



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the October 21, 2013 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Southside Elementary students led the pledges to the American and Texas flags. The students also presented the Board of Trustees with an invitation to the Southside Elementary Veterans Day Program, “You Are Our Heroes”, that will be held on November 11th at 8:30 a.m. in the Southside Elementary Gym. Many thanks to **Madison White, Emily Goar, Selest Edwards, Shianne Irlanda, Katelyn White, Ethan Irlanda, Nicholas Renteria, Nestor Toscano, and Larry Madison!**

Spotlight

Wal-Mart Donation

Palestine ISD thanked Wal-Mart for their donation in the amount of \$3,126.97 to Palestine High School. Wal-Mart contributes funds to local schools for every accident free mile driven during their Safe Driving Program.

Duke University Talent Identification Program

Breanna Samford and **Isaac Fulgham** were honored for their achievement in the Duke University Talent Identification Program. They were chosen to participate in the Duke Talent Program based on their scoring at or above the 95th percentile on a grade-level state assessment. As participants in the Duke Program, students have the opportunity to take either the ACT or SAT, and Breanna and Isaac both received State recognition for their scores on the test.

Palestine Junior High College Prep

Jane Paris, PJH Counselor presented information on the College Prep course taught by Alexandra Naismith for Palestine Junior High students to help prepare them for college and the PSAT test. Mrs. Paris explained that National Merit Scholarships are available to students who qualify.

Students of the Month

October students of the month: PHS Seniors, Riley Martine and Elliot West

Riley Martine serves as president of the National Honor Society and is a member of National Art Honor Society, Interact, and Student Council. She has earned 51 college hours during high school and is in the top ten percent of the senior class. Riley plans to study architecture at Rice University next year.

Elliot West is a member of the National Honor Society, and is very involved in music and band. In band competitions, he has qualified for first chair in 3A as a freshman and sophomore and second chair in 4A as a junior and will compete in 5A competition this year. Elliot has attained Eagle Scout status in the Boy Scouts of America and holds a black belt in karate. He plans to attend Stanford University and major in biomedical engineering.

Junior Rotarians of the Month

Junior Rotarians for the month of October: Taylor Edwards and Joe Edens

Taylor Edwards is a member of National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Student Council, Interact, plays soccer and is a cheerleader. Taylor works as a lifeguard at the YMCA and is a member of the swim team. She plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and become a nurse anesthetist.

Joe Edens is a member of National Art Honor Society and participates in UIL Academics, creative writing and art. He is a member of the Palestine Chapter of NAACP Youth Council and participates in many church and community activities. Joe attends Wildcat University and has earned approximately 30 college hours. He plans to attend University of Texas at Arlington and acquire a degree in general management and minor in business administration.

Staff Recognition

The Palestine ISD Board of Trustees recognized the Human Resources Department, Principals, and Assistant Principals for the important roles they play in our educational system. Board Vice President, Stanley Sokolowski, read proclamations from Governor Rick Perry proclaiming October 9, 2013 to be Texas Education Human Resources Day and October, 2013 to be Principals Month.

Financial Report

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer reported that current student enrollment and attendance figures are where they need to be to adequately support the budget adopted for 2013-14.

Public Hearing of Schools FIRST Report

A public hearing was held to discuss the District's Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) District Status for 2011-2012. Chief Financial Officer, David Atkeisson reported that Palestine ISD earned a rating of Superior Achievement, the highest rating a district can earn. Mr. Atkeisson complimented staff for their efforts that aided the District in earning a Superior rating.

Consent Items Approved

- Corrected Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 16, 2013
- Bills paid for September, 2013
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

Palestine High School CTE Department

A forklift valued at \$7,500.00 from Airgas Southwest to be used by the PHS vocational department.

Northside Primary

\$76.00 from the CIA Sunday School Class at First Methodist Church to provide classroom supplies.

Other Items Approved

- 1) AgriLife Extension Adjunct Faculty Agreement for 2013-2014
- 2) Field Trip for PHS Band
- 3) Palestine ISD Board Secretary, Janie Sepulveda - Appointed to serve as Anderson County Appraisal District Representative

YMCA Interlocal Agreement

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported that the Interlocal Agreement the PISD Board of Trustees had approved in June, 2013 with the YMCA will not be implemented at this time as the YMCA is considering some other options.

24/7 Learning

Summer Alcauter, Technology Integration Specialist presented an update on the 24/7 Learning Program in which students are engaged and continuously connected to learning. The District is committed to keeping learning at the center of everything students do and technology is helping do that through the use of Ipads at school and at home. Currently, PHS students have received Ipads with deployment to 7th and 8th grade students planned to begin mid-November. The District plans to expand the program to all campuses by the 2014-2015 school year.

Personnel

Tupac Alcauter	TACE Family Engagement Specialist	
Cinda Hudson	Student Service Provider	Palestine High School
Renda Songer	Cosmetology	Palestine High School

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations of Patricia Hamil and Tambra Norris.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported that the Northside Primary has changed its student drop-off and pick-up locations for parents and buses. Buses will now use the Hwy 155 front entrance and parents will use the back entrance from Old Brushy Creek Road.

Currently, District enrollment is 3,269 and the attendance rate is 97%.

Anderson County will hold a Constitutional Amendment Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2013. The following PISD locations will be used as polling locations: Palestine High School, Washington ECC, and the PISD Administration Office.

Beginning with this Election, voters are now required to show an acceptable form of photo ID. A Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, a Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by the DPS, a Texas Personal Identification card issued by DPS, a Texas Concealed Handgun License issued by DPS, a US Military ID card containing the person's photograph, a US Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph, or a US Passport.

A Team of 8 Workshop for the Palestine ISD Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2013.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
November 18, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.**