



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the April 17, 2017 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting**

A.M. Story Intermediate students led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

### **Spotlight**

#### **Region 7 Innovative Invention Student Seminar**

Jaime Clark, A.M. Story Intermediate Principal, introduced Story students who participated in the Region 7 Innovative Inventions Student Seminar. The following students were 1<sup>st</sup> Place winners in Division 1: Caleb Bristow for Effective Display with his Smart Pup Feeder for handicapped persons, Team of George Duncan, Yocelyn Roman, Janelle Sambrano, and Brodie Robinson for Potential Benefit to Society with their Robo Helmet for prevention of sports related head injuries, and Addison Bailes for Prototype Performance with her Gum Getter that removes gum from hair and other surfaces.

#### **PHS Robotics Program**

Joseph Baker, PHS Robotics Instructor introduced the PHS Robotics Team and shared news from the trip to Councils Bluff, Iowa where the Robotics team members participated in the VEX Robotics U.S. Open Championships. The PHS Robotics Team 8601D of Rene Martinez, Gage Concilio, Amy Fabian, and Heidi Davis placed 48<sup>th</sup> of 178 teams from across the United States, Canada, and China.

#### **Wildcat Soccer Team**

Robby Clark, PISD Athletic Director, introduced Coach John Absalom, Wildcat Soccer Coach, who shared highlights from the Wildcat Soccer season. The team won the District Champions in UIL 15 4-A, and made the Regional playoffs. The team's season record was: 25 wins, 1 loss, and 3 ties. The team had 55 consecutive game wins over the past several seasons. The following team members received All-District honors: Chris Giron, Offensive Most Valuable Player; Offensive Most Valuable Player, Javier Leonor, and the teams' coach, John Absalom, won Coach of the Year. All District 1<sup>st</sup> Team: Luis Zavala, Humberto Mendoza, David Egbe, Malachi Music, and Riley Harper. All District 2<sup>nd</sup> Team: Tony Guzman, Cruz Alejo, Jose Sanchez, and Christian Hutchinson. All District Honorable Mention: Edgar Ayala, Tomas Garcia, and Daniel Sanchez.

### **Ladycat Soccer Team**

Robby Clark, PISD Athletic Director, introduced Coach Luis Hernandez, Ladycat Soccer Coach, who shared highlights from the Ladycat Soccer season. The team won the Bi-District Championship in UIL 15 4-A, and made the Regional playoffs. The team's season record was: 16 wins, 8 losses, and 5 ties. The following team members received All-District honors: Masison Munoz, Offensive Most Valuable Player; Yaneli Casas, Defensive Most Valuable Player; Isabel A. Garcia, Newcomer of the Year. All District 1<sup>st</sup> Team: Lauryn James, Jasmine Guillen, Ashleigh Martinez, and Olivia Cone. All District 2<sup>nd</sup> Team: Iris Chavez, Goldie Barnard, and Janet Aleman. All District Honorable Mention: Caitlyn Martinez, Jennifer Aguilar, and Lacey Gambrell.

### **Junior Rotarians**

Jackie Rubalcava and Chris Hall, PHS students, were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of April.

### **Students of the Month**

Lauryn James and Fernando Garcia were recognized as the PHS Students of the Month for April.

### **Financial Report**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer reported that the district had received approximately 96% of tax collections for 2016-17, and that the district was paying attention to the current Texas legislation session for any legislative changes that may have an effect on school finance.

### **Consent Items Approved**

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 27, 2017
- Bills paid for March, 2017
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

#### Palestine ISD

\$750.00 from Alex Patel/Vlala, LLC (Hampton Inn & Suites) for unpaid student lunches.

- Chartwells Food Service Contract Extension for 2017-2018
- Interlocal Agreement with Pace Purchasing Cooperative Operated by Educational Service Center, Region 20
- Engagement of Smith, Lambright, and Associates for Financial Audit of the Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2017

### **Personnel Approved**

Bradford, Colton	Social Studies	Palestine Junior High School
Collins, Piper	Life Skills	A.M. Story Intermediate
Evans, Janae	Special Education	A.M. Story Intermediate
Richards, Clay	Social Studies	Palestine Junior High School

The Board of Trustees approved term and probationary contracts of teachers for the 2017-2018 school year.

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignations/retirements of Goergia Booker, David Clardy, Mitchell Guerra, Karen Harden, Lane Hissong, Noralee Lewis, Lynn Maness, Leanne Petty, Sheryl Quarles, Dennis Smith, Caleb Stokes, and Faithie Timms.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Marshall reported on the following:

Student enrollment as of April 17, 2017 was 3,444.

End of year activities:

CTE Compass Awards	April 27, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Northside Art Show	May 2, 2017 5:30 p.m.
National Junior Honor Society Induction	May 4, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Cinco de Mayo Celebration	May 5, 2017 5:00 p.m.
PHS Coronation and Prom	May 6, 2017 6:30 p.m.
UIL Awards Night	May 9, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Secondary Awards Night	May 11, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Fine Arts Concert (Junior High)	May 15, 2017 6:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Concert (High School)	May 16, 2017 6:30 p.m.
Morning Senior Walk	May 16, 2017 8:00 a.m.
Athletic Banquet for Spring Sports	May 18, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Kindergarten Graduation	May 19, 2017 9:00 a.m.
Elementary Awards Night	May 23, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Last Day of School	May 26, 2017
Employee Service Awards	May 26, 2017
Bad Weather Day/Memorial Day	May 29, 2017
First Day of TACE & Summer School	May 30, 2017

### **Update from Texas 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**

Superintendent Marshall reported on the current legislative session. One of the topics being addressed again this session is vouchers. Senator Robert Nichols voted not to support vouchers this session, and no funding for vouchers was approved by the senate. Superintendent Marshall shared that although this is good, public school district employees need to continue communicating with elected officials on the need to stop vouchers.

Another topic affecting schools during this session is the A-F Accountability System that was created during the 2015 legislative session, and is scheduled to take effect in 2018. The A-F system assigns schools letter grades based on 5 different performance measures but does not take into account variations in school size or demographics. House Bill 22 addresses several proposed changes to the A-F system. Although it doesn't appear that A-F will go away, school districts hope to see positive changes made to the A-F system.

Superintendent Marshall stated that he will continue watching the current legislative session for news on vouchers, the A-F Accountability system, school finance, and any other legislation that may affect public schools.

**Next Regular Board Meeting**  
**Monday, May 22, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.**