



# BOARD NOTES

## **A Summary of the January 23, 2014 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting**

### **Pledges**

The A.M. Story Intermediate 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir led pledges to the American and Texas flags. The choir students then performed the song, “Joy”.

### **All-State Football Players Recognized**

Lance Angel, Director of Athletics, introduced four Palestine High School students who were named to the 2014 Academic All-State Football Team. This is a prestigious honor and recognizes how hard these students have worked both on the field and more importantly in the classroom to achieve a high level of academic success throughout their entire high school career. Congratulations to the following students:

Brian Thlang                    2<sup>nd</sup> Team AP All-State Offensive Tackle  
(Thlang was also named 1<sup>st</sup> Team AP All State at Offensive Tackle in 2013)  
Brian Gummelt                Honorable Mention Academic All-State  
Benjamin Luckett            Honorable Mention Academic All-State  
Chris Winfield                2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-State

### **Junior Rotarians of the Month**

Alicia Guzman and Benjamin Luckett were recognized as Junior Rotarians for the month of January.

### **Students of the Month**

Kayla Mitchell and Christopher Winfield were recognized for being named the PHS Students of the Month for January.

### **Recognition of Board of Trustees**

In observance of school board appreciation month, the Palestine ISD Board of Trustees was honored. The Texas Association of School Board’s theme of “Hearts and Hands” was used to decorate a cake and boxes filled with goodies provided by the campuses for each board member. The board room was draped with colorful banners made by students, and PHS staff and students thanked the Board for everything they do in a video produced by the Broadcast Journalism class. The PHS Culinary Arts and FFA classes teamed up to prepare and serve a delicious dinner for board members. Board President, Wade Hobbs, expressed appreciation for the accolades and added that it is an honor to be a part of the PISD team.

### **Financial Report**

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, stated that the software issues that were identified the previous month at the tax office had been resolved. Therefore, tax collections that appeared to be lagging in the previous month are now on track. The Business Department has begun the budget process for 2014-2015.

## Consent Items Approved

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

### Washington Early Childhood Center

\$1,000.00 for WECC parent cooking classes from Wal-Mart.

### Palestine High School

Books valued at \$76.93, from Jewell Zenn, to be placed in the PHS Library.

Books valued at \$259.31, from Iris Perry, to be placed in the PHS Library.

Books valued at \$106.65, from Johnny Davenport, to be placed in the PHS Library.

\$50.00 to be used for a PHS Band trip from Barbara Summerlin.

### Palestine Athletics

\$9,498.39 for equipment and uniforms from the Palestine Athletics Booster Club.

\$50.00 to be used for a tent awning for PHS Cross Country from Kent & Kellie Snyder.

\$50.00 to be used for a tent awning for PHS Cross Country from Michael Munoz.

\$100.00 to be used for a tent awning for PHS Cross Country from Chris & Melissa Sander.

\$200.00 to be used for a tent awning for PHS Cross Country from Michael & Brandi Garcia.

\$50.00 to be used for a tent awning for PHS Cross Country from Jerry & Ann Ives.

## High School and Junior High Course Guides for 2014-2015

Carolyn Martin, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, shared information for 2014-15 Junior High and High School course guides. The PHS Course Guide has been updated to reflect the District's focus on College and Career readiness. The PJH Course Guide updates reflect the District's focus on core areas for STAAR readiness. HB5 mandates a CTE endorsement for Junior High and High School. Beginning the CTE endorsement at Junior High will allow students to have prior knowledge of CTE courses before entering High School. Other endorsements from HB5 will be included in the course guides as they are approved by the State Board of Education.

## First Read of 2014-15 District Calendar

Carolyn Martin, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, shared two possible calendars with the Board of Trustees. The calendars will be presented to the District Action Team for review and presentation to the campuses. Each campus will have the opportunity to vote on the 2014-15 school year calendar with the calendar receiving the most votes to be presented to the Board in February for approval.

## Personnel

Gena Eikner

Katrina Gray

Permanent Substitute

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Palestine ISD

Southside Elementary

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted the resignation of Courtney Snow.

The Board of Trustees approved the Superintendent's evaluation that was previously completed and shared with the Superintendent in closed meeting.

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to extend Superintendent Jason Marshall's contract by one year to include the 2016-2017 school year.

### **District Goals Development for 2014-15**

Superintendent Jason Marshall reviewed the procedures for the development of District goals for the upcoming school year. The campuses/departments will develop goals for their respective needs. The goals are presented to the Campus Action Teams and then to the District Action Team for final recommendation to the Board. A rough draft of goals will be presented by the March board meeting and final goals will be recommended for school board approval at the April, 2014 board meeting.

### **Superintendent's Report**

The current District enrollment is 3,236, which is slightly lower than earlier in the school year. The decrease is due to the graduation of twenty-five PHS students who were able to do so with assistance they received from their participation in the TACE Program. Enrollment remains stable as the District continues to enroll new students and receive student transfer requests.

An Election will be called at the February 17, 2014 board meeting. The Election will be held May 10, 2014 for the purpose of electing two trustees to fill expiring terms.

Palestine ISD administrators will attend the Texas Association of Schools Administrators Midwinter Conference in January. Superintendent Jason Marshall will give a report on the conference at the February, 2014 board meeting.

Chartwells Food Service made a donation to the East Texas Food Bank in honor of the Palestine ISD Board of Trustees. The donated funds will be used for the Backpacks for Kids Program and will provide Palestine ISD students who qualify with weekend meals.

**Next Regular Board Meeting  
February 17, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.**