



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the December 17, 2018 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **Pledges**

Pledges of allegiance to the American and Texas flags were recited. .

### **Spotlight**

PHS Junior Rotarians:

Fazaria Edwards and Josiah Lkingsporn were recognized for being selected to serve as Junior Rotarians for the month of November. Cassidy Lupo and Robert Martinez were recognized for being selected to serve as Junior Rotarians for the month of December. A certificate of accomplishment was presented to each student.

PHS Students of the Month:

Camryn Lupo and Antonio Mancilla were recognized for being chosen as students of the month for November. Raheal Egbe and Ben Meas were recognized for being chosen as students of the month for December. Each student was presented a plaque.

PISD Operations & Transportation Department staff members were recognized. Jacob Wheeler, Director of Operations & Transportation and Kathy Whitener Evans, Transportation Supervisor, introduced maintenance and transportation staff and expressed appreciation for their dedication to keeping campuses and all district facilities in good shape and for ensuring the safety of students during transportation to and from school. Mrs. Evans expressed appreciation to PISD for providing winter jackets to operations and transportation staff. Superintendent Marshall thanked the Operations & Transportation Department staff for their service to the district.

### **Public Comment**

There were no requests for public comment.

### **Financial Report**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a brief financial report noting the following information:

- Calendar year closing soon.
- District's financial audit had recently been completed by Smith, Lambright & Associates and the audit information was expected to be provided to the district following the Christmas holidays.
- Increase in district investment earnings recently.

**Public Hearing- FIRST Report for 2017-2018**

Vice President Bennett announced a Public Hearing for discussion of the 2017-2018 FIRST Report. David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented information from the district’s FIRST Report. Mr. Atkeisson shared that as has been the case for several years, PISD had received the highest rating of A or Superior. Vice President Bennett allowed an opportunity for input. There were no questions or concerns. Mr. Atkeisson informed the Board that the district was required to post portions of the report on the district’s website and although the district wanted to be transparent, due to a recent increase in schools being targeted by cyberattacks, the information to be posted would be carefully reviewed to ensure information was protected that could potentially put the district at risk.

**Consent Items Approved**

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2018
- Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 3, 2018
- Bills paid for November, 2018
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations
  - Palestine High School Athletics \$2,491.00 from PHS Athletic Booster Club to supplement the girls & boys soccer program.
- Tuition Waiver approved for student due to parent financial hardship.

**School Safety Report**

School Safety Report tabled until January, 2019 regular school board meeting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks Academic Report**

Chris Kiser, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, presented an academic report. The report included a comparison of scores from the first and second six weeks of school. Mr. Kiser informed that the district was utilizing student scores to determine areas of needed improvement.

**Personnel Approved**

Coria, Corina	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	A.M. Story Intermediate
Forrest, Chelsie	Math	Palestine High School

Superintendent Marshall accepted the resignation of Kassondre Ripley.

**Vision 2020 Update**

Superintendent Jason Marshall presented an update on Vision 2020. Superintendent Marshall reminded that Vision 2020 was a five year improvement plan that the district adopted in 2015, and that the plan consists of the following seven (7) categories (Teaching & Learning, College & Career Readiness, Human Resources, Extracurricular, Communication & Public Relations, Technology, and Business Services). Superintendent Marshall informed that administrators had met recently to discuss Vision 2020 progress, that considerable progress had been made, and that the district will continue to strive for improvements.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Marshall reported on the following:

Student enrollment as of December 17, 2018: 3,394

PHS Boys & Girls Basketball teams to participate in Oklahoma tournament during the winter break.

### Winter Break Schedule

- Early Release: Thursday, December 20, 2018
- Christmas Holidays: Friday, December 21, 2018 – Friday, January 4, 2019
- Staff Workday: Friday, January 4, 2019
- Students return to class: Monday, January 7, 2019