



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the September 15, 2014 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting**

Washington Early Childhood Center Daycare students led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

### **Spotlight**

#### **Junior Rotarians**

PHS students, Paige Hatfield and Jonathan Olguin were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of September.

#### **Palestine High School Students of the Month**

PHS students, Janna Diaz and Cass French were recognized for being named PHS Students of the Month for September.

#### **SSC Staff**

Superintendent Jason Marshall expressed appreciation to Melvin Wise, SSC Director for Palestine ISD and all SSC employees for the work they do to keep Palestine ISD facilities in great shape.

#### **Texas Education Human Resources Day**

The Board of Trustees recognized the Human Resources Department for the important roles they play in Palestine ISD. Trustee Wade Hobbs, read a resolution supporting that October 8, 2014 be observed as Texas Education Human Resources Day throughout the district. The Board also encourages students, staff, and parents to express their appreciation to our human resources team members for their dedication and commitment to Palestine ISD employees and students.

#### **Financial Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall presented a brief financial update for David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, who was not able to attend the meeting.

#### **Construction Update**

Scott Hughes of Buford Thompson Construction presented an update to the Board regarding Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) projects. Parking areas at A.M. Story Intermediate have been patched and recovered with asphalt, and at the Junior High a renovation of the courtyard area is nearing completion. Masonry on the exterior of A.M. Story Intermediate has not been able to be successfully cleaned; therefore the Board of Trustees discussed possibly staining the masonry with a product recommended by Buford Thompson construction. The board agreed that prior to beginning any stain work; a test needs to be performed to ensure that the product does not pose a hazard to students. The Board then approved to give final authority to Superintendent Jason Marshall to make the necessary renovations to the exterior of A.M. Story Intermediate campus as presented pending a final, satisfactory visit to a campus where the product has been used.

## Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2014
- Bills paid for August, 2014
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

### Palestine ISD Technology Department

\$50.00 from Bridget Viser to be used to cover the cost of iPad fees for students.

### Northside Primary

\$100.00 from Wyma Missildine to be used for school supplies in memory of Emiline Johnson.

\$100.00 from the CIA Class at First United Methodist Church to be used for school supplies.

\$50.00 from Rosemary Biel to be used for student rewards.

- Local Safety Plan for 2014-15
- Emergency Operations Plan for 2014-15
- 2014-15 School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Committee Members  
District Representatives – Tammy Jones, Council Chair; Joe Tinsley, Law Enforcement; Mimi Spreen, Nutrition  
Palestine High School Representatives – Linda Bowser, PHS Nurse; Leann Nickerson, PHS Trainer; Tyler Barnard, PHS Student; Teresa Robinson, PHS Student; Cammie French, PHS Parent; Jamie Hatfield, PHS Parent  
Palestine Junior High Representatives – George Booker, PJH Nurse; Harietta Anderson, PJH Parent  
Northside Primary – Karen Bledsoe, Northside Nurse; Ellene Freeman, Northside Grandparent; Duane Wardell, Northside Parent; Stacey Carr, Northside Parent  
Southside Elementary – Cheryl Walding, Southside Nurse; Melissa Molandes, Southside Principal; Ashley Bailey, Southside Community; Nancy Carrizales, Southside Parent; Shaquita Cook-Stephens, Southside Parent; Monica Draughan, Southside Parent; Sydney Jordan, Southside Parent; Stephanie Wickware, Southside Community  
A.M. Story Intermediate – Selena Jowell, Story Nurse; Griselda Castillo, Story Parent; Vanessa Robinson, Story Parent; Sharon Williams, Story Parent; Vicky Valentine, Story Parent  
Washington Early Childhood Center – Liz Missildine, Washington Nurse; Laura Love; Washington Teacher; Misty Marks, Washington Parent
- AgriLife Extension Adjunct Faculty Agreement for 2014-15
- Anderson County Central Appraisal District Approved Budget for 2015

## Career & Technical Education and Dual Credit

Chris Kiser, PISD Director of College and Career Readiness, presented information for the CTE and Dual Credit programs. Mr. Kiser reported that the PISD graduates of June, 2014 had earned 2,244 college hours and completed 727 college courses. 23 seniors were core complete upon graduation. 71 seniors completed at least one college class, 52 seniors completed at least 15 college hours 40 seniors completed at least 30 college hours, and 171 industrial certifications were earned by the senior class. Mr. Kiser also reviewed new course offerings for 2014-15 that include a career exploration course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in which they spend a semester working through the 12 career clusters offered at PHS. The district is also in the process of developing a golf course and landscape management course in which students who complete the program will earn 12 college hours through TSTC. In 2015-16, goals include expanding the career exploration class to sixth grade students and adding dual credit Spanish and Government to the list of dual credit courses offered at Palestine High School.

## **Campus Presentation**

At 2014-15 board meetings, PISD campus principals will each have a chance to report on what is going on at their campus. Rhonda Herrington, WECC Principal, gave the first presentation for the year at the September meeting. Mrs. Herrington shared that Palestine ISD has the second largest Head Start enrollment in Region 7. Every WECC student receives a vision, dental, hearing, height, and weight screening. Parent trainings are held throughout the school year on various topics and every student is visited two times each year by their teacher and the principal to promote parent involvement in the child's education. Washington ECC is more than just academics. The campus provides a comprehensive service to support the mental, social, and emotional development of students.

## **Public Hearing**

A public hearing was held to discuss pay for contract employees who will be providing instruction in the TACE (Texas Afterschool Centers for Education) program. Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources explained that HB 483 amended Texas Government Code 180 so that it prohibits a school district from paying an employee more than the person is owed under a contract without a public hearing.

Because in some cases, the afterschool instruction begins immediately following the students' instructional day, staff members may still be within the time of their contract day as the TACE instruction begins. Therefore, the reason for the payment is to compensate instructional staff for their supplemental work in the TACE program. Tasks usually completed during the contract day must be completed after hours on the days when the employee works in the TACE program.

The public purpose that is served by making the payment is to benefit students' opportunities for academic success through the supplemental instruction that will be provided by highly qualified staff persons who are knowledgeable of the students' needs.

The amount of the payment will be \$35 per hour for professional staff and \$25 per hour for non-professional staff. The source of the payment is federal funding, through TEA, from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant, with the terms of distribution of the payment being monthly according to submission of documentation of hours worked.

Board President, Stanley Sokolowski asked all in attendance if there were any concerns or comments regarding the information. There were no comments from the public.

The Palestine ISD Board of Trustees approved to allow Palestine ISD to pay contract employees who will provide instruction in the TACE programs.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported that the current student enrollment is 3,375 which is higher than PISD enrollment has been in several years.

Homecoming week activities were reviewed. A Homecoming parade will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014. The 1964 State Wildcat Football team will be recognized at halftime of the Homecoming football game on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, a preview of the Wildcat Golf Course will be open to the public. To allow for Homecoming activities on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Trustees agreed to move the October board meeting to Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Regular Board Meeting  
October 27, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.**