ6200 42" Printer valued at \$2,000.00 from Ben E. Keith to benefit PISD Sign Shop.
- 2019-2020 District Improvement Plan
- 2019-2020 Campus Improvement Plans
- 2020-2021 Cheerleading Constitution
- 2020-2021 Drill Team Constitution
- Out of State Trip to Branson, Missouri for the PHS Band
- Adoption of Prevailing Wage Rate for Construction

### **Public Hearing: 2018-2019 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)**

Board President, Michael Bennett, called the Public Hearing to order at 7:33 pm. Mr. Bennett announced that a quorum was present, that the hearing was duly called, and that notice of the hearing had been posted for the time and in the manner required by law.

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services; presented the 2018-2019 PISD Annual TAPR Report that included highlights from the seven sections of the report. Mr. Kiser informed that the district received an overall accountability rating of B (87-88) on an A-F scale. Mr. Kiser complimented the Southside Elementary campus and Principal Grace Mancilla for the hard work that resulted in improving the Southside campus' grade from an F in 2017-2018 to a B in 2018-2019. President Bennett praised staff for the exceptional job done for the students this year. A copy of the TAPR must be kept or posted at the Central Office; each school library; the public library; and the PISD website.

President Bennett offered an opportunity for questions or comments regarding the TAPR Report. There were no questions or concerns from the audience or board members and there being no further discussion of the TAPR, the public hearing was adjourned at 7:36 pm and the regular meeting resumed.

### **First Read of District Calendar for 2020-2021:**

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services; presented two calendar options that were currently being reviewed by the calendar committee, District Action Team, and PISD staff. Mr. Kiser informed that the two calendars were being mailed to the parents of students for their input. The final recommendation for the 2019-2020 school calendar will be presented for approval at the February school board meeting.

### **First Read of PHS Course Guide/GPA for 2020-2021:**

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services; presented recommendations for the PHS Course Guide and GPA guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Kiser informed that courses that are included in GPA calculation were being reviewed, and that the district was considering limiting courses that count in the GPA calculation to only core courses. Superintendent Marshall explained that the GPA of some students had been negatively affected by non-core courses, and that students have chosen not to take CTE classes because it would often negatively affect the students' GPA. By not counting non-core and CTE classes in GPA calculations, this would allow students to have a broader range of experiences with CTE and elective classes. The final recommendation for the PHS Course Guide and GPA for 2020-2021 will be presented for approval at the February school board meeting.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported the following:

- District student enrollment as of January 23, 2020: 3,473
- Superintendent Jason Marshall and two administrators are scheduled to attend the TASA Midwinter Conference January 26-29, 2020
- May 2020 Election Information:  
Date of Election - May 2, 2020, 7 am – 7 pm  
Board Places up for Election:  
Place 6 (Stanley Sokolowski) and Place 7 (Michael Bennett)
- Calendar of upcoming events given to board members

There being no further business, Board President Bennett declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.