



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the September 20, 2021 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Palestine Independent School District held a Regular Meeting on September 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM, in the Palestine High School Auditorium, located at 1600 South Loop 256, Palestine, Texas 75801. *The meeting was relocated from the PISD Administration Office to Palestine High School due to a Food Showcase presented by Chartwells, the district's food service provider, in the PHS Cafeteria following the board meeting.

Call to Order

President Stanley Sokolowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, announced that a quorum was present, that the meeting was duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and in the manner required by law.

Invocation and Pledges

Trustee Michael Bennett gave the invocation and pledges to American and Texas flags were recited.

Spotlight

Dr. William Stewart, PHS Principal, introduced the Spotlight portion of the meeting.

Junior Rotarians

De'Myzjean Martin and Delaney Fletcher were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of September. De'Myzjean was not able to be present. PHS Teacher, Amy MaGuire, shared the accomplishments of Delaney.

Students of the Month

Reagan Sokolowski and Jeremy Reyes were recognized as the PHS Students of the Month for September. Janice Magee, PHS teacher, shared the accomplishments of Reagan. Tammy Armstrong, PHS teacher, shared the accomplishments of Jeremy.

A.M. Story Intermediate Lion Mascot

An A.M. Story Class Reunion Group was recognized for donation of a Lion mascot that was placed inside the front entrance to the campus in August of 1990. The Lion, located in the front foyer of A.M. Story Intermediate, welcomes students and staff to the campus. Jordan Crabill, a local artist, was also recognized for refurbishment of the Lion.

Recognition of Human Resources Department

The Human Resources (HR) Department was recognized for their important contributions to the district. Board President, Stanley Sokolowski, thanked HR staff for their dedication to ensuring that our schools are staffed with high-quality employees. During the month of October the district will celebrate Texas Education Human Resources Day as proclaimed by Governor Greg Abbott as a day set aside to recognize and honor those who work in human resources.

Public Comment

Connor Willoughby, A.M. Story Intermediate 4th grade student, requested recess time for A.M. Story Intermediate students.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported on the following:

- A. Student Enrollment as of September 20, 2021: 3,361
- B. Extracurricular Activities
District games have begun for Football, Team Tennis, Volleyball, and Cross Country
- C. Calendar of Events
 1. Friday, September 24, 2021: End of First Six Weeks/Early Release Day
 2. Monday, September 27, 2021, 6:00 PM: Homecoming Pep Rally
 3. Tuesday, September 28, 2021 Events:
 - a. 5:30-6:00 PM - Industrial Arts Facility Grand Opening at Palestine High School
 - b. 6:00-7:30 PM - CTE Showcase at Palestine High School
 - c. 6:00-7:30 PM - 1st Six Weeks Report Card Pick Up Night (PHS & PJHS)
 4. Friday, October 8, 2021: Student Holiday/Staff Development/Parent Conferences
 5. Monday, October 11, 2021: Columbus Day Student & Staff Holiday
- D. Upcoming Board Meeting Dates
 1. Monday, October 18, 2021: Regular Board Meeting

Financial Update

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a brief financial report noting that the District was doing well financially and was able to provide instruction, as well as, complete construction projects.

Report on District Food Service Program

Louis Keefe and Mimi Spreen of Chartwells Food Service, the district's food service provider, presented school meal nutrition information and USDA guidelines. Following the board meeting, Chartwells hosted a Food Showcase where board members and board meeting attendees got to sample a variety of lunch menu options available in the districts' cafeterias.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2021
- Bills paid for August, 2021
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations: (No donations received)
- Anderson County Appraisal District 2022 Approved Budget
- 2021-2022 District Action Team (DAT) Members
- 2021-2022 School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Members

Grand Opening of PHS New Industrial Arts Facility

Brian Howie, Director of College and Career Readiness shared that construction was complete on the district's new Industrial Arts facility, home to PHS Welding and Building Trades programs. Mr. Howie invited everyone to a grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new facility on Tuesday, September 28, 2021.

Personnel Approved

Lively, Michelle*

5th Grade Math

A.M. Story Intermediate

*Indicates previous employment with PISD.

Superintendent Marshall accepted the resignation of Jacobb Bailey.

District of Innovation (DOI) Plan Renewal

Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, informed that the District's DOI plan that was first approved in 2017, was a five year plan and would now need to be renewed. Mrs. Eiben explained that the first step in the renewal process was notification to the Commissioner of Education that the Board of Trustees intends to renew the DOI plan, including the anticipated date of approval. It is expected that the plan will be presented for Board approval at the November board meeting.

Home Learning Program for COVID/Exposures

Superintendent Marshall informed that when the 2021-2022 school year began, funding for home learning was not available, however; the recent passage of Senate Bill 15 would now provide funding for school districts to operate a local remote learning program. The Board approved to authorize the District to operate a local remote learning program as permitted by law and employ the following instructional and attendance-taking methods providing the remote learning program: Remote Asynchronous Instruction, with attendance determined through a daily attendance measure as described in the District's asynchronous instructional plan for students who are quarantined due to infection of COVID-19 or who have been in close contact with a COVID-19 infected individual.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Sokolowski declared the meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.