



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the September 19, 2016 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Sheila Bradley, Principal of Washington Early Childhood Center introduced WECC teacher, Ivette Carrizales, who directed WECC PreK students as they sang a song about the five senses. After their performance, the students led pledges to the American and Texas flags.

Spotlight

KYYK and Palestine Herald Press

Palestine ISD honored KYYK Radio Station and the Palestine Herald Press by naming each to receive the 2016 Texas Association of School Boards Media Honor Roll Award. The Media Honor Roll recognizes media representatives statewide who deserve recognition for fair and balanced reporting of news about public schools. Alexandria Hardy, TLC Media General Manager; and Penny Webb, Palestine Herald Press staff writer, accepted the awards on behalf of KYYK and the Palestine Herald Press.

Texas Education Human Resources Day

Suzanne Eiben, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, introduced HR Department employees, Angela Mannix, Marilyn Moore, and Bridget Viser. The Palestine ISD Board of Trustees thanked the HR Department for all that they do for Palestine ISD employees. The Board also adopted a resolution that Texas Education Human Resources Day be observed on October 12, 2016 throughout the district.

Registered Dental Assistant Certification earned by PHS Students

Sandra Bristow, PHS Health Science teacher, introduced PHS students, Tara Stricklin and Adrianna Ferretiz, who were recognized for earning their Registered Dental Assistant Certification. Eight PHS students have earned their Registered Dental Assistant certification since the program began, and six are working to complete the certification currently.

Junior Rotarians

PHS students, Sydney Gallina and Jacob Wheat were recognized for being named Junior Rotarians for the month of September. Dr. William Stewart, PHS Principal, introduced each student and shared their academic accomplishments.

Palestine High School Students of the Month

PHS students, Shannah Avila and Luis Zavalla were recognized for being named PHS Students of the Month for September. Janice Magee, PHS Math Teacher, introduced each student and shared their academic accomplishments.

Financial Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall presented a brief financial update for David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, who was not able to attend the meeting. Mr. Marshall reported that the 2016-2017 budget has opened and expenditure requests are being processed.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 22, 2016
- Bills paid for August, 2016
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations
 - Palestine High School
\$1,000.00 from Jim Parsons to be used for PHS students to travel to Constitution Day in Austin, Texas.
- 2015-2016 Final Budget: \$29,784,456
- Bilingual Exception to allow ESL teachers to provide the instructional programs.
 - Expedited Class Size Reduction Waiver for Northside Primary and Southside Elementary to exempt the necessary classes from the 22 to 1 teacher to student ratio.
- 2016-2017 AgriLife Extension Adjunct Faculty Agreement
- 2017 Anderson County Central Appraisal District Approved Budget

PISD Summer Learning Report

Tammy Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, reported that in spring, 2016, Palestine ISD set a goal for 1,000 students to receive summer learning. The idea for the project was based on the finding from Vision 2020 and teacher leader meetings that students' summer retention skills are a major concern. The district exceeded the goal of 1,000 students, with 1,123 first grade through eighth grade students participating in summer learning. Ninth through twelfth grade students also participated in summer learning, however, those numbers were not yet available. Based on beginning of year (BOY) testing in Math and Reading, students who received summer learning did better on BOY tests. Mrs. Jones also noted that the Texas Afterschool Centers on Education (TACE) programs are benefiting students' retention skills. The district plans to continue summer learning and will continue tracking student progress from year to year.

Washington Early Childhood Center Presentation

Sheila Bradley, Principal of the WECC campus, shared that the Washington campus student enrollment consists of 100 four year olds, 103 three year olds, and 50 daycare children bringing the campus total to 253 children. WECC students started off the 2016-17 school year with lessons in social skills. Students learned about Constitution Day this week and, students will learn the significance of other important holidays throughout the school year on a level they can understand. Brigance and CIRCLE tests are administered one on one during the year to ensure the needs of students are met. Each class including daycare classes are taught using the same lesson plans on a daily basis; however the lessons are individualized to suit each age level. Washington was able to add a Pre-Kindergarten class this school year due to funding from a new Pre-Kindergarten Grant that the district received for this school year. With the addition of the new PreK class, there are currently no students on the Pre-K wait list.

District of Innovation Overview

The Board of Trustees approved the committee, expectations, and timeline for PISD's District of Innovation Plan. Tammy Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, presented an overview of the district's plans to request District of Innovation status from the Texas Education Agency. The district's DOI plan will consist of the utilization of HB 1842, of the 84th Texas Legislative Session, to allow more local control in certain areas. The district will tailor plans based on the needs of students and the community. The plan will be in effect from the 2017-2018 school year through the 2021-2022 school year. The plan may be amended at any time by the committee with approval of the PISD Board of Trustees.

The DOI team will be made up of Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, campus principals, a PISD school board member, teacher representative from each campus, parent representative from each campus, a community member, business member, and a combination community/business member.

DOI Timeline:	September, 2016	Finalize DOI Committee Members
	October, 2016	Community Meeting (TACE Event)
	October, 2016	Campus Meeting for each campus via Lunch in the Lounge
	October, 2016	DOI Meeting
	October 24, 2016	Public Hearing at October Regular Board Meeting
	November 1-4, 2016	District Action Team Meeting
	November 14, 2016	November Regular Board Meeting
	November 15, 2016	Notify Commissioner of DOI Plan, and post for 30 days on PISD website.
	December 12, 2016	December Regular Board Meeting
	December 15, 2016	December Called Board Meeting for DOI Approval

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Marshall reported on the following:

- Current PISD student enrollment is 3,460.
- Palestine ISD along with Anderson County public schools have begun planning for the 2017 Texas Legislative Session. Palestine ISD will host a meeting with Texas State Representative Byron Cook and Texas State Senator Robert Nichols in September and October to allow an opportunity for Anderson County and Freestone County public school superintendents to share their concerns with elected officials. Palestine ISD will join with Anderson County school districts in November to prepare a joint legislative platform that will be approved by each school's Board of Trustees, and then will be shared with elected officials in December.
- Palestine ISD celebrated Homecoming with a Parade, Pep Rally, and Tailgate Party on Monday, September 12, 2016. The Palestine Wildcats played the Van Vandals in a Homecoming football game on Friday, September 16, 2016. There was a large crowd at the homecoming game, and gate proceeds were higher than ticket sales have been in many years at approximately \$10,800.00.
- Palestine High School started a Fall Tennis Program this school year which is going very well.

**Next Regular Board Meeting
October 24, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.**